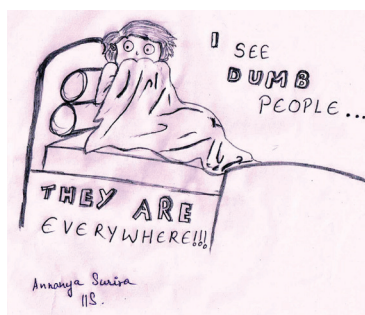
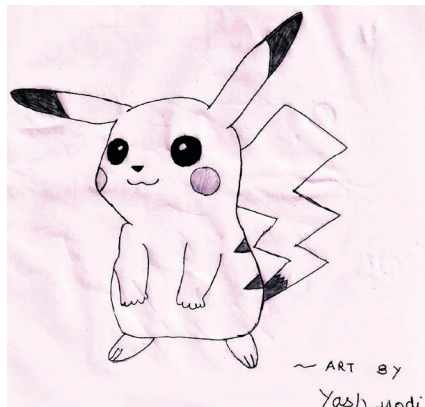


# EXCELSIOR

AUGUST EDITION



## A message from class eleven:-

After returning from the summer vacation, there has been a lot of enthusiasm among the class elevens as well as in the other classes too. The soccer season, the most exhilarating sports season of the year has also arrived. Not being able to reach the semi-finals of the Jackie Tournament was disappointing for us, but we must understand that one must learn from one's mistakes and move on.

After the Board results, we heaved sighs of relief and geared ourselves for an exciting new term. There are a lot of new faces in class and it is fun making new friends. Interacting with new people helps us to learn a lot more whether it is about a new country or the interests, hobbies and general views of another individual. Everyone is very excited about the upcoming House plays even though our first terminal examinations are round the corner. We have started preparing for them and hope to score good marks. All the best for the upcoming events and the rest of the year. EXCELSIOR!

**BY- Parangat Sharma (XI-S)**



## A Mathematical Challenge

Try, try and try  
 The more I try  
 The more I try.  
 It's like Chemistry and Physics  
 As difficult as learning them  
 It has never been as easy as Music  
 Indeed, to numbers I am truly  
 allergic!  
 I practise it with all my heart,  
 Yet, I am not able to do what my  
 heart wants  
 I never get marks  
 In spite of great endeavour  
 Fate is never in my favour!  
 Cos, tan, sec, are all the same to  
 me...  
 What difference will it make  
 If I don't know them at all?  
 Numbers make me feel as if I am  
 flying  
 In a sky that is filled with them  
 No matter how much I try  
 I never seem to get friendly with  
 them!  
 -*Vidhi Jain (11C)*

## All Yours

There is a goal for all  
 There is a dream for which we  
 become mean  
 We want others to lose and want  
 them to be beneath our shoes  
 But what matters the most is hard  
 work  
 Hard work is necessary and  
 should be our permanent  
 accessory  
 Help others to get food and shelter  
 and have win-win attitude  
 The effect of this will be like a  
 melodious flute  
 Make your aspirations so true that  
 everyday they seem attractive and  
 new  
 On some days, you will fall and  
 life will say, 'Boo!'

But you will have to rise again and  
 make your dreams come true.  
 Every step you take will light your  
 way  
 It doesn't matter if one step gives  
 you only a single ray  
 For things will get better and  
 better for sure  
 And you will get closer to the  
 meaning of life more and more.  
 So enlighten your mind like dark  
 pathways are lit up by the stars  
 Spread your light in the darkness  
 of the night  
 Which will fill hope in hearts that  
 are subdued by fright  
 Light your candle no matter how  
 small  
 Success will be yours – once and  
 for all!

-*Naveen (11S)*

## Back Home

If I had the power to turn back the  
 clock  
 Go back to that house at the end  
 of the block  
 The house that was a home when I  
 was a kid  
 I know that I'd love it more now  
 than I once did.

If I could be back there at my  
 mother's knee  
 And hear once again all the things  
 she told me  
 I'd listen as I had never listened  
 before  
 For she knew so well just what life  
 had in store.  
 And all the advice my dad used to  
 give  
 His voice I will remember as long  
 as I live  
 But it didn't seem really important  
 then  
 What I'd give just to live it all over  
 again!!!  
 And what I'd give for the chance I

once had  
 To do so much more for my mom  
 and dad  
 To give them more joy and a little  
 less pain  
 A little more sunshine and a little  
 less rain.

But the years roll on and we  
 cannot go back,  
 Whether we were born in a  
 mansion or a shack  
 But we can start right now - in the  
 hour that is here  
 To do something more for the  
 ones we hold dear.

And since time in its flight is  
 travelling so fast  
 Let us not spend it regretting that  
 which is in the past  
 Instead, let us make tomorrow a  
 happier day  
 But doing good to others  
 TODAY!!!

-*Vidisha Baranwal (11C)*

## Colours of Life

The trees of nature depict the  
 colours of life,  
 Every colour is a symbol of strife.  
 In autumn, the leaves so dry  
 Depict the state of one who is  
 about to cry  
 In the snow, the flakes so bright  
 Bring smiles which are so bright.  
 In the spring, the cherry blossom  
 tree  
 Sends out a message that is surely  
 deep.  
 In the monsoon, the lush green  
 colour so bright  
 Signifies that life is beautiful  
 despite things that  
 Give us cause to fear and give us a  
 fright.

-*Kartika Jhanjee (11H)*

## Friends

When you have no body left  
They are always there  
To tell you what is right and to tell  
you what is best  
And to always treat you with  
immense care.  
They will hit you and call you  
names  
But that is all part of their funny  
games  
But to do this only they have the  
right  
Because if anyone tries to harm  
you, on your behalf they will fight.  
Friends are what you call them  
They are always there  
To lift you up when you fall  
And treat you with immense care.

**-Komal Prakash (11H)**

## Money, Money, Money

Money, Money , Money  
The thought of it is as sweet at  
honey  
Money is the newest addiction  
Which people regard with great  
dedication.  
Money can buy you a house  
It can attract many a spouse  
Money can make you dream  
Enough to make you jump and  
scream.  
Money is kept safe in a purse  
When it is stolen, you swear and  
curse  
Money if brazenly displayed can  
be a dangerous sight  
If robbers try to take it away, it can  
give you quite a fright.  
Money is the cause of all our strife  
For it is the necessity of every  
single life  
If possessed in just the right  
amount, neither too much, nor  
too little,  
Money, money, money, is certainly  
as sweet as honey.

**-Devesh Bubna (11H)**

## My Land

Nestled with rich green hills  
The streams and rivers  
Have a lot of thrills.  
Being a nation so small but rich in  
diversity  
My land is a big curiosity.  
The Himalayan hills and plain  
land  
Places rocky and filled with sand  
Vast differences in ethnicity I  
know  
My land may not be a lot, but is  
inviting for sure!  
The people of my land may seem  
like strangers to you  
But they will treat you like friends  
you never knew  
This is the beauty my land holds  
Visit my land and watch its beauty  
unfold.

**-Rimsha Khan (11S)**

## My School

Wynberg-Allen gives us an  
education  
And restful summer and winter  
vacations.  
Six periods in a day.  
Lots of games and fields in  
which to play  
One has to work hard  
To get a good report card  
One has to engage in different  
exercises  
To get medals and prizes  
Boys and girls here don't scream.  
We all work together as a  
team  
Students here don't waste  
their time in idle gossip.  
But try their best to  
Keep their promises.

**-Aryan Semwal (11S)**

## My Sister, My Friend

Everything under the sun ,  
We have always talked about  
For each other we have  
Been there without a doubt  
Everything under the sun  
We both have gone through

You have been there with me  
And I have supported you.  
Often, not a word is uttered  
between us  
But each knows what the other is  
thinking  
As you always have been there for  
me  
You are the best sister one could  
ever have and my best friend.

And I always remember your  
words when you were leaving:

‘ There is no reason to be anything  
but free, no reason why you  
should not believe.’  
Now close your eyes and forget the  
time

I promise that you will be  
alright...”

You know that you are smart  
You know that you are beautiful.  
I simply want to let you know  
You mean that world to me.  
Only a heart as dear as yours  
Would give so unselfishly.

**- Vanshika Rawat (11C)**

## Nature

The sunrise marks the arrival of a  
new day  
Which relaxes us by  
The chirping of the birds  
Which fly high up in the blue sky.  
Nature heals our hearts  
Gives us the spirit to work hard  
And never does it betray  
The ones who love it with its  
wonderful charm  
The beauty of the sunset in the  
captivating sky  
Tells us that another day has  
passed by  
Whispers from nature calm us  
Soothe us and heal us.  
Moonbeams and starlight  
Cast a soft, luminous glow  
Which warms up our soul  
On a night that is tranquil and  
calm.  
As we lie in bed  
Thinking about a better tomorrow

With all blessings being showered  
on us  
We realise that God's creation is  
truly wonderful.

**-Jyotika Bedi (11C)**

### **Night**

It was the dead of night  
Being alone at night was certainly  
not fun  
I saw someone in the mist ,  
As she was approaching me  
I cried to let me go as she came  
near  
I couldn't hold back a single tear  
I closed my eyes thinking she  
would disappear  
When I opened my eyes, she was  
even more near  
So near that her presence seemed  
quite surreal  
I screamed with fear  
And realised that it was all a  
dream  
I then went and applied some  
cream  
And finally fell asleep  
No more was I disturbed by an  
upsetting dream.

**-Muskaan Vaish (11C)**

### **Paradise....Where I Can Be!**

I wish I could run away  
To a place where no one knows  
me for a day  
To paradise where I belong near  
the sea  
Where nobody knows where I  
could be.  
The sound of the waves with the  
perfect breeze  
Chilled in the evening in the sand,  
my feet freeze  
Thinking about nothing with a  
good feeling  
Gazing at the beach, the sunset,  
the waves is appealing.  
Next to the sea, one day, will be  
my house  
Only my grandma and me but not  
yet my spouse  
Living next to the sea full of hap-  
piness  
Just the two of us cherishing each

moment with craziness.  
For I love beaches and the silence  
No more hearing the horns of  
traffic and sounds of violence  
Wishing to be here forever,  
Never regretting to be here with  
my grandmother and I together.  
I just wish everyone could sit there  
for hours  
Thinking how calm it is and regain  
our powers  
Everyday with calm nature and  
the peaceful wind  
I wish the memories of the beach  
everyday I could rewind.

**-Nanthinee Khanijou (11C)**

### **Rain**

When it rains, the sky is all black  
and gray  
The lightning strikes all the way  
But believe me, it makes one's day!  
The sky looks so good!  
As if it is water under someone's  
hood,  
Raining, raining all the way,  
We reach our school before the  
end of the day.  
School starts in its usual way  
Unaffected by the rain in any way  
Young children have fun and play  
And mess up their clothes in many  
a way.  
Rain makes me so happy!  
It is like a new beginning ,  
Full of laughter and joy,  
Rain brings happiness to every girl  
and boy!

**-Naaz Oshahan (11C)**

### **Seize the present**

Our past we can't recapture  
It is over and it is done  
No way to recover time  
All those days that are gone.  
No amount of colouring  
Or painting with a brighter hue  
Can change the way things hap-  
pened  
No way to make your mistakes not  
true.  
No use fretting over  
Regretting bygone days

No need to get entangled  
In memories' purple haze  
Or caught up unravelling  
Or hoping we could redo  
Things that didn't go the way  
That we wanted them to.  
The future is uncertain  
No way for us to see  
The things tomorrow is holding  
For you or for me!  
Now is what is obtainable  
Just moments here to share  
The future comes so quickly  
Unseen but waiting there  
Seize the present moment  
Grab all that we can contain  
Our future is elusive  
Our past we cannot change!

**-Dhruv Tolani (11S)**

### **The Edge of Things**

I wait at the edge of things  
A dry spell spilling into drought  
A shadow gradually starts to cast  
itself  
Dusk changes to a darker shade  
Which becomes even darker  
There: it is now night enough to  
call it a good night  
I wait for resurrection  
I wake up in the morning to see  
the mist lifting off the river  
And ladders in the orchard al-  
though the picking's done.

**-Padma Angmo (11S)**

### **The Howling of the Wind**

The day started simple and breezy,  
It was a wonderful morning  
But now when I think of it,  
It was all very hazy.  
That day was a day before my  
birthday  
I was going to turn seven  
But the end took all my happiness  
away.  
People thought I was too young to  
remember anything  
But would you forget if you lost  
your parents on such a day?  
That day, I had to accept my elder  
sister as my everything.  
That day was April 14, 1912.

Yes, I was on the Titanic when it sunk.  
That day was the end and I knew it well.

Just at six, I bid my goodbyes  
My mother got me to safety  
But herself couldn't survive.  
The day had started nice and breezy  
But had ended with the howling of the wind  
And had left me scarred for the rest of my life.

*-Aashna Pathak (11H)*

### **The Howling of the Wind**

The day started simple and breezy,  
It was a wonderful morning  
But now when I think of it,  
It was all very hazy.  
That day was a day before my birthday  
I was going to turn seven  
But the end took all my happiness away.  
People thought I was too young to remember anything  
But would you forget if you lost your parents on such a day?  
That day, I had to accept my elder sister as my everything.  
That day was April 14, 1912.  
Yes, I was on the Titanic when it sunk.

That day was the end and I knew it well.

Just at six, I bid my goodbyes  
My mother got me to safety  
But herself couldn't survive.  
The day had started nice and breezy  
But had ended with the howling of the wind  
And had left me scarred for the rest of my life.

*-Aashna Pathak (11H)*

## **FACTS AND GENERAL KNOWLEDGE**

### **Archer's Mark**

Jeffrey Howard Archer is a much loved English author who was a politician before starting his career as an award-winning author. Archer was a Member of Parliament but he resigned due to a financial scandal which almost left him bankrupt. His political career ended with his being convicted and sentenced to prison for perjury. However, his books have sold around 330 million copies worldwide.

Archer's first novel, 'Not A Penny More, Not A Penny Less' was a great success. Archer wrote this book to save himself from bankruptcy. It was with this novel that the career of this great writer began. 'Kane and Abel' proved to be his bestselling work, and topped the New York Times bestseller's list. His works have received several awards and his new novel, 'Heads You Win' is set to be published in 2017. Jeffrey Archer is the most celebrated author of this era. Reading his books will enhance your general knowledge, language skills and writing skills.

### **-Hemendra Salve (11C)**

Facts we found out just for you!!!

-Everyday, 16% of searches that are made on Google are on completely new subjects.

-When a Google employee dies, his or her children receive US\$ 1000 per month until they turn 19.

-When G-mail was first launched, many people mistook it for an April Fool's Day prank as it was launched on 1st April, 2004.

-McDonald's opens a new restaurant every 14.5 hours.

-Justin Bieber has more followers on Twitter than Spain has people.

-Facebook, Twitter and the New York Times have been blocked in China since 2009.

-The retina display of the Apple i-pad has actually been manufactured by Samsung.

-Apple's brand is worth US \$ 118.9 billion. It is among the world's most valuable brands along with Google.

-The battery of an Apple Macbook could save you from a gunshot as it is bulletproof.

-If you search for the word 'askew' in Google, the content will tilt slightly to the right. (Try it for yourself if you don't believe this!!!)

*-compiled by Manogya Chaudhry (11H)*

### **Quiz yourself on cricket**

1.How many overs are there in a one day international?

Answer: 50

2.What is the length of a cricket pitch in yards?

Answer: 22

3.Who is the first batsman to score a double century in a one day international?

Answer: Sachin Tendulkar

4.Which team has won the 2016 ICC World Cup Twenty 20?

Answer: The West Indies

5.What is the length of a cricket stump?

Answer: 28 inches

6.Who has scored most runs in the IPL 2016 and how many runs did he score?

Answer: Virat Kohli, 973 runs

7. Who was the captain of the Indian Team before M.S. Dhoni?

Answer: Sourav Ganguly

8. When and where will the next ICC World Cup be held ?

Answer: 2019; England

**-Ayush Modi (11C)**

### Try to figure these out!

- There was a green house. Inside the green house, there was a white house. Inside the white house, there was a red house.

Inside the red house, there were a lot of babies. Who am I?

Answer: A watermelon

- I am there once in a minute, twice in a moment but never in a thousand years. Who am I?

Answer: The letter 'm'

- What can you catch but not throw?

Answer: A cold

- I start nothing and end the sun. What am I ?

Answer: The letter 'n'.

**-compiled by Vaishnavi Gupta (11S)**

### Quiz Yourself on Kohli

1. When is Virat Kohli's birthday?

Nov 5, 1987

Dec 5, 1990

Sept 5, 1988

Nov 5, 1988

2. What is his highest score in an ODI?

185

178

183

165

3. What is his pet name?

VK

Cheeku

Kohli

Virat

4. When was his T201 debut?

Nov 18, 2012

June 29, 2011

June 12, 2010

June 26, 2009

5. Against which team did Kohli make a debut in test matches?

Australia

Pakistan

South Africa

West Indies

6. Against which team was his T201 debut?

Sri Lanka

New Zealand

Australia

Zimbabwe

7. What is Kohli's height?

175cm

177 cm

179 cm

180 cm

Answers: 1. Nov 5, 1988    2. 183    3. Cheeku    4. June 12, 2010    5. West Indies    6. Zimbabwe    7. 175 cm.

### **-Rithik Kukreja (11C)**

#### What's In

Ibrahimovic who plays as a striker for Manchester United

The Jackie Tournament

Mohenjo daro starring Hritik Roshan

The Kapil Sharma Show

Quizup

#### What's Out

Messi who has retired

Founders' Day Marathon

Sultan starring Salman Khan

Comedy Nights Bachao

Google Hangouts

### **-Sameep (11S)**

# STORIES AND ARTICLES

## Anil Kumble : The New Face Of Indian Cricket

“Anil is a fabulous player, a hard competitor who will not make any

compromises in the field ” said Sachin Tendulkar.

Carrying with him an experience of almost 20 years, Mr. Anil Kumble has emerged as the choice

of the BCCI to take up the job as the eagerly awaited head coach of the Indian cricket team.

Anil Kumble is a right-arm leg spinner (leg break googly) with an

unorthodox style, most famous for his flippers. He started his career as a fast bowler, which gave him a faster-than-usual delivery.

Born on 17th October, 1970, the Bengaluru man debuted in a first-class match for Karnataka on 30th October, 1989, against Hyderabad at the age of 19, taking 4 wickets with a pair.

Kumble, not a big turner of the ball, rather relied much on pace and accuracy. His ability to make the ball bounce with subtle variations in pace made him a tougher bowler to face for the batsman, thus earning him the nickname "Jumbo".

After a glorious span of 18 years of playing active cricket, Anil "Jumbo" Kumble announced his retirement from all forms cricket in the month of November, 2008.

**Honours & Achievements :-**

Jumbo ended his glorious career with 619 wickets in test cricket and remains the 3rd highest wicket-taker trailing Muttiah Muralitharan and "The King of Spin", Shane Warne.

The "Indian Cricketer of the Year" awardee was given this honour in 1993 after which he was honoured by the Arjuna Award in 1995. Just in the next year, in 1996, he was recognised as one of the Wisden Cricketers of the Year along with Dominic Cork (England), Aravinda de Silva (Sri Lanka), Angus Fraser (England), Dermot Reeve (England).

In the year 2002, he was shortlisted among 16 cricketers for the Wisden Indian Cricketer of the Year which saw Kapil Dev emerging as the winner.

He was awarded India's 4th highest civilian honour in 2005, the Padma Shri. Later in October 2012, he was appointed the Chairman of the International Cricket Council. In February

2015, he was officially inducted into the ICC Hall of Fame which features other Indian greats like Kapil Dev and Sunil Gavaskar.

One of his best achievements enthroned in every cricket heart around the globe is his 10 wicket innings in a test match in 1999 against India's most controversial rival, Pakistan. This feat has only been achieved by one other bowler in cricket history, who hails from England against Australia, in the year 1956, James "Jim" Charles Laker.

Some of Kumble's other accolades includes a prominent intersection in M.G. Road, Bengaluru being named as Anil Kumble Circle, a "Best Breakthrough Performance in IPL" in 2009 for his 5 for 5 against Rajasthan Royals, and an induction into the "ICC Cricket Hall of Fame" in the year 2015.

**Teams Played For :-**

India, Karnataka, Surrey County Cricket Club, Leicestershire County Cricket Club, Northampton County Cricket Club, Royal Challengers Bangalore

**Current News :-**

Soon after taking charge of his duties as the new head coach of the Indian Cricket Team, Anil Kumble is known to have conducted a 1-hour batting challenge (where a batsman has to play continuously for one hour without being out) to train the Indian batsmen for the upcoming tour of the West Indies.

One of his latest "Kumble-rule" known as the "no-nonsense approach" is known to be the making of a committee for the collection of a penalty of 50\$ from any player who turns up late for the team bus and he has made the Indian ace swinger Bhuvaneshwar Kumar, as its Chairman.

The left-handed Shikhar Dhawan

and, Cheteshwar Pujara are known to be the two other members of this committee.

**By - Abhinav Baranwal, 11S**

### **Back for the rain**

It was during the monsoon that I was walking along a path when I bumped into someone. I looked up curiously to see a dark-haired girl. She was as tall as me. Her voice was quite soft and I could barely make out the words, "I'm sorry!" I told her that it was perfectly fine. She introduced herself as Shannon. I shook hands with her and she told me that she was from somewhere close by. She asked me why I was walking alone in the rain.

The irony of the situation was that I had had a very bad fight and so it was really hard to smile although I really wanted to. As though she had read my thoughts, she asked me why I did not smile. I explained part of my situation to her. She turned out to be a very good listener and gave me some very good advice on how to deal with my situation.

Later, she and I became quite good friends. We sat under a shed until the rain stopped and watched the beauty of the sunset. While we were walking back, she just disappeared. I wondered where she had gone. When I reached home, I saw an unknown lady standing there with Shannon's picture in her hand. She told me that Shannon had passed away just that morning. She also said that Shannon loved walking in the rain.

**-Shania O'Connor (11C)**

The Twenty-first Century: A Period of Amazing Developments  
Huge developments are taking place in the twenty-first century in every area – industrial,

environmental and technological which are undoubtedly helping to make the world a better place. These developments have made the lives of human beings easier by and more comfortable. For example, a washing machine that washes clothes and dries them is very helpful and saves a lot of time for busy professionals.

On the flip side, these developments are making people lazy. They can now perform any task by pressing a button. For example, they no longer need to make the effort of going to the market to finish their shopping. All they need to do is to shop online without exerting themselves. Hence, there are pros and cons of development and one must be wise enough to pick what is good and keep oneself away from what is bad.

**-Nandini Sabharwal (11S)**

## **Emulating Elon Musk**

“I want to die on Mars. Just not on impact.” - Elon Musk

-Elon Musk Elon Musk is my role model and I think that there is no better way to ‘unleash’ my creativity than to write about him and learn more in the process. All those who want to be entrepreneurs MUST research about this man. What is common between Tesla, SpaceX and PayPal? Their founder is the same: -Elon Musk. He is also known as the next Steve Jobs and the real-life Tony Stark (Iron Man) and is currently considered one of the brightest minds in the world. He was also featured on the Time list of 100 Most Influential People In the World. His net worth is US\$ 12.7 billion making him the 83rd richest man in the world.

Elon Reeve Musk was born on 28 June 1971 to Errol Musk (Father) who was an electrochemical

engineer and Maye (Mother) a model from Canada. He is a South African born Canadian-American business magnate, engineer and inventor. He is also the founder of Solar City. Elon Musk has stated that the goals of SpaceX, Tesla Motors and Solar City revolve around his vision to change the world and humanity. His goals include setting up a permanent colony on Mars and he believes that all the energy that humans need can be provided by the Sun i.e. Solar Energy. Some of information about Elon Musk's early life include - reading books. Musk was an avid reader and ran out of books to read in his library when he was 8. He is also said to have faced a lot of bullying in school and his mother told the Esquire Magazine in 2012 that he was always picked on in school because he was the youngest. Elon also made a video game at the age of 12 named BLASTAR which he sold for \$500. Elon Musk's revolutionary ideas include sending mice and plants to Mars in order to find out how can life forms survive on that planet. Elon Musk is an atheist and said that he doesn't pray or worship any being. One thing that he believes in is that when he was asked if we (humans) are living in a computer simulation, he said “Probably yes”. He has also devised a concept known as The Hyperloop - a high speed transportation system incorporating reduced pressure tubes in which pressurized capsules ride on an air cushion driven by linear induction motors and air compressors. Elon Musk is also the chairman of the Musk Foundation which focuses its philanthropic efforts on providing solar energy systems in disaster prone areas. All in all I think his achievements and efforts to

change humanity are too many to be stated in words. I would like to end my article by quoting the man himself: - “If something is important enough, you should do it even if the odds are not in your favour” - Elon Musk

**-Manuviraj Godara (11S)**

## **Friendship**

“Friendship isn't about who you've known the longest.

It's about who walked into your life, said, ‘I'm here for you!’ and proved it.”

Everyone living on this earth has a friend whom they can trust and share their most memorable moments with. Many times, people make friends with someone and use them to meet their own selfish ends. When their purpose has been served, they do not hesitate to say unkind things about them behind their back. This makes it hard for some people to trust others and they tend to run away from new people that they meet. However, one should never lose faith in the fact that true friends can be found. One just has to look for them and when we find them, we must cherish the moments we spend with them!!!

**-Aalia Mohan (11H)**

## **Kashmir : can we still restore its identity?**

Let me start by making it clear that this is not a political piece, this is the outcome of deep personal concern. When reading the newspapers from recent days it makes me upset as well as sad to see the situation of uncertainty has come up again when tens and thousands of young people, spontaneously and simultaneously, start to protest, requiring virtually the entire Valley to be



placed under curfew whilst the authorities are forced to shoot and kill to enforce control, you can't escape the conclusion something has gone horribly wrong. "Burhan Wani's killing is just the occasion or excuse, it's not the explanation". From the Pashtun Durrani Empire to Article 370 the valley has been crushed under political heavyweights, confused rulers, and two nuclear powers. Is it simply the reflection of anguish and, perhaps, anxiety and fear of the people as a result of the 200 years of the conflict that has turned the heaven into a pit full of militant aggression and uprising of the separatists. Being the part of a Nation out of uncertain circumstances,

Taking the example of Northern Ireland when the Westminster realized that response with the army was never going to help bring out a peaceful solution John Major and, after him, Tony Blair started to tackle the problem politically, confronting rather than circumventing the issue of separation, a resolution seemed possible. Today, the Irish Republican Army no longer exists and its political front, Sinn Fein, is part of the Northern Ireland government. Northern Ireland proves that politicians can make a difference when they want to and truly try. That's where ours have fallen short. A true democracy should confront its problems, not ignore them or leave them to the

correct leaders for such a task?"  
**-Amartya Mishra (11S)**

### ***Korean customs***

- Koreans bow their heads in order to show respect to someone.
- The traditional dress of Korea is the 'Hanbok'.
- Koreans give and take things with both hands.
- Koreans believe the number 4 to be unlucky because they associate it with death. So, hospitals and office buildings in Korea have no fourth floor.
- Schools in Korea get breaks after every lesson.
- Koreans eat 'kimchi' everyday.
- High schools in Korea get over at around 8.00 p.m. and students are allowed to stay till 10.30 p.m. for self-study.
- The Korean National Anthem is 'Aegukga'.
- Woojung An (11S)**



Democratic development was limited in Kashmir until the late 1970s, and by 1988, many of the democratic reforms introduced by the Indian Government had been reversed. Non-violent channels for expressing discontent were thereafter limited and caused a dramatic increase in support for insurgents advocating violent secession from India. But it is still not too late. If we start thinking about rectifying our mistakes rather than displaying the military or national superiority History is always there to make the changes possible even today.

police to handle. Unfortunately, that's what we have done in the Kashmir Valley. For all their other skills they've lacked the vision and generosity to reach out and embrace Kashmiri citizens who feel alien and unwanted. We may call them brothers but they feel they're treated like stepchildren. The paterfamilias with the heart and mind to bring the quarrelling brood together is missing.

There should be proper political will to resolve the issue. Its not beyond us but it wont be easy. "But do we presently have the

**Let your inner light shine!!!**  
 Love grows the most when clouds block the light. The next time the clouds of gloom cover the sunshine above, don't despair. Turn to the light that always shines. The light of God's love is within us. Let your own love and faith grow stronger. Use what you learn to be better and to help others as well. Life is full of both sunshine and clouds but the light within us can never be overshadowed unless we allow it to.

**-Saumyadeep Ranghar (11S)**

### **The Quaint Town of McLeod Ganj**

McLeod Ganj is a quaint little town located in Dharamsala in the Kangra district of Himachal Pradesh. It is known as 'Little Lhasa' or 'Dhasa' because of its large population of Tibetans. The Tibetan government -in - exile

has its headquarters here. This town has been named after Sir Donald Friell Mcleod, a lieutenant governor of Punjab during the British rule. The most important Buddhist site here is Tsuglag Khang, the Dalai Lama's temple which has statues of Padmasambhava, Avalokitesvara and a statue of Padmasambhava. Other places worth visiting are Triund Hill, St. John in the Wilderness, the Dal Lake and Bhagsu Nath. The latter is very popular with Israeli tourists. If you like eating pizza, you will be able to enjoy ones baked in wooden ovens here.

In case you are wondering which place to visit in the winter vacation, I highly recommend Mcleod Ganj!!!

**-Tenzin Kunchok (11H)**

## **The Unsolved Mystery**

When I was in class five, my friends told me that there was a ghost in our school because they had heard strange sounds coming from school at night. They had also seen a skeleton moving in the corridor. So, the four of us decided to solve this mystery and entered the school building one night. We found that the staffroom was open and that the lights were on. On entering it, we found that no one was there. Then, all of a sudden, we spotted a skeleton moving along the school corridor. On investigating further, we found nothing. On reaching the staircase, however, we found a box full of dolls.

Those dolls had the names of all the students of our class.

We decided to our classroom. Suddenly, blood began dripping on us from above and we noticed dense smoke. We screamed loudly but realised that it was in fact red paint. We still found no one around, though.

On entering the classroom, we saw that the lights were on and our class teacher was hiding under the table. On asking her what she was doing, she replied that she was preparing herself for the upcoming parent-teacher meeting which made her very nervous. On asking her about the dripping paint, she said that she knew nothing about it. We returned home wondering if the dripping paint had indeed been paint.

**-Amrendra Pratap Singh  
(11S)**