



# THE INFORMANT

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## THE SHOW MUST GO ON

**M**y joy knew no bounds when our collaborative efforts had finally ripened its fruit on December 01, 2018, the day our newsletter, 'The Informant', came into existence. This could not have been possible without the vision and guidance of Dr. Mona Khanna.

A year ago, the concept of a school newsletter was nowhere in sight. I feel immensely gratified to have initiated this commendable journey, with a team of enthusiastic students who have put in their heart and soul to it in the most appreciating way, adding a feather to the cap of our school. A heap of accolades to the entire group which, even after being confronted with the hardest of times, was persistent in making every succeeding edition better than the preceding one!

When the first edition took shape, all of us reckoned that the future editions would be published without any obstacles; thus we all developed wings of comfort. However, deterrents of various kinds eventually surfaced which had to be tactfully dealt with.

Initially there were select-few girls who contributed in developing the content. Constant encouragement later yielded better results; they pitched in with full enthusiasm and we eventually had a deluge of write-ups.

With time, the students overcame their inhibitions and the newsletter gradually turned into a contribution of the whole school, so much so that now, even the teachers use this platform to voice their opinion.

We all are well acquainted with the attribute of time; it fleets with all possible haste. With the horde of events that flooded this session, it seemed that we had missed several months and April had jumped into August: a month brimming with innumerable events which aimed to teach the students the art of striking a balance between academics and co-curricular activities. Just as iron is put under unbearable flame to incorporate the quality of flexibility,

similarly Uthenas were taught to become brilliant jugglers who could switch modes easily.

Now the time has come to pass the legacy of The Informant to fresh talent. I know it will not be easy for any one of us to sign off and part with The Informant. It will be as difficult as bidding farewell to UWS. Having reached the end of our journey, each editor is experiencing a mixed bag of emotions, in tandem with this year's theme of cultural event: sorrow of parting with it, joy of passing it, fear of an uncertain future. However, one emotion that remains constant is eternal love for The Informant. As rightly stated by Charlie Chaplin, the show must go on. Therefore, I firmly believe that you shall enjoy several issues of The Informant in coming years.

We have spent several months working in the computer lab, with eyes glued to the screen, editing and printing articles, waltzing around offices to get the drafts approved.

Working for the newsletter has helped me explore my penchant for writing and share my ideas on myriad themes. It has helped me transform from an overly pampered teenager to a free-spirited girl.

With confidence I can declare that this forum will certainly serve as an effective medium for others to pen down their thoughts. It will enable the students to cross a sea of hurdles and carry on with this enterprise to help others communicate what they feel. Great leaders in history have been able to engender radical changes in the society through their compositions because they used the most powerful weapon of expression- words.

I can envision myself entering the campus of UWS and seeing The Informant, started by our team, continuing and soaring higher than we expected.

**EDITORIAL**

*Navras*  
11/10/2019



# Cleo Holmes

## The Informant Mascot



-Pitchaya

**G**rin like a Cheshire cat and sleep like Garfield. Don't blame me for being a gooseberry, for I am the new Sherlock Holmes in town. I love to be an espionage and sneak around the school like my counterpart, Sherlock. I do recall working with him, when we would have our whiskers upon every new mystery case in town. However, I hate to admit that

those days are behind us and now I am here, trying to get my paws on something worth my interest. I am a cat but I have hawk like eyes, which are always prying upon your movements. I am a nocturnal creature and seldom sleep a wink. Beware me because I will race against time to unravel the truth, which lie within these brick walls.

Aastha Raisurana

# OUR SYMPHONIES

The champion who rocks behind the screen. She is the one who has shown utmost dedication and sincerity to her work as an Informant Committee Member. She loves to talk about cartoons and has a knack for quarreling over political issues. Her contribution remains indelible; we wonder what we'd do without her. Wonder who is she?



The driving force behind the committee who strains herself to put pieces of the puzzle (within 'The Informant') back to place. These are the pieces in which we often find our dear Informant ripped into. She has a special hobby of encouraging the fellow writers. Junior content writers whose work is under her scrutiny are the most anxious when their articles have gone for editing. Do you know who she is?

She is the member who has been striving to strike a balance between her academics and working for The Informant. She strives to contribute in editing the articles and bringing the budding artists of the school to see light. She herself is a budding writer who ceases to be just more than a mere scholar. Guess Who?



She is the master of her own will and decidedly puts forward her opinions about the articles in 'The Informant'. She often jumps with joy and merriment sparkling in her eyes when she finds the perfect school meme (which changes in a jiffy). She is a jovial person to be around who prefers to sit behind the screen. She works for 'The Informant' with fervor. Do you know her?

The ultimate storehouse of resources, she is the go-to person for every problem in 'The Informant'. She possesses information about almost anything and everything. She epitomizes subtle humour and remains unbeatable in her work. Half the editions would be blank without her contribution. Who is this?







# Which Category Suits You Best?

## The Maze Runners

These girls are literally all over the place. One may see them dancing, the next moment acting for the APDF drama or at other times drafting reports for their respective departments. They work round the clock and still wake up in the morning with a smile.

**Names-**Pitchaya, Niyati Khanna

## We make our own Holy Grail

These girls are able to find leisure time during the APDF preparations. This time is utilized to draft personal goals of reading novels as well as completing the work of the cultural exhibition. Once in a while they are reprimanded by the seniors and teachers which keeps them goal oriented. However, they maneuver this time in a jaunty manner.

**Names-**Preet Jakhar, Disha Nagpal

## The Khatron Ke Khiladi

These girls are the “free spirits” who loom around the campus without being caught by the authorities. They take leverage of the time allotted. Often remaining confined in a classroom or hide under desks and behind cupboards. These daredevils gamble against their lives and dare to bunk practices under Ma’am Sushma’s surveillance.

**Names-** Veni Agarwal, Pawni Agarwal

## The Sleeping Beauties

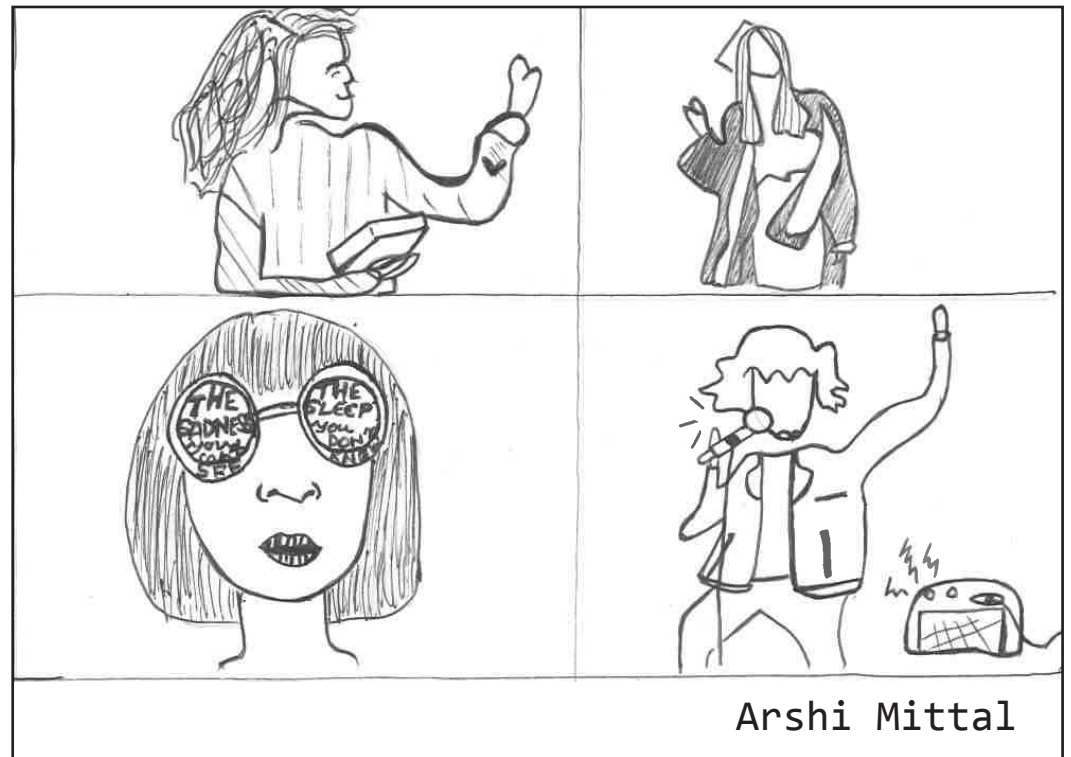
These are the girls who not only dream but also slobber as they fight monsters in their fantasy. However, this fantasy is often shattered when the waking bells are rung and they have to partake in the exhibitions and cultural show for the APDF. They are compelled to flee from their hideouts and run in terror.

**Names-** Manvi Suri, Prachi Singh

## The Mad Hatters of Unison

These girls make for the lack of jokers in the school. One can often find them cracking jokes and laughing, which is lost during the intense practices. They always target the inconsistencies and fallacies present around them and jestingly bring people’s follies to an end.

**Names-** Sinjini Bhattacharjee, Lavanya Kapahi



## The Cyber Addicts

The word itself explains the ‘errands’ of these girls who are glued to their seats while they spend time leisurely hooked upon the computers, often surfing the net. They may seem to be dazed and lost while the screen light reflects in their eyes, but their spirit remains undeterred and their eyes continue the saga of strain.

**Names-**Savya Khetan, Shruti Singh

## Perennial Whiners

They have their whickers all around the school campus. Often, they enjoy the company of their friends and later expel their ‘sought after’ comments on all matters concerning the school authorities. They seem to be able to find defects in literally anything and everything.

**Names-**Saakshi More, Puja Sarma

## The Coffee mongers

These are the girls who are found sneaking into the APDF practices only to get their hands on coffee. They have a strong affection for coffee, their desire being so intense that they are willing to sacrifice their leisure time for sneaking expeditions.

**Names-** Vanshika Yadav, Khushi Gupta

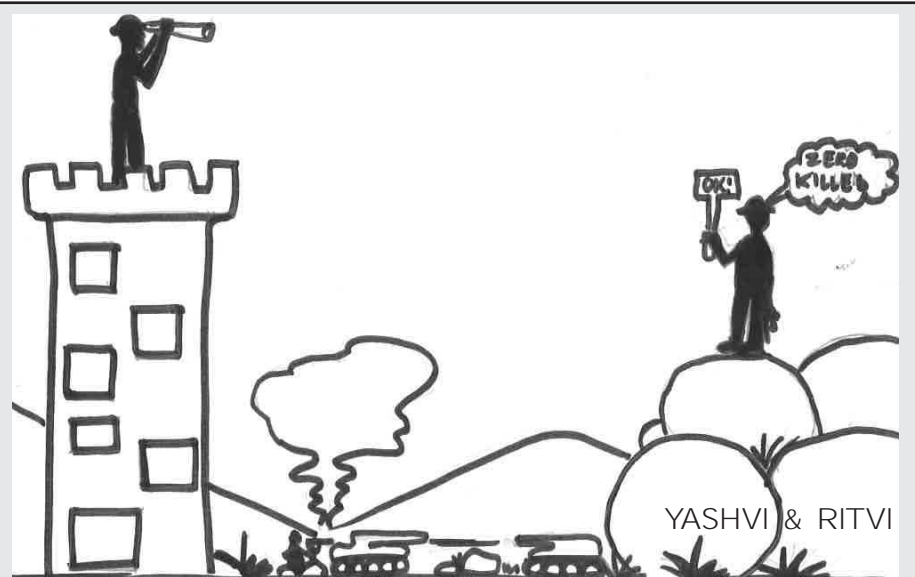
Aastha Raisurana, Niyati Khanna, Sneha Lohia

## OK THEORY

‘OK’ is an American word, denoting approval. It is the most frequently spoken and written word on the planet. Yet the origins of the word are disputed.

Some believe ‘OK’ to be an abbreviation for zero killed. It is said, that in order to save time and avoid a useless headcount, regiments which had no deaths would signal the alphabets ‘OK’, indicating ‘Zero Killed’.

Ritvi Jain





# Ig Nobel Prize

The Ig Nobel Prize, (word play on 'ignoble') is a parody award on the world renowned Nobel Prizes, that celebrate unusual or trivial achievements in scientific research. A satiric prize, the Ig Nobel is awarded annually to celebrate creative research-work of ten scientists, so as to honour the imaginative and to spur people's interest in the field of science. Organized by the scientific humour magazine, 'Annals of Improbable Research (AIR)', the award aims to "Honor the achievements that first make people laugh, and then make them think." Here is a list of some of the most amusing yet thought-provoking awardees in the history of Ig Nobel:

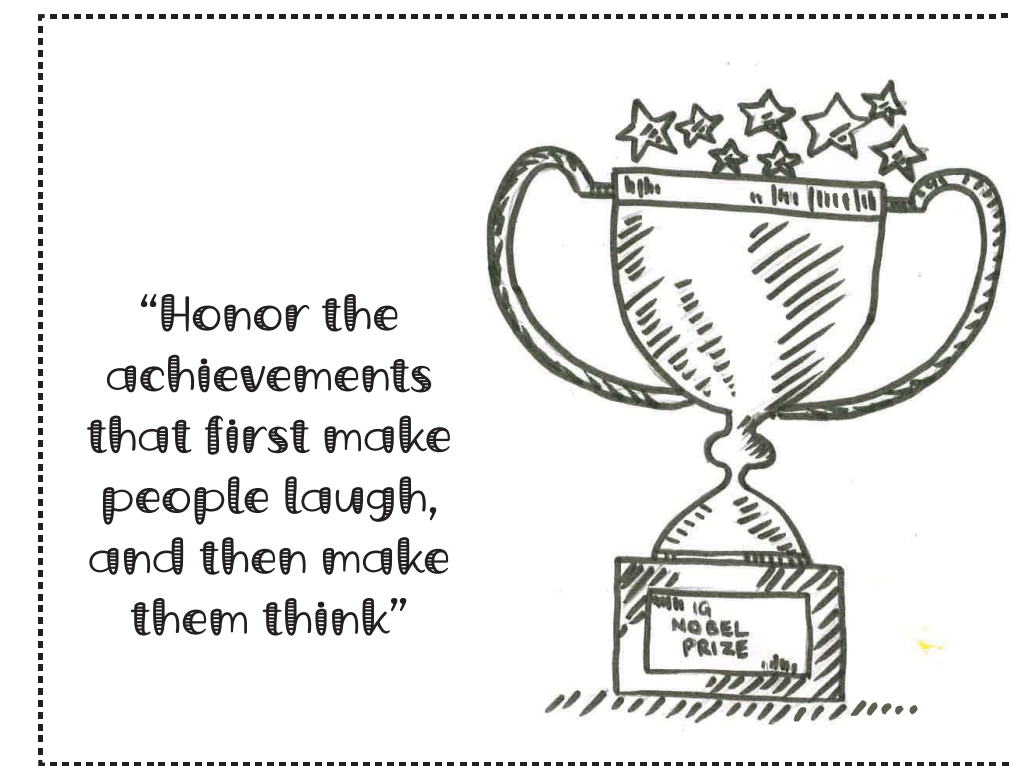
**Chemistry:** Makoto Imai and Hideki Tanemura for determining the density of airborne wasabi (a pungent smelling Japanese plant) to awaken sleeping people in case of a fire or any other emergency and for applying this knowledge to invent the wasabi alarm.

**Veterinary Medicine:** Catherine Douglas and Peter Rowlinson of Newcastle University, UK, for showing that cows with names give more milk than cows that are nameless.

**Biology:** Christel Joubert and Michel Franc, for discovering that fleas that live on dogs jump higher than fleas that live on cats.

**Physics:** Patricia Yang, Alexander Lee, Miles Chan, Alynn Martin, Ashley Edwards, Scott Carver and David Hue, for studying how, and why, wombats (a burrowing, plant eating, Australian animal) make cube-shaped feces.

**Mathematics:** Gideon Gono, former governor of Zimbabwe's Reserve Bank, for giving people a simple, everyday way to cope with a wide range of numbers by having his bank print currency notes with denominations ranging from one cent to one hundred trillion dollars! The hundred trillion dollar bill circulated for a few months in



2009 at the zenith of one of the most terrible instances of hyperinflation in Zimbabwe, before being abandoned.

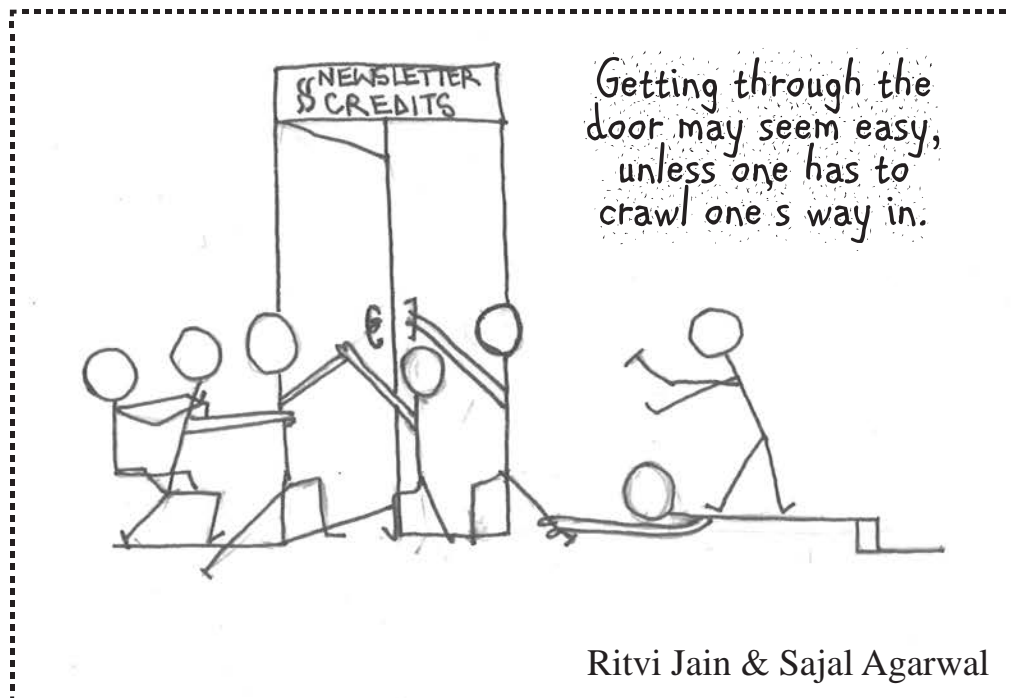
**Medicine:** Silvano Gallus, for collecting evidence that pizza might protect us against illness and death, if the pizza is made and eaten in Italy.

**Engineering:** Iman Farahbakhsh, for inventing a diaper changing machine for use on human infants.

**Economics:** Habip Gedik, Timothy A. Voss, and Andreas Voss, for testing which country's paper money is best at transmitting dangerous bacteria. So be sure to wash your hands often when you visit Romania.

"We are honoring achievements that make people laugh, then think. Good achievements can also be odd, funny, and even absurd; so can bad achievements. A lot of good science gets attacked because of its absurdity. A lot of bad science gets revered despite its absurdity," the AIR magazine states on their website. The Ig Nobel, will definitely encourage young minds to reason the happenings around them without any apprehensions. Well, we would certainly motivate any research that encourages us to eat pizza.

Article: Chitra Shah  
Illustration: Ritvi Jain





# MYSTICAL NINE

The theme of our school's cultural program this year – Navras, revolves around the nine aesthetic flavors of any visual, literary or musical work that evokes an emotion or feeling in the reader or audience. It is however, quite a striking and unusually coincidental fact that number nine seems to hold uncanny significance in different phases of our lives. Spiritual and astrological leaders deem it to be a spiritual “angel” number that symbolizes wisdom and fulfilment. However, both culturally and contemporarily, a keen observation is that there seem to be lists of events and entities that are grouped in sets of nine.

## Navaratri

If we take a peek into the Indian heritage, one of the most commonly heard instances include the 9-day Hindu festival, Navaratri.

## Navaratnas

The 9 extraordinary ministers in the court of the Mughal Emperor Akbar, the Navaratnas.

## Vaisheshika

Vaisheshika is a branch of Hindu philosophy that includes 9 universal elements namely Fire, Water, Ether, Soul, Air, Time, Mind, Earth, and Space.

## Gestation Period

The gestation period for humans is 9 months during which the supreme creation of God, man, comes to life.

## Phrases

Famous phrases like ‘on cloud nine’, ‘a cat has nine lives’ and ‘a stitch in time saves nine’ have also become popular; highlighting the importance of the number ‘9’.

## Symphonies

It is said that the number signifies completion. This is the probable reason why famous artists like Ludwig van Beethoven, Gustav Mahler and Antonin Dvorak wrote only nine symphonies.

## Union Territories

Government of India is involved in a controversy to make various aspects of India adhere to this holy number. It might be a stretch to assume that the recent abrogation of Article 370 has led to the creation of 9 union territories in India!

## Game of Thrones

‘Game of Thrones’ includes nine regions of The kingdom ‘Westeros’, i.e. The Crownlands, The North Riverlands, The Westerlands, The Reach, The Stormlands, The Vale of Arryn, The Iron Islands and Dorne.

## Nine City States(GOT)

Additionally and quite intriguingly, there is a group of nine free city states in the ‘Essos’ region (eg. Braavos, Volantis), of the show.

Chitra Shah

# EVERGLOW: RELIVING THE MEMORIES

We shall work till the sand settles on the other side of the hourglass. Until our ambitions are achieved we must pursue our passions before time flees beyond our grasp. Analogously, the journey of the founders of ‘The Informant’ has approached its climax. This is an epilogue to display our sense of gratitude to our mentors who helped us in this wonderful journey of crafting ‘The Informant’. Time always brings lessons for life. We too have had our spells of griefs and joys. Nevertheless, the lessons we carry outlast our tenures.

*“I have learnt more than what I had expected when I joined as an Editor. With time I learnt that the ‘insignificant thoughts’ can often be the creative spark that one must pursue and that we are not just the ‘stigmas’ people associate us with. We are beyond them. We have the ability to surpass all that stands in our way, when the flames of our passion meet work.”*

-Aastha Raisurana

*“My journey as the Design Editor has been a road full of joy. It has taught me how to deal with criticism and optimism. I have learnt to accept the opinions and perceptions of other members.”*

-Rehat Brar

*“‘The Informant’ has taught me a number of things and to put all of these in words is a tough job. Even though people think it is easy to print the newsletter, it takes sweat and hard work to get it printed every month. From collecting articles to editing them, every bit requires a lot of focus, dedication and determination. This is what ‘The Informant’ has taught me. These are the qualities that cannot be attained within the four walls of a classroom.”*

-Payal Maheshwari.

*“Words would fail to describe the pride that thrills my heart when I walk down the memory lane. Now that I look back at the past ten months with ‘The Informant’, a flood of bittersweet memories come rushing back. The umpteen hours spent in the quadrangle, holding meetings that would scarcely ever discuss the upcoming edition and more of idle chatter: where admonishing all committee members would be customary and amusing.*

*‘The Informant’ has taught me how to tie loose ends. It has enabled me to deal with a wide horizon of perspectives, consequently expanding my own. This holistic development has surpassed all other feats that I have indulged in.”*

-Saakshi More



# Sunset and Vine



*It was just the previous Sunday when I heard a girl exclaim "Hurray, finally a Hollywood film! Oh, how I wish they had screened for us Spiderman –Far from home"! It was this statement which filled me with marvel. My intellect and curiosity was roused as what could Hollywood really mean? Somehow, I then unintentionally created my first ever bucket list beginning from...*

**1.The Hollywood Walk of Fame**  
**Location**– Hollywood Boulevard and Vine Street Hollywood, Los Angeles, California.  
 The Walk of Fame is a 2.1km walk that has stars twinkling on the road than in the sky. So, one must look down to see the stars than up in the night sky. Here, the pavement which lines the street has coral pink terrazzo with five point stars rimmed with brass: laid into a dark charcoal colored terrazzo background. On these stars the names of Hollywood artists are inscribed, who have left impressions of their work for time beyond. Names of numerous stars include Christina Aguilera, Orlando Bloom, Simon Crowell ;with Robert De Niro, Anne Hathaway and Kristen Bell being the latest entrants on the street .

**2.Broadway Theatre**  
**Location**- Midtown Manhattan, New York City.  
 It is also referred to as 'Broadway' which is renowned worldwide for theatrical performances. A string of 41 professional theaters has been an iconic stage for the best musicals that the world has witnessed. Musicals are performed within short spans from time to time varying from 'Hamilton' –musical on America's favourite Alexander Hamilton, to 'Frozen'-Disney's major hit film showcased as a vivacious musical and 'The Cursed Child' -a drama based on the last book in the sequence of the Harry Potter book series. Some of the other unbeatable performances are 'Wicked', 'The Lion King' and 'The Phantom of the Opera'.

**3.Hollywood Bowl**  
**Location**- An amphitheater in the Hollywood Hills, California.  
 It is the place which consumes the aesthetics of the Southern Californian evenings with the sweet warm sunsets, gourmet food and the songs of melody. It is well located on the west side of Hollywood which had welcomed The Beatles, Bob Dylan, Barbra Streisand, and Lady Gaga and the Muppets with open arms on the Bowl Stage. It is renowned worldwide for its summer concerts by Bruno Mars and Jazz legends such as Herbie Hancock and the Count Basie Orchestra, all rocking the stage with their music. Also, a less known fact is that the visitors are allowed to witness rehearsals in the Hollywood Bowl if they do not distract the preparations of the performers.

*Now, arriving at my list of artists I wish I could meet during my trip. I sometimes wonder, what if I happened to run into RDJ or Anne Hathaway during my trip. It would be a thing most astounding. I wonder as to how many of these people do you recognize?*



## Robert Downey Jr.

He is prominently known for his iconic role of Iron Man in the Marvel Cinematic Universe (MCU) followed by this ingenious performance as Charlie Chaplin, Harry Lockhart and Sherlock Holmes. He is best known for his roles in the movies 'Avengers Endgame' and the three sequel long Iron Man movies. Fans have always remained in awe of his subtle humor and sarcasm which helps him get through difficult situations and interviews. One may think of him as a person to whom if live throws lemons at, he makes a lemonade and drinks it.

## ANNE HATHAWAY

She is imminently known for being the highest paid actors in the film industry. She is recognized for her roles in 'Alice in the Wonderland', 'The Devil Wears Prada', 'Princess Diaries' and 'The Intern'. She is a philanthropist who is a board member of Lollipop Theatre Network which works to bring films to sick children. Also ,she advocates gender equality as a UN Women Goodwill Ambassador.

## TOM HANKS

Being a part of quintessential movies such as 'Catch me if you can' , 'Saving Mr. Banks' and 'Sully' along with a list of other movies, he has earned good name and reputation in the film industry. He is known for his role as 'Robert Langdon' in the remake of books written by Dan Brown and for being the voice actor of 'Sheriff Woody' in the Toy Story film series. Some of the most recognizable accolades honored to him are 'Presidential Medal of Freedom' from President Barack Obama and the 'French Legion of Honor.'

Aastha Raisurana



# THE ANIMATED TRAGEDIES

CREATIVE INFLUX IS FOUND IN THE DARKEST OF REGIONS. EUPHEMISM CAN BE BEST DEFINED THROUGH CARTOONS THAT HAVE TRAGIC ORIGINS. IT IS TIME WE UNRAVEL THE TRUTH AND DRAW A FINE LINE BETWEEN APPEARANCE AND REALITY, WRITES YASHVI TIKMANI, RITVI JAIN & DISHA NAGPAL.

## THE UP THEORY

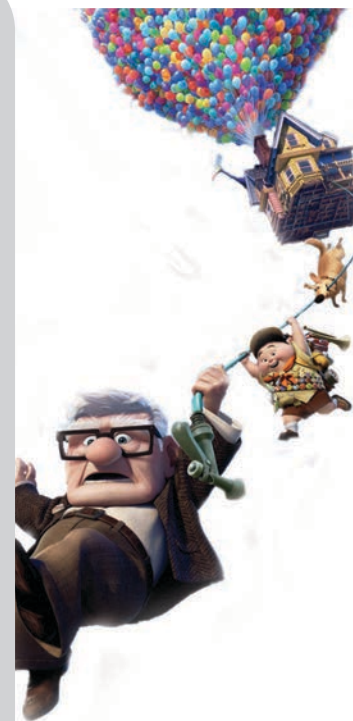
This theory suggests that the protagonist of 'Up', Carl, has been dead the entire time and the whole 'journey' is about him accepting death and going to afterlife. The evidence being that the balloon equation is impossible and all his interactions in the film are symbolic.

He is believed to have died in sleep, the night after the court tells him that he needs to leave his house and move to a retirement home. Russell is

symbolically, Carl's guardian angel. He requires one last badge (a badge for 'Assisting the Elderly') in order to become a 'Senior Wilderness Explorer.' In other words, that last act would earn him his wings.

There are various phrases in the movie like, "Well, I gotta help you cross something.", suggests that he eventually helps Carl reach into afterlife.

Carl's guardian angel is a kid because he and his late wife, Ellie, were never able to have one. The theory suggests that Russell's final badge requires him to help a senior citizen. This makes the plot intriguing as Russell's other badges were preparing him for the final test, which was to help a senior citizen enter afterlife. Russell is an epitome of innocence and devotion displaying purity in thought and action. This helps Carl see the errors in his way of thinking.



## Courage the Cowardly Dog



Courage lives in a farmhouse with a connected garage near the fictional town of Nowhere, Kansas with an elderly couple: Muriel Bagge and her husband Eustace Bagge. Courage and his owners frequently encounter monsters, aliens, demons, mad scientists, zombies, vampires, and other mythical perils. In reality,

the core theory agreed upon by many people is that the entire show is cast through a dog's perspective: how a dog would see something, how a dog would react. Everything we see in the show is Courage's overactive imagination where the monsters don't actually exist, but are just the way Courage views strangers. From what we see, the family lives in the middle of Nowhere, complete emptiness, nothing nearby. These facts suggest that this might just be how Courage sees the world. Since he's owned by an elderly couple, it is possible that they may never take him for walks and this is all he remembers and believes the world to be. This also explains why Eustace forgets what happens to Courage in every episode, because after all, nothing strange happens in reality.

## The Simpsons' Controversy

'The Simpsons' family has entertained many civilians with their humour for years. Their cartoons have an idiosyncratic way of portraying various things which the script writers like to call 'co-incidence'. 'The Simpsons' conspiracy is well known by many people around the globe. People who watch the cartoon on their phones are sensitized by the fact that this marvelous cartoon has been predicting the future through its episodes.

The 9/11 attacks, presidency of Donald Trump and many such events were all shown in the episodes of 'The Simpsons' years before any of these proceed-

ings occurred.

It amuses many people, though some find it utterly thought provoking. How can this happen? Do future predictions really exist? Are the script writers members of 'The Illuminati'? All and sundry are eager to know the little secret behind the omniscient cartoon show, but certainly the show producers and the script writers are going to carry this secret to the grave.

This compels us to wonder that if the cartoon writers, for instance, really do predict future occurrences, then how do they do it. Is it really just a mere 'co-incidence'?

## Phineas and Ferb

Phineas and Ferb, is a cartoon which has an unbelievable backstory. Phineas was an energetic person, Ferb didn't talk much due to a mental problem and Candace had schizophrenia (a problem in which a person interprets reality abnormally). She imagined that her brothers invented 'things' in the backyard.

Her mother did not believe her and so Candace recorded all their inventions in her diary.

Her mother was concerned about her health and took her to a doctor. The doctor, instead of giving her medicines, gave her drugs to make her feel better. Later, Candace died because of a drug overdose. Thereafter, the mother gave the diary to Walt Disney, requesting a cartoon show to be based on that.







## Vatsalya

The special bond that binds a student and teacher in a school is like a pearl, which must be treasured. Despite the fact that the students will eventually leave the school, the reminiscence of this bond will outlast time. It is these pearls that make the ocean of life a magnificent place to live in.



## Nauras

Emotions play a pivotal role in our lives. This year our school endeavours to throw light on the the importance of the nine vital emotions. Following candid pictures of our mentors reflect these elementary emotions. To acquaint you with our experience in living up to this theme, we present to you, 'Behind the Scenes'.

URAW

## Haasya

These moments bring life to APDF practices. The times that we spend jesting around in corridors, passing smiles at one another and being giddy with joy on completing our assigned tasks. The recollection of these moments make APDF the most awaited time of the year.

## Bheebhatsa



This unwanted emotion, consumes the human mind and leaves the person feeling bitter. Those initial days of APDF practices, when utter pandemonium on stage incites aversion in the audience. However, rigorous practices turn this sour phase into a sweet one and leaves us craving for more.

## Bhayanak

The look on an Uthena's face on being caught by their mentors, a few yards away from the football ground when Spardha practices are in full swing. The Uthena drowns in cold sweat, pellucid drops of perspiration coat her brow and the reality that 'life is not a bed full of roses' hits her hard.







Despite the packed schedule, our teachers never fail to adorn themselves. To make sure they look prim and proper is one thing they would seldom miss. We have teachers who beautify themselves with guitar and rock the stage in their fancies. They are more than just beauty redefined.

## Shringar



## Śāntam

The relief that floods our bodies when the final draft of 'The Informant' is approved or when the exhibits are successfully put up; the satisfaction that follows is worth all our toil and strife. A heart-melting smile, a proud nod and all other minuscule signs of approval from our teachers inspire us to work with renewed energy.



Before stepping into the computer lab, especially in the danger-stricken zone of Mr. Sarkar, the girls undergo a massive mental transformation. From the assertions, "I have a clear history" type, they suddenly inherit courage and consider themselves to be no less than powerpuff girls; ready to perform the daredevil act of crossing the borders of internet restrictions. They have mastered the art of setting the display of the computer in the 'right angle' to hide their notorious activities.

## Randra

When the flames of our dance fury swell in the eyes of our mentors, our souls dwell in fright and we become the victims of our teachers' outbursts. Our palpitating hearts skip a beat as we yield to their wrath for not reporting on time for our dance rehearsals. The students swim in the sea of anger as well when they learn that the much-awaited 'Sunday tuck' will not be made available because of the practices.



## Karuna

"There is novelty in compassion, a beauty in empathy and a grace in forgiveness" which is epitomized by our teachers during the APDF practices. When the weariness in our eyes and the fatigue in our bodies is as explicit as our words, we are released from the vicious circle of continuous practices. There is nothing that we relish more than a hearty embrace.





## Before The Cosmos Strings Snap

Lucidly as we pass our time on earth, we meet people. We bond with them. We learn and grow with them. Soon, everything melts and refines down to what we want from life and what we want to achieve in our lives. Others were there before, so they will be in the future. Until the cosmos strings snap and they will disappear.

One does not live life to spend life in isolation. Rather we impact one another, mould and change people around us in ways we had never thought. Indeed, we do come alone and then go back alone.

However, during this intermission of our lives we ought to acknowledge the cameramen and the artists who helped in making the movie a hit. Even though this



movie is ours, the hero is nothing without the subordinate characters who play a pivotal role in his life. Sometimes, we must simply stop and reflect. We must

think about the people who have helped us along our journey and share a word of gratitude with them, simply by validating them. More often than not, we miss how the 'insignificant' becomes 'significant' just before our own strings are snapped from the earth.

So, let us make this week, "A Gratitude Week" where we make an attempt to reach out to all those people who have been there in our lives and have cared for us. These people are our matrons, helpers, the lady guards to just about anyone else. It's time we sound the alarm and make haste to thank people for their selfless acts!

Article: Aastha Raisurana

Illustration: Ritvi Jain

## Letters of Gratitude

### FINE ARTS

We all are unique when it comes to giving vent to our feelings; we are grateful to the Art Department for adding beauty to our expression. This is a note of gratitude for giving us a further fillip to express ourselves creatively beyond our inhibitions. It is astounding to see how they come up with different ideas every year, either from constructing the effigy of 'Ravan' to adorning the soft boards with beautiful stories. The school is filled with colours of hard work, all thanks to the Art Department. Your engagement in all events is beyond appreciation.

Sajal Agawal  
Art Co-ordinator

### PERFORMING ART

Just like the conductor of an orchestra leads the musician, guiding them to produce harmonious music, the Performing Arts department has been a beacon light, driving the students to conquer higher feats. On behalf of the Uthenas, I would like to express my profound gratitude to each and every teacher of the department who has worked tirelessly, with an infinite amount of patience to tolerate all our tantrums. All our success is attributed to you, for blooming us from a bud to a resplendent flower.

Pitchay  
Music Co-ordinator

### ACADEMICS



Aashka Singhal

The academic staff of the institution forms the pillar of the UWS APDF. Even though their contribution does not always come to the surface during this extravagant event, their role

is unparalleled. They work assiduously day in and day out and their contribution is not just restricted to the exhibition or compèring or dramatics. They also hold credit for managing the prize distribution ceremony with diligence behind the drape, making APDF successful. On behalf of the Uthenas, I express my earnest gratitude to the academic staff for always leading us forward and compelling us to do our best.

Falguni Samani  
Academic Prefect



Aashka Singhal

### SPORTS

The Sports department gives us a glimpse into our flairs and flaws. They help us improve our shortcomings and better our strengths. They motivate us to put our best foot forward. They understand us not like a teacher understands a student, but like a friend understands a friend. We feel a deep sense of belonging whenever we are with them- be it inside or out of the school. We pay them the greatest amount of respect for all that they have done for us.

Divyanshi  
Sports Vice-Prefect





# When the Drone Strikes Saudi Arabia

**O**n September 14, Saudi Arabia suffered the biggest blow to its oil infrastructure in the country's history when critical processing facilities were attacked.

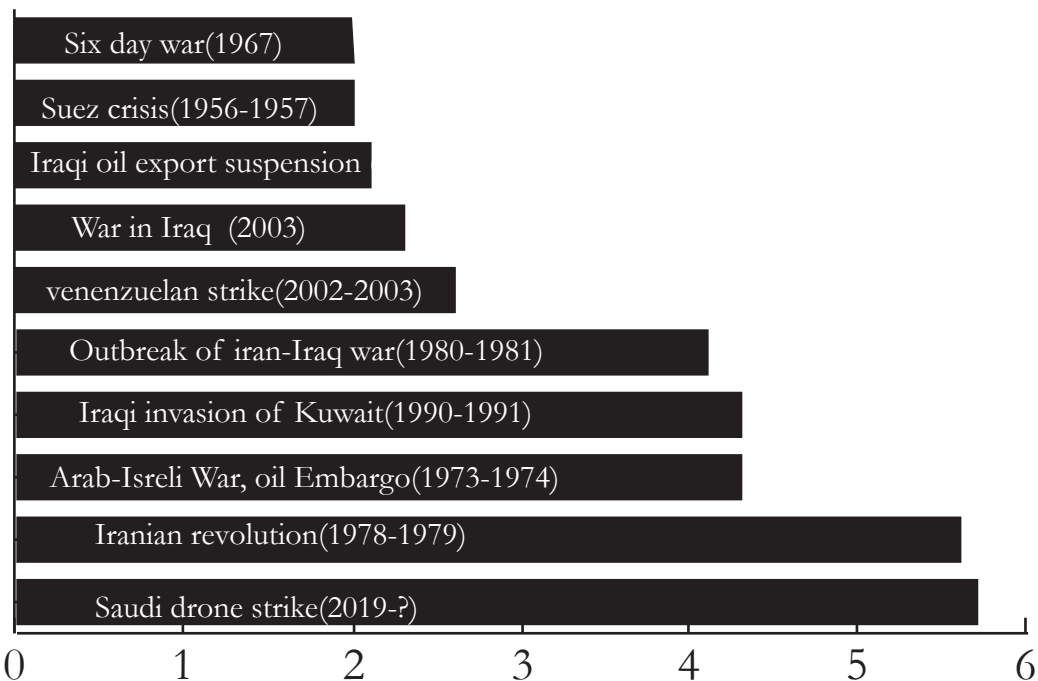
At about 4 a.m. local time, oil processing facilities at Abqaiq and Khurais in Saudi Arabia were attacked by what was initially reported as a swarm of 'armed drones'. The resulting fire was extinguished within hours, but the drama had only just begun. Damage to the two sites reduced Saudi Arabia's oil production by 5.7 million barrels per day (mbpd), from about 9.8 million. As a single-impact event, it was probably the largest disruption to the oil market ever that abruptly left the world's main supplier producing just half its normal amount.

It will be long before normalcy is restored to a market which was already passing through turmoil, largely as a result of sanctions on Iran, Venezuela and internal strife in Libya and Nigeria.

As for India, a global rise in oil prices due to the recent drone attacks is likely to add on to New Delhi's list of economic woes. India is already in the middle of an economic slowdown, a situation that has triggered panic and job losses across various sectors.

Meanwhile, the Saudi oil crisis pushed India's petrol and diesel prices to their highest level since the budget was released. Petrol prices increased from 14 paisa to Rs 72.17 per litre while diesel price rose to Rs 65.58/litre in the national capital.

However, on the brighter side, in the immediate term India may not fall short of supply of oil from Saudi Aramco (official Saudi Arabian Oil Company). Minor shipment

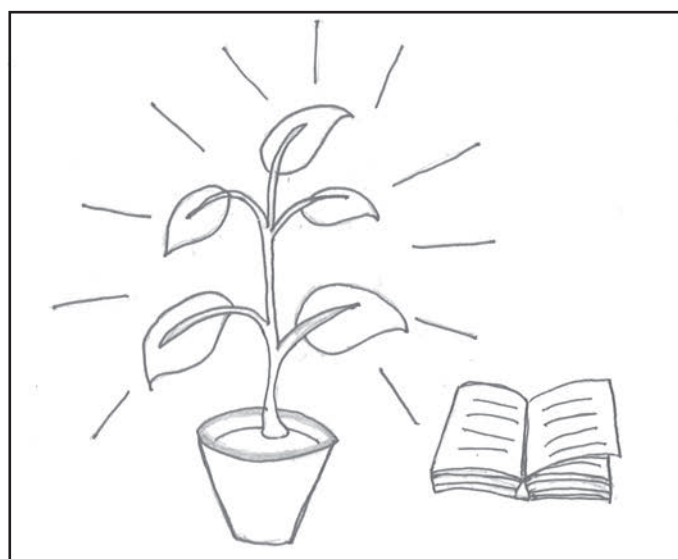


disruptions can be compensated for by Indian refiners, who can either buy crude oil in the spot market (a market where commodities are traded for immediate delivery) or exercise their operational flexibility to do the needful. India therefore does not foresee an overall supply problem in the short run. Notably, India also maintains strategic reserves of 5.33 million metric tonnes (mmt) i.e. 65 days worth crude storage to handle any immediate crisis. However, Indian policymakers, oil companies and fuel retailers need to keep a close watch on these developments and prepare an appropriate strategy to ensure smooth supplies, while also acting to protect the interests of price-sensitive Indian consumers.

Ritvi jain, Chitra shah

# A Simulation of Sun on Earth

**C**hallenging the belief that plants can only be used to produce food and oxygen, scientists have tried to create a plant which can produce its own light. Lighting, which accounts for about 20 percent of worldwide energy consumption, seemed like a logical target. The quality of plants of having this inherent quality of self-repairing and quickly adapting to the environment is being put to best use.



To create glowing plants, the MIT (Massachusetts Institute of Technology, Boston) team turned to luciferase, the enzyme that gives fireflies their glow. The result is a dim light that lasts for around three and a half hours. The method can be used on any type of plant and so far has been tested on spinach and watercress (an aquatic plant species).

The university research indicates that house plants can be used as low-intensity indoor lighting and trees to act as

self-powered streetlights. Currently, a 10-centimetre long glowing watercress seedling can only emit about one-thousandth of the amount of light needed to read. However, the scientists working on the project say that with further optimization, glowing plants could function as light fittings bright enough to illuminate a workspace.

The aim is to make a plant that will function as a desk lamp – a lamp that we don't have to plug in. In the future, the

researchers also hope to develop a way to paint or spray the nanoparticles onto plant leaves, which could make it possible to transform trees and other large plants into light sources. The light is ultimately powered by the energy usage of the plant itself. The scientists are now working to further optimize and increase the concentration and release rates of the components, to further boost the brightness and duration of the light.

If plants are to provide people with light, we need to keep plants healthy to benefit from everything they provide for us. This project is going to trigger a much more caring and nurturing relationship between people and plants. Roads of the future could be lit by glowing trees instead of streetlamps, thanks to a breakthrough in creating bioluminescent plants.

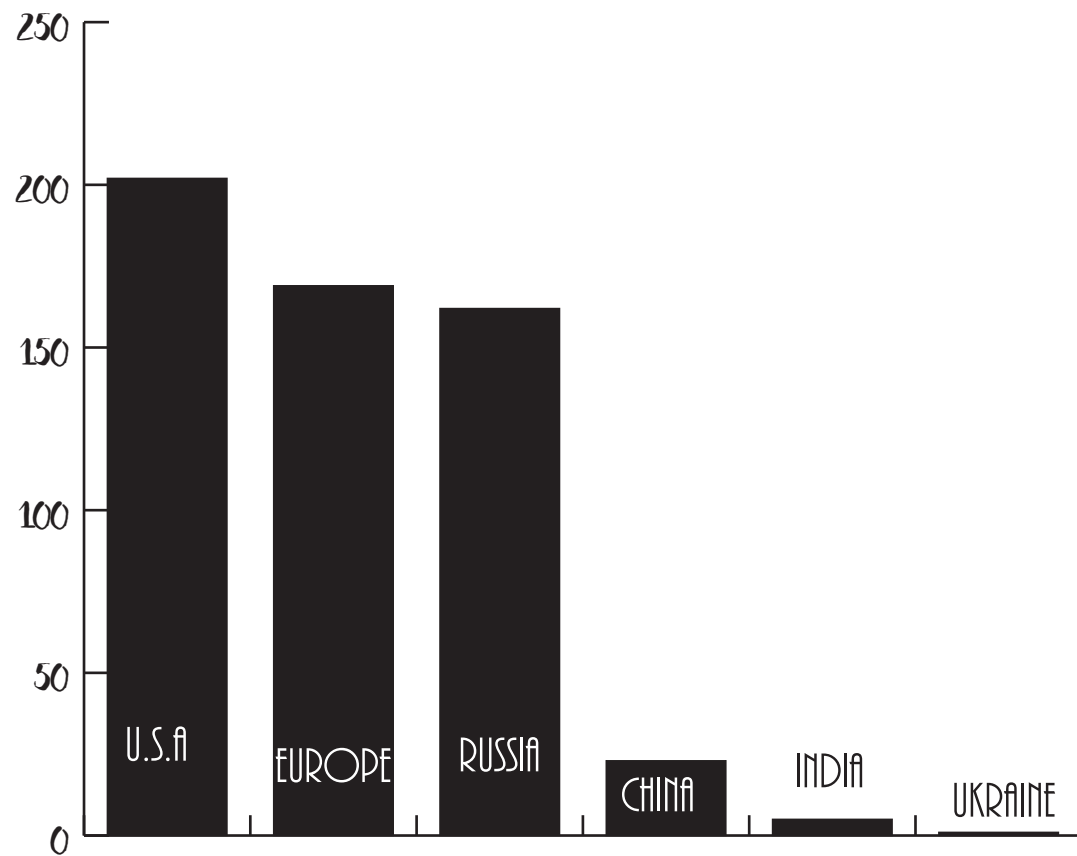
Yashvi Tikmani

# A Cis-Lunar Development

The impeccable renditions given by India to the society stays incomplete without mentioning the second lunar mission - Chandrayaan-2. It has been one of the most significant and complex missions of ISRO (Indian Space Research Organization) after the success of Chandryaan-1. It comprised a lunar orbiter, the Vikram lander, and the Pragyan lunar rover, all of which were domestically produced. The primary objectives of this mission included, checking the ability to soft-land and operate a robotic rover on the lunar surface which help India accomplish her scientific goals, like those of the study of lunar mappings, lunar water and more.

Planning to land on the adjacent side of the Moon, in the South Pole region, the launch took place on 22 July, 2019 by GSLV Mk III (Geosynchronous Satellite Launch Vehicle Mark III). The craft reached the Moon's orbit on 20th August, 2019, but the lander deviated from its intended trajectory and lost communication when the touchdown was expected. ISRO & NASA flunked while trying to communicate with the lander before the lunar night had set in. Moreover, soon the confirmation came from the Chairman of ISRO of it being a 'hard landing' as opposed to its intended 'soft landing'. On the brighter side, it is verified that the Vikram along with the other eight scientific instruments have turned out to be operational and are expected to continue collecting the facts and figures of the Moon for the next seven years.

In the rapid space race, another major contender is none other than our neighbor China. She has immaculate hopes regarding her new mission of launching an artificial Moon called the "Illumination Satellite" which could be almost eight times brighter than the Earth's existing natural satellite, Moon. The Chinese scientists and engineers regard it to be a wise decision towards the provision of nighttime light to one of the China's city 'Chengdu'. Additionally, they anticipate that the energy would be utilized judiciously as it would cut down a huge



chunk of cost invested in street lighting. Further, they provide firm assurance that no disturbances would be experienced in the Earth's atmosphere and other celestial observations during its launch in 2020.

However, some contrasting opinions and viewpoints exist concerning this mission. For example, Dr Ceriotti said to the BBC, "if the light is too strong it will disrupt the night cycle of nature and this could possibly affect animals but conversely, if the light is so faint then the question is, what is the point of it?" While the world debates on how this move could disrupt international relations of the Chinese government with other superpowers, one cannot deny that this mission is a one-of-a kind and a bold step by the same measure. Eventually, one should accept that each mission or task consists of several pros and cons; what remains is if the opportunity overpowers the obstacle.

Aarshi Mittal

## Citius. Altius. Fortius.

~Divyanshi has qualified for SGFI (School Games Federation of India) Volleyball.

~Radhika Bansal, Basu Thakur and Shyla Marwaha represented the Uttarakhand zone in the CISCE Tennis Nationals.

~ Khushi Malpani represented the Uttarakhand Zone at CISCE Regional Badminton Championship.

~Fiza Majid brought laurels to our school by getting selected for the Judo Nationals.

~ Jannatun Nahar, Sunidhi Kumari and Priyansha Bhalla have qualified the 6th and 7th Indian team selection trials.

~7 students participated in the CISCE Uttar Pradesh and Uttarakhand zone Swimming Meet. Varinthon and Molsicha have been selected for Nationals.

**Kudos to all athletes!**







# An Address for Equality

Equality is the basic principle, which enriches the Indian constitution but not the Indian culture. The public states this 3rd grade citizen division as eunuchs. They are common people who have recognized themselves as a mixed gender, known as transgender. When hypocrisy hits us hard, we imprudently do everything in our power to realize our ambitions. But, when they are in such a pursuit, they are discriminated. Aren't they humans? Aren't they children of God? In fact, they too are like us. In Hinduism, they are thought to be blessed with the ability to curse or bless someone. A well known figure today is Lakshmi. N. Tripathi, who supports the *Hijdas'* committee by supporting the recognition for their community, helping the members overcome social injustice meted out

to them. She is a renowned social activist in the world, educating more than millions of people on the international platform. Her contribution for the reformation of the narrow mindset of the society encourages positive attitude towards this community. Hence, we need to accept them as equals in the Indian society who have the right to live with dignity and retain their sense of individuality. Lastly, I would like to remind the readers that we are the generation, which must show concern about the future in order to maintain peace and harmony on earth and the sustenance of humanity. We must now learn the art of acceptance and stop discrimination of any kind that exists in our society.

Shreya Patel

## The Unwanted Aura

Rishya Shreen

Far away, I could see the fog arising  
Amidst it, it carried a number of feelings  
Those idols who had once played and giggled  
Trust shattered as it walked away  
Disappeared in the unwilling wind  
All those fake gestures spoke everything  
However, hands joined but hearts farther apart  
It is now between them who once shouted  
Number of mouths but only one voice.

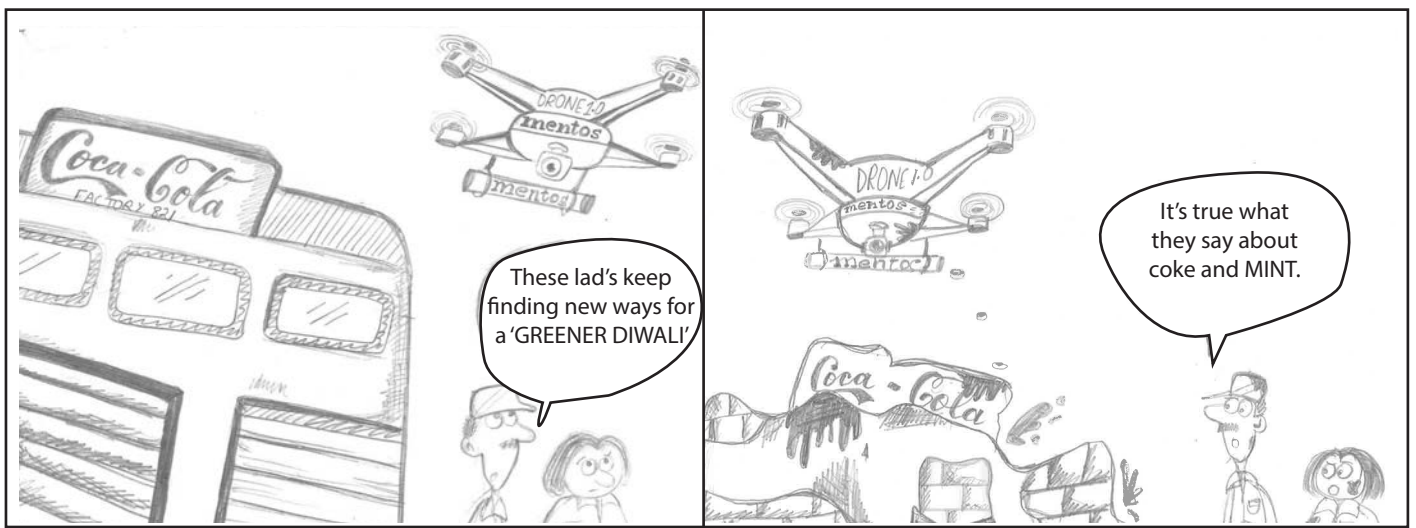
The moment you are ready to quit is usually the moment, right before miracles happen, so don't give up!

Shreya Ranjan

# Green Diwali

*"This Diwali burn things we don't need in this world: ego, hatred, intolerance; rather conserve what we need the most: oxygen and humanity."*

Diwali is the celebration of victory of good over evil. However, the celebrations of Diwali every year are a complete contrast to the purpose of celebrating it. We as a community are treading the path of complete destruction of environmental harmony, every year. We are well aware of the repercussions of bursting crackers and the fact that we still continue, is what is scandalous. All we think about is the momentary joy we get out of seeing fireworks in the sky and unintentionally oversee the great long-term damage they cause. The menacing phenomenon that are irreversible are at first hard to discover and if we think that we will act to mitigate the effect - the damage is already done. The concept of green Diwali has come into existence because the level of pollution in cities like Kolkata, Mumbai and Delhi, over the years has risen to hazardous levels after the celebration of



Diwali. All we need to do is to stop bursting crackers, instead exchange gifts, host parties, help the needy and celebrate in all the ways. Abstain the use of firecrackers. Every year, we spend enormous amount of money to buy the best crackers overlooking the damage they cause to the nature and our surroundings. The thick layer of smog that forms over the cities lasts for numbers of days even after the festival is over. The government realized the detriments of fireworks and as a result the Supreme Court restricted the timeframe for setting off firecrackers to only two hours at night, but the order was openly flouted. People are acting recklessly but they will not be the only ones to face the

consequences. Their celebrations will result in choking newborns to death, causing cancer to many and taking its toll on animals. These Diwali celebrations have never done justice to the festival of lights. The festival is to bring light and happiness to every life. We paint the skies black with our selfish motives for seeing the fireworks make beautiful designs up there. The pink, blue and green colors last only for a few seconds and after that its only darkness. This time, we should pledge to celebrate a green Diwali. This year we should refrain from bursting crackers to save Mother Nature and the future.

Article: Reet Kandhari  
Illustration: Chitra Shah



## Pride and Prejudice

**P**ride and Prejudice, a classic comedy is a literary masterpiece by Jane Austen. Though she knows that 18th-century women must — above all else — marry well, Elizabeth Bennet is a free-spirited thinker put off by social conventions. She's happy when her sister Jane falls for the wealthy Mr. Bingley, but Elizabeth and Bingley's prideful friend, Darcy, clash. As the tale unfolds, several of Elizabeth's other sisters experience the ups and downs of relationships. Meanwhile, debates and misunderstandings fuel Elizabeth's disdain for Mr. Fitzwilliam Darcy. There is not much to the storyline, rather it's the addiction to discover the inner working of

the minds of the characters. As a reader, I couldn't wait to see Elizabeth and Mr. Darcy find a way to one another. What would Mr. Darcy do to convince her that he was the type of man she could and would love? Would the heart of this strong-willed woman melt in the arms of this wealthy man? Would he finally be able to win her love? Elizabeth's pride makes her misjudge Darcy on the basis of a poor first impression, while Darcy's prejudice against Elizabeth's poor social standing blinds him for a time. The book, an epitome of how our prejudices can be harmful in life, is a must read for those looking in the shelves for a romantic and classic novel.

Yashvi Tikmani

*You don't have to be someone beautiful and pretty to fulfil your dreams.*

*You need to be someone strong and willing to take risks.*

*Sanya Taya*

## Pretty Little Ties

Rishika Sonkar

Do you know what constant means?  
I do since the time I met you other than in my dreams.

It started when the game brought a twist,  
And clear got the mist.

Seems like all that I yearned for,  
Is now in vicinity of my heart's core.

Never knew I would befriend you,  
And would end up having the best crew.

Like, "You can be the captain,  
And I'll be your first man".

Pardon me for those quarrels that started over lies,

Because now it is us together against the foes that spread for miles.

I'll be your Nemo but you aren't my Dory,  
'Cause I can't forget the struggles in our story.

The strength of our relation is immeasurable,  
And thanks for making me realize that some bonds don't need a cable.

I want all the world and you to know,  
"I like me better when I am with you"

And that our bond is crystal clear and as white as snow.

## LET THE GAME BEGIN!

**S**PORTS- Super Pathetic Obligatory Rigorous Torturous System.

Never before has an acronym so aptly defined one's thoughts. Whilst a few dedicated students invest scarcely an hour-long sports time to their well-being, a better part of the student body is found snoring away to glory atop their classroom lockers, or if luck has it, in their dormitories. Spotting people who bunk sports while I patrol through the corridors of the upper school has become a custom of almost every day. Local surveys have proved that the most sought-after destinations of 'the passionate sportspersons' lie within the proximity of the dining hall and the tuck shop. Needless to say, the

most repulsive one: the sports arena. It is this unjust favouritism that lands people in the infirmary. Students give way to laziness and then infirmary beckons them just as light beckons a moth. Laziness gradually overpowers people's concerns for their own health and their sports enthusiasm progressively nullifies. Just as it is said, 'A bad workman blames his tools', the students blame the scorching sun and the humongous syllabus as a reason to abandon the field. Hypocrisy is clearly evident when we claim to be 'ambassadors of non-discrimination' and at the same time don't want our melanin level to rise under the sun. People do not want to come out of their comfortable cocoons but what they fail

to realize is that even a caterpillar has to persevere to emerge as a fortitudinous butterfly. It is always the first step which is difficult, only beginning something new requires great amount of struggle. But once you've begun (even drudgingly), things will go on effortlessly. Merely learning the proverb 'All work and no play makes Jackie a dull girl', in junior classes for exams will not serve its purpose until we actually apply it. Physical activity not only rejuvenates the mind and body but also increases the concentration of a person. It is better to work out a little today than become a despairing storehouse of maladies tomorrow. So get up, put on your sport shoes and let the game begin!

Divyanshi, Sports Vice Prefect





Lost in thin Air	In the Air
LYRICAL MUSIC	INSTRUMENTAL MUSIC
TWINNING	WEARING 'Series Merchandize'
STRANGER THINGS	RIVERDALE
LEISURE TIME	APDF PRACTICES
BOLLYWOOD	CLASSICAL
G-SHOCK	FITBITS
BLACK RUBBER BANDS	SCRUNCHIES, SPIRAL BANDS
ACADEMICS	CANVAS AND NOVELS
ROCK BAND	INDIAN ORCHESTRA

# HAPPY BIRTHDAY

TO OUR DESIGN EDITOR

With her beautiful hair tied in a braid and sparkle in her eyes,  
 On entering the graphic lab, she would take a designer's  
 disguise,  
 Charged with dedication and compassion, her fingers would  
 work tirelessly,  
 Making every newsletter better than what had been done  
 previously.

She fights for silk chocolates and jumps on getting surprises,  
 Every time when she receives accolades for her work, she  
 realises,  
 That nothing is impossible in this world if we put our heart  
 and soul,

Thus there is always a way to rectify any loophole.

She is the driving force behind our will to work without  
 complaining,  
 'Our problem solver' whom we can approach without  
 hesitating,  
 We wish you all the best for your future and dreams, which you  
 look up to,  
 Wishing a very happy birthday to you!

## Cleo Told Me

- Salwar suit will be permanently withdrawn from the school dress code.
- The former Dean of Pastoral Care, Ms. Shefali Sanwal will be attending the 12th Annual Prize Distribution Function.
- Girls who report late from Diwali break will lose at least twenty minutes of call time and also will be barred from visiting the tuck shop.
- Internal assessment will not take place for Grade ten.
- To discourage the parents from making videos and clicking photos during APDF, their mobile phones will be deposited in the office.



# A P D F



*Ayaniza Beniwal*

*The views expressed in articles printed are their authors' own and do not necessarily reflect those of The Informant or its editorial policy.  
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