

THE SCINDIA SCHOOL, FORT GWALIOR

# REVIEW-20



SUNDAY, 15 MARCH 2020 | WPP : REGN.NO.GWL.DN.11

# FORT NEWS

The weather has been unpredictable during the fortnight. It became too sunny for us to assume that winter had very softly come to an end, yet bouts of cold air saw us reaching for woollens even in the month of March. Usually, the season after the festival of Mahashivratri falls in the category of summers already, but, this time, it appeared as if Winter had hidden itself in one of the many labyrinthine galleries of the Fort, only to surprise us with its appearance, some days later. There are many birds on the Fort. On an intermediary- sunny day, one can hear them chirping from the morning to twilight. The Board Exams have begun and students are busy with their preparation for the upcoming exams, one by one. The characteristic bell sounds keep reminding us of how much the exam has progressed, on a particular day, as all of us anxiously wait for the arrival of students down the staircase.

The Senior House Reports were read on 14th February 2020. Aryan Samil, Gaurang Paliwal, Shivang Kumar, Arya Adhikari, Kshitij Dogra, Shivansh Bansal, Aditi Joshi and Hriday Soni read the reports of Daulat, Madhav, Ranoji, Mahadji, Jeevaji, Jayappa, Jayaji and Shivaji House, respectively. The awards in the vertical of Pastoral Care are as follows:



Senior House Reports

**Daulat**

A Group

Best in Academics -

Best in Sports-

B Group

Best in Academics-

Best in Sports-

Housemaster's Cup-

**Madhav**

A Group

Best in Academics-

Best in Sports-

B Group

Best in Academics-

Best in Sports-

Lav Asrani

Tushar Gupta

Tushar Saini

Anoop Adivasi and Chewang Bhutia

Prithvi Mishra

Abhishek Mahour

Samarjith Nalvade

Yuvraj Singh and Utkarsh Gupta

Sumedh Poddar

**Housemaster's Cup-****Ranoji**

A Group

Best in Academics-

Best in Sports-

B Group

Best in Academics-

Best in Sports-

Housemaster's Cup-

**Mahadji**

A Group

Best in Academics-

Best in Sports-

B Group

Best in Academics-

Best in Sports-

Housemaster's Cup-

**Jeevaji**

A Group

Best in Academics-

Best in Sports-

B Group

Best in Academics-

Best in Sports-

Housemaster's Cup-

**Jayappa**

A Group

Best in Academics-

Best in Sports-

B Group

Best in Academics-

Best in Sports-

Housemaster's Cup-

**Jayaji**

A Group

Best in Academics-

Best in Sports-

B Group

Best in Academics-

Best in Sports-

Housemaster's Cup-

**Shivaji**

A Group

Best in Academics-

Best in Sports-

B Group

Best in Academics-

Best in Sports-

Housemaster's Cup-

Nitya Mehra

Ishan Agrawal

Uttam Rai

shared between Naman Mittal and Krish Gupta

Prabhat Singh

Rhythm Kukreja

Keshav Agarwal and Mridul Singhi

Yuvraj Singh Tomar

Manjot Singh Sethi

Aryan Agarwal

Sonam Bhutia

Karnik Kanojia

Anirudh Singh Tyagi

Ayushman Rai and Chaitanya Joshi

Binay Chettri

Arnav Khandelwal

Ayush Agrawal

Karma C Lepcha

Gaurav Mehra

Lalit Kumar

Shivam Suri

Aditya Parashar

Vrushank Malhotra

Jayant Gupta

Rohit Gound

Sundaram Malik

Pratham Agarwala

Ujjwal Mallik and Sourav Dinkar

Raghav Pratap Singh Sengar

Mayank Choudhary and Sanyam Agarwal

Mayank Choudhary



The Valedictory Assembly was held on 14th February 2020. The customary Sanskrit and English prayers were read out. The Principal, Dr Madhav Deo Saraswat addressed the gathering. He said that he was of the opinion that “neither anybody teaches nor you are taught”. He opined that it is only that the adults have experiences and try to share those experiences with the boys. He also told them that the experience of just living on the Fort has enriched



Valedictory Assembly

all of them. Time has come to enrich and strengthen the legacy of their alma mater. The Senior School Prefect, Aditya Parashar came to the dais and gave his heartfelt thanks to the school community for moulding them, from the ‘unsure boys of yesterday’ to the ‘men of tomorrow’. The entire Shukla Memorial Open Air Theatre reverberated with applause. The tradition of lighting the candle was performed which symbolizes that our boys will carry the light of knowledge out into the world. The boys of Class XII were greeted by The Scindia School Brass Band with the tunes of ‘Kabhi alvida na kehna’ as they led out of the OAT. The event culminated with the dinner at the Principal’s residence.

The 25th Annual Sports Banquet 2019-20, was held on 29th February 2020 in the Dining Hall at 8 pm. The occasion marked the celebration of the achievements of the students in the field of sports. Mr Rajinder Pal Devgan, a distinguished educationist and sportsman who has served as the Principal of Yadavindra Public School, and also served as an English teacher at The Doon School for almost three decades, was the Chief Guest for the occasion. The dignitaries were welcomed by an impressive Band Presentation which was followed by dinner during which the toast was raised thrice to celebrate the achievements of the sportsmen of the school. Mr Rajender Devgan shared few instances from his life when being a sportsperson gave him acceptance and credibility. He strongly pressed upon the point that fitness and discipline is the prerequisite for success at every step in a person’s life. He pointed out that many athletes leave their sport after they leave school and are no longer as fit as they were back in the school days. The Principal, Dr Madhav Deo Saraswat insisted on emulating the multifaceted personality of Mr Devgan for having handled a challenging career, exceptionally well, as well as being an avid sportsperson throughout his life. Aditya Parashar, The Senior School Prefect and Uttam Rai, the School Games Captain, thanked the Chief Guest for his inspirational words and the Principal for giving them all the opportunities, on the national as well as the international level, for letting them explore a sea



Sports Banquet

of possibilities, which exposed them to a healthy competition and kindled in them the desire to accomplish many feats.

This year, great talent was witnessed on the Cricket field. A total of 18 games were played in Group A and a total of 13 games were played in Group B. The addition of the Staff team in the A Group fixtures turned out to be a great innovation as they gave a tough competition to the boys. The Group A tournament started on 24th November 2019 and spanned over a total of 8 days. The Group B Tournament was held from 11th to 18th February 2020. The results are as follows:

#### Group A

*Best Batsman of the tournament:* Viraj Kapoor with 173 runs

*Best Bowler of the tournament:* Vrushank Malhotra with a total of 9 wickets

*Man of the Series:* Abhyuday Chauhan with 158 runs and 12 wickets

*House Positions:*

I- Jayaji	II- Jeevaji	III- Mahadji	IV- Madhav
V- Daulat	VI- Ranoji	VII- Shivaji	VIII- Jayappa

#### Group B

*Best Batsman of the tournament:* Manjot Singh Sethi with 144 runs

*Best Bowler of the tournament:* Aditya Kumar with 7 wickets

*Man of the Series:* Rohit Gound with 168 runs and 6 wickets

*House Positions:*

I- Jayappa	II- Jayaji	III- Mahadji	IV- Shivaji
V- Daulat	VI- Ranoji	VII- Jeevaji	VIII- Madhav

#### Overall House Positions:

I- Jayaji	II- Mahadji	III- Jayappa	IV- Jeevaji
V- Daulat	VI- Shivaji	VII- Madhav	VIII- Ranoji

The festival of Holi was celebrated with a lot of enthusiasm as the teacher and the taught ceased to be people and became a riot of colours as they played in the Oval Field. The festivities began on 9th March with Holika Dehan, which



Holi Celebration

symbolises the victory of good over evil. The next morning all gathered at the Oval field. The Principal extended his warm wishes to all. This was followed by an informal lunch of the members of staff at the Principal’s residence.

## OLD BOYS' NEWS

Mr Rajesh Sethi (Ex- Rn, 1974) will direct the film, Namastey Rome, in London, this summer. Many Congratulations!

### OBITUARIES

We are extremely sad to inform you of the demise of Mrs Khan, wife of Late Mr M A Khan (House Master, Ranoji House) on 20th February 2020. Contact details: 971 50 646 4020, 965 9941 2746

We are extremely sorry to inform you about the sad demise of Mr Vishwaraj Singh Kondhera (Ex-Mj, 2002). May his kind soul rest in everlasting peace.

We are extremely sorry to inform you of the sad demise of Dr Chandrasen Indulkar, Ex-Professor, IIT, Delhi.

## A tête-à-tête with Mr Stephen Alter

Mr Stephen Alter is an author of non-fiction and fiction, who was born and raised in India, where he grew up as the son of American missionaries. He spends time between his hometown of Landour in the Lower Himalaya and Colorado in the United States. He was born on 15 September 1956 in Mussoorie. He has received many awards for his unparalleled work like the Guggenheim Fellowship for Creative Arts, US & Canada. He had his education from Wesleyan University. Presented below is the interview with Mr Stephen Alter, which was taken during the Scindia Literary Fest.

Staff Editor: Good afternoon Sir.

Mr Stephen Alter: Good afternoon, so what classes do you teach?

Staff Editor: Generally, I teach from Class X to Class XII, but we also go down in the sense that we decide on the ways that we may bring up the junior ones gradually to a senior level...it has to be a gradual process. It is a challenge these days to motivate children to really read. You read stories like, say from the prominent authors of the world, which put you under such a great liking for them that you wanted to read more. That challenge is not there today.

Mr Stephen Alter: It is definitely a challenge. Well, I think the hardest part is getting the students to teaching literature, getting them to read and that has always been a challenge. Certain students would read anything and others would not read, even if you force them to read. No, I think getting students to read carefully and quickly. When people say it is a digital world, I don't buy that. But what I do buy is that people are not reading as carefully as they used to. Students now, in my experience, if it is written on a piece of paper, they take it for granted. You should be able to say-think about it, if what is written in the page is actually correct, if it is biased. Getting them to understand all this. Once they gather, then they start questioning everything and that's great. In my mind if you can get the students to question, then your job as a teacher is so much easier.

Staff Editor: In the curriculum design, in the text that they have; they are not very standardized texts. There is a certain sort of language used by the traditional writers that generates that spark. If it is Tagore or Saki, these days the children don't get to read those stories. When you read such a story, you got hooked on to the writer and you read more stories.

### MESSAGE FROM THE PRINCIPAL

Dear Alumnus,

The process for receiving nominations for the prestigious Madhav Award for the year 2020 has begun. I request you to nominate Old Boys of The Scindia School who have distinguished themselves in their professional fields and send your nominations kindly to me by 11 April 2020. The nominations received will then be taken up by the Awards Committee for consideration. According to the procedure, the proposer needs to submit:

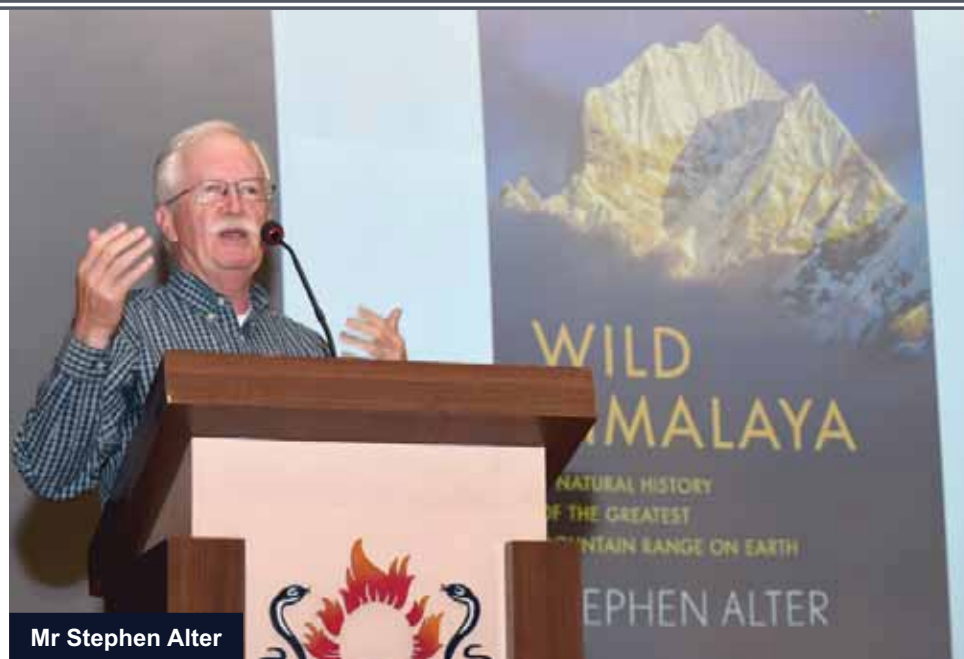
1. Brief particulars of the nominee mentioning his/her achievements and contribution on the basis of which the nomination is being made
2. Nominee's correct contact information
3. Names and contact information of two Referees who have no link with the School in any manner.

I shall appreciate your kind cooperation in this important endeavour to honour our distinguished alumni.

With regards,

Yours sincerely,

**Dr Madhav Deo Saraswat**  
 Principal  
 The Scindia School



Mr Stephen Alter

Mr Stephen Alter: I will again say that there is no easy answer to this. Because for students to read Tagore....he is a wonderful writer but certain elements that may make him sound old fashioned. Even a writer like Saki, but everything is becoming dated. A novel which I am reading is very contemporary. But the character is using Blackberry which used to be ten years ago. Finding writers who are writing today with a very contemporary voice, I think is very important but the problem is they haven't been around long enough for us to evaluate whether those stories are going to be lasting ten years hence or whether they are just something that you know, make the headlines this year and next year they just go off. That's all a bit tricky at times. But I think that if the students can connect it to their own lives in some way, whether it is their family, whether it is their school or the journey that they undertook; that I think becomes relevant and then it creates interest and excitement. But it is very hard. I used to teach in Egypt for several years and one of the courses that I taught was a part of the main curriculum of the university so we wanted to give them the best of some of the great books that had some relevance to them and then there was always a huge debate. Everybody had their own favorite book. But I felt that at the end of the day the books that the children responded to best were thin books and I have always thought that I would love teach a course called 'slender volumes' because then I know that I can get the students to actually read it. If you demanded, say by giving them a three or four hundred page book, it is very difficult to say: "I want you to read this by next week."

Staff Editor: So what are the steps towards learning a foreign language?

Mr Stephen Alter: I am the wrong person to ask because I have never learnt a foreign language and I only know Hindi and English.

Staff Editor: So learning Hindi must have been a foreign language for you.

Mr Stephen Alter: Well, when I was one year old! I learnt both the languages simultaneously. Well I think when somebody goes to a place where that language is spoken, almost exclusively, then it is much easier to learn and pick it up rather than learning it in the classrooms. I am a great fan of comic books because they start you off.



Felicitation of Mr Alter

## ज़िंदगी में सिर्फ़ एक बार मरो !

सारांश अग्रवाल | 10 सी

ज़िंदगी जियो और सिर्फ़ एक बार मरो । इसका सीधा मतलब है कि ज़िंदगी में कभी खुद से न हारो । आजकल लोग छोटी-छोटी चीज़ों से विपदा में आ जाते हैं परन्तु इन क्षणों में ही तो हमें जागृत होना है । आज लोग ज्यादातर जवान बच्चे आसानी से अवसाद में आ जाते हैं । वह अपने आसपास की संकीर्णताओं को नज़रअंदाज़ करने में असफल होते हैं और फिर इन पर मानसिक ज़ोर देकर अत्यंत कष्ट भोगते हैं ।

ज़िंदगी में जिस आदमी ने खुद से हार मान ली वह कुछ करने के योग्य नहीं बचता, उसमें आत्मविश्वास की कमी हो जाती है । यह ज्यादातर तब होता है जब लोग अपनी ज़िंदगी में आने वाली चुनौतियों से नहीं लड़ पाते । यह तब होता है जब वह अपना लक्ष्य हासिल नहीं कर पाते ।

ऐसा तब भी होता है जब इंसान समाज का पूर्ण रूप से हिस्सा नहीं बन पाता । ऐसी स्थिति में आदमी के दिमाग पर बहुत बुरा असर पड़ता है । इसी समय वह खुद से हार मानकर बैठ जाता है और न चाहते हुए भी अपना 'मरणासन्न' तैयार कर लेता है ।

प्रश्न उठता है कि अब इस नकारात्मकता को दिमाग से कैसे हटाएँ ? इससे छुटकारा पाने का सिर्फ़ एक ही रास्ता है । वह यह है कि आदमी की विचारधारा में बदलाव लाया जाए । अपने बड़ों की मदद लें । जितना हो सके लोगों के संग समय व्यतीत करें । बस उम्मीद रखें और सब कुछ ठीक हो जाएगा ।

हमें उम्मीद इसलिए नहीं छोड़नी चाहिए क्योंकि इस समय के दौरान आदमी अंदर से पूरा खत्म हो जाता है । इस जीवन पर समाज का अधिकार है हमें अपना जीवन समाज को समर्पित कर देना चाहिए ।

ज़िंदगी क्रिकेट का मैदान है दोस्तो । गेंदें तो बहुत आती हैं परन्तु सिर्फ़ एक ही आपको आउट करने की क्षमता रखती है अर्थात सिर्फ़ एक ही गेंद आपको आउट कर सकती है। इसलिए कहा गया है कि हर पल यहाँ जी भर जियो जो है समॉ, कल हो न हो ।

## Coffee with God in Heaven

Manjot Singh Sethi | X-D

Fly past my thoughts,  
I ordered a cappuccino in heaven.  
With a smile drawn over it with milk powder,  
I realised it tasted better than Starbucks.

The essence made me feel  
The story of my mother's hand.  
Which was filled with love and love.  
The more I sipped, the sweeter it became.

The cosy couch or cloud relaxed my body.  
Still waiting for my appointment,  
With an extra packet of sugar in the tray,  
I wanted to meet God. I really prayed.

With different names and  
Different places to worship,  
I prefer a lonely planet to meet you.  
With a belief in you,  
You stay within me.

You are my universe.  
From food I eat to  
Place where you live.  
Because what you do is never for wrong.

Your food is better than any restaurant,  
Your place is bigger than the universe.  
As you stay within me,  
Bless the world with your hand.

Alas! The God called me out,  
"Oh my son what do you want?"  
"I want you Almighty."  
"With your grace, I will praise you."

With broad trees of mango,  
My God's showers are like rain and fame.  
With sometimes pain, which help  
Us earn fame and name  
In the Universe Controller's Eyes.

I am sorry for the global warming,  
I will make some solutions.  
And a 'break' of even population  
Is best for the world.

I will remember this treat,  
And surely have a heavens retreat.  
For our unconditional love.  
I love you!!

## My Fantasy Homestead - Ghostly dreams

Manjot Singh Sethi | X-D

I see a huge mansion,  
I think, I should keep one of its caption  
With bulk of weeds on its wall,  
I need someone to help me with this crawl.

Yes. I have a tip. Let's take a trip!  
Oh! I see someone running!  
Can it be a ghost? Of course not,  
I think it was the host.  
He is flying like a bee,  
He is hiding behind the tree.

The house is blessed with a Saturn,  
With lighting in the house with lanterns.  
I wonder if there is a bird's louse,  
That's amazing! There is a marvellous clubhouse.  
With many feature packs of games  
I will earn a lot of fame.

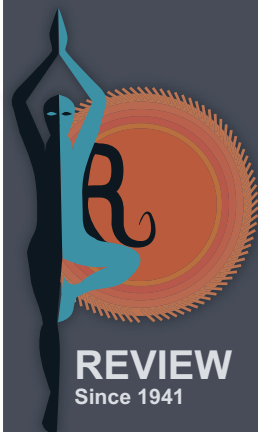
Whoosh went the sound near me,  
I suppose there is a ghost.  
He is following me from the tree.  
I ran into the clubhouse,  
I hid in the clubhouse- the innermost.  
It gave me pain and everything went in vain.

By counting all the squares,  
I ran through the stairs.  
And when I reached the gate,  
The ghost was already there.

I suddenly got a bump,  
The ghost made a jump.  
I felt I was completely dead,  
When I accidentally fell from my bed.  
Oh Almighty! Thanks it was a nightmare,  
I hope it would not turn to be true,  
Otherwise I would surely have a flu.

I have never seen such a stranger,  
My life here is in danger.  
I would never live in this house of ghost,  
As I am not sure, that he is a host!  
I will never buy a piece of grain,  
And never come to this place again.

## EDITORIAL BOARD



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