



# BLACK & WHITE

Faculty Higher Secondary School Newsletter  
March 2009, Vol:2 Issue:7

Namastey! I'm Z, the zebra. Nice name, huh? Don't call me Zed; it's pronounced 'zee'. That over, don't let the fact that I wear my funky pants too high make you think I'm not cool. FYI, I am.

You people must be thinking where this great big zebra dropped down from. Heck, even I don't know. Ask the editors. What I do know is that I'm here to do a job. To add a patch of color to 'Black and White'.....not literally though.

Moving on to the serious bit, books and exams are the only issues that seem to concern anyone right now. The tension and anxiety seems to be gradually increasing as the days go by.

For the board examinees, the upcoming exams can turn out to be life changing. All of this tension can actually be a performance booster if utilized well. Preparation for exams starts from day 1 of the semester. Yet, it's never too late for anything. Proper revision and technique can bring good results. Here are a few ways one can shape their revision area to the best of its form.

- Practice jotting down answers and making essay plans
- Practice writing against the clock (within the allocated time) using past exam papers
- Check that you have really answered the question and have not strayed off the point
- Familiarize yourself with past papers (question types, mark allocation etc)
- Make a timetable for revising
- Carefully select the topics you are going to revise
- Use good quality notes and refine them further, if possible, into lists or diagrams and transfer them onto index cards
- Keep in touch with other students and practice your writing skills in your other modules. It's a good idea to form study groups as you can use these to clarify points you don't understand.

Easier said than done. Take it from the wise zebra.

Do well. Best of luck....and all the clichéd stuff they say before an exam.

And then we have Slumdog Millionaire. The true underdog (no pun intended), it was a film that many, before it was released, refused to acknowledge, had the potential of making it big. "Time to eat your words", was what it, if it could, would have said after sweeping the Oscars on the 23<sup>rd</sup> of February. The Kodak Theatre in Los Angeles was the place to be for every Indian (although he cast and crew only couldn't possibly account for the whole of India); if not at least their prayers.

Set against the urban wasteland, and as the name suggests, the slums, mainly Dharavi, of Mumbai, it went on to claim 8 of the 9 Oscars that it was nominated for, making it the most celebrated Indian (albeit made by the British) motion picture. The following are the categories in which Slumdog Millionaire struck gold:

Best picture, Best director, Best adapted screenplay, Best original score, Best original song, Best sound mixing, Best cinematography, Best film editing.

Last but not the least (the great clichéd), let's hope all of you guys come out with flying colors and don't just stick to black and white. Peace.





**Ed Speak**

The Black and White Team has had many new additions this session, bringing a set of reforms to revamp the newsletter. In this issue we are introducing a new **Advice column** (much on the lines on Suhel Seth, except a lot more polite). Anyone can send their problems to our email address or simply drop a query in our help box in the junior library room. The privacy of the sender will be respected. We also have features like **'The Funny Bone'** and a **'Message of the Month'** column which you must read to find out. Also, from this issue onwards, the Mind's Eye feature will be accepting contributions from the readers of Black and White and **'Wrack Your Noodles'** will have a theme. Plus, we have a new mascot this time.

From the next issue, Black and White will be strictly eight pages large. We await your suggestions on the changes and your active involvement. The new session will see the launch of the school magazine **'Tapasya'**. Students interested in contributing to this collective effort are requested to send entries, preferably in printed form to the student editors or to our email address.

Hoping the end year examinations will reflect each and every individual's performance. Best wishes for all! See you next session.

**The Death of My Enemy**

**I could neither cry nor make merry  
For it wasn't my friend who had died in the war  
But it was my enemy, who had caused me such grief  
Whose mere presence filled me with utter repugnance  
His unkind words reverberate loud in my memory  
I cry to cherish them as I cannot forgive them  
But my attempts are in vain.**

**He showed admirable courage in the battlefield  
He was always brave; I didn't acknowledge it before  
Because I was sort of reticent  
My silence, he assumed to be my disgust for him  
Hence he left no stone unturned to cause sorrow to me.**

**But at this juncture I feel this abhorrence is of no avail  
Perhaps only for me he hasn't been able to reach heaven  
Because he was a man of pregnant understanding  
Indomitable courage and amiable disposition  
Only that he never held me in good esteem.**

**I've decided, I'll forgive him  
Though the hatred deeply entrenched in my heart is hard to remove  
O God, I pray to thee-  
Grant my enemy heaven and heal the anger in my soul.**

**Siddhartha**

**Resilience Of A Smile!!!!**

The resilience of a smile is very captivating. It is far reaching; it penetrates everything. It turns unhappiness into good cheer, enforces friendship and kindly feelings.

Do you wear a smile??? If not, do wear a smile, for it will help you tremendously. Did you ever meet a person all smiles—did not the smile cheer you? Were you not forced to smile in return? Ofcourse you were, for you could not help it!! There is nothing quite so contagious as a smile....

If you want to ask anyone for a favour no matter how troublesome it is to perform, do it in a smiling way; you will surely get what you have asked for. Not only this, but the favour will be granted with more contentment.

A reassuring, confidential smile will pull the business insight. The business broker with a worried expression, loses business because his very appearance suggests trouble. The onlooker knows that something worries him; perhaps he has made bad investments or lost his clients' money. You will naturally fight shy of such a man and go up to him – the broker with the confidence creating smile. In all probability he is successful because he smiles! He has charmed others because he has charmed you....

A smile is a Golden Key...one which opens the innermost door to the hearts of all. Let smile become a part of your face....it will do wonders for you. It will draw everyone towards you, and will make them act as you wish them to.

Wear that smile continuously... Not only when you think others are looking at you. You cannot smile and be unhappy at the same time, simply because the facial muscles are controlled by your mentality.

Thus, always keep a smiling face; for a smile would cost you nothing but earn you loads...Smile a while and while you smile, another smiles, and by and by there are miles of smiles and life is worthwhile because you smile!!!

**Kritika Mazumder [XI Arts]**

**CAMPUS NEWS**

**5/02/2009-Middle section**-An inter House quiz competition was organized by students of the senior secondary section. Following were it's results-

- 1<sup>st</sup> - Blue house
- 2<sup>nd</sup> -Yellow house
- 3<sup>rd</sup> - Red house

**14/02/2009- Senior section** - Cricket match between School team and Alumni- Alumni were the first ones to bat. They set a target of 140 runs in their allotted 20 overs. Yet, school team won by 1 wicket with two balls to spare.

Chandandeep singh from XI commerce was declared 'Man of the match' for his contribution of 44 runs and 5 wickets in 4 overs.

**26/02.2009- Middle section**-Shared tiffin in classes 4, 5 and 6.

**Cricket Coaching:** Black & White is happy to let you know that Faculty Higher Secondary School will be providing professional cricket coaching facilities through Pragjyotish Sports and Physical Education Society starting from the next academic session. (Contact sports teacher for further details)

**Socio-Economic Club:** To take up effective socio-economic work amongst underprivileged people, a new club has been formed by the students of the senior secondary section on 15<sup>th</sup> November, 2008. The club aims to take up micro-finance projects for augmenting income in the lowest bracket.

**Latest house scores:**

- Blue - 64
- Orange - 51
- Yellow -65
- Green -58
- Red - 52

**HOW LONG HAVE YOU GOT**

People often wonder what the longest word is in English. Few contenders are used in everyday speech, and some have been made up simply for fun or to create what might be the longest. The longest words in most dictionaries are deinstitutionalisation, 'the discharge of long-term inmates from institutions such as psychiatric hospitals or prisons', electroencephalograph, a machine for measuring electrical activity in the brain, and antisestablishmentarianism, meaning 'belief that the church of England should not be disestablished' (deprived of its official status). The latter, used since around 1900, is occasionally found in genuine use, but it is most often cited simply as an example of a very long word. Other similar curiosities are floccinaucinihilipilification, 'the action or habit of estimating something as worth less and pneumonoultramicroscopicsilicovolcanokoniosis' (the longest word in the oxford dictionary), which is said to mean a lung disease caused by inhaling fine ash and sand dust, but has never been a real medical term. The longest word that you might encounter in Britain is the Welsh place named Llanfairpwllgwyngyllgogerychwyrndrobwllllantysiliogogoch, generally abbreviated to Llanfair PG, which translates as 'the church of St. Mary in the hollow of white hazel trees near the rapid whirlpool by St. Tysilio's of the red cave'.

Manisha XI [Com]



**FLOODGATE -Twist (EP)**

Recorded at Lucid recess studios, Flood gate's highly anticipated EP-'Twist' was released in 2008. The first track 'Immortal Sadness' features Johnny (of 'BOMB' fame) on vocals, Abhishek on piano and Amitabh & Siddharth Barooa (from Lucid Recess) on strings. Although the song lacks the perfect flood gate 'vibe', the track seems to stand out on it's own for it's metalcore infused vocals and emo infused instrumentation.

The second track 'soldier's life' is unquestionably the best on the EP. For Ones who will recognize-the song revolves around a very contemporary topic. For a moment there I almost thought it was Bruce Dickinson doing the vocals.

If one could define 'Tale of the abused', 'neo-progressive' would be the word. The guitar section sounds awesome in that song. Petrucci watch out!

The last two songs seem to go by a common wave that metal bands of the north-east mostly follow in the present times. Yet, that does not make 'Flood gate', a part of the crowd. The band is definitely unique when it comes to coordination and genre blending. Kudos to the drummer.

Kaushik Barua [XI Com]

**MILESTONES**

**Alcheringa - Kirnaankan (Photography contest):**

1<sup>st</sup> February '09 - Trisham Saikia of XI science won first prize in the Mobile photography section of the contest.

**South Point School, Barshapara - Cyberfest 2009:**

21<sup>st</sup> January '09 - Mayanka Roy of class XI science and Vikram Agarwal of class XI commerce won in the multiplayer gaming section.

**Army school - Utsav (Silver Jubilee Celebrations):**

9<sup>th</sup> February '09 - Inter school Rock band competition: Ramanuj Bhattacharya of class XI arts who performs vocal duties for the band 'Sangreal' was declared 'Best Vocalist'.

**12<sup>th</sup> February '09 - Inter school quiz competition:**

Rishav Thakur of XI arts and Arindam Das of XI science who together formed the representing team from our school won 3<sup>rd</sup> prize amongst all participating schools.

## SALVATION~CONSPIRACY

Someday, I will live.

Someday, I will love. And I will lose. But I shall win again. And I will love again. One day I will tell the truth, and not shirk from revealing my lies. I will bare myself to the cold. But one day, I will feel the warming glow. And I will smile.

At times, I shall tremble in the wake of Fear. But one day, it will come to pass. Someday, somewhere, someone shall cross me. And I will lash out in terrible fury. But I will forgive. I will forget. And one day the Wind will carry me on her silver wings and I will fly to the Moon.

Someday, I will be born.

And I will open my eyes and see the wonders of the world and breathe in its life. One day I shall see wrong done and I will turn away. Someday I shall see wrong done and I will not turn away. Someday I shall fall. But I will rise. One day, I shall deceive. One day I shall steal. One day, I shall kill. Yet one day, Guilt will rape my conscience and I shall feel the weight of the world upon me. I will repent. And I will pay for my crimes. And I will wash away my sins. And the Light shall ferry me around the Sun.

Someday, I will cry within.

Someday, I will shed tears of blood and see colors fade to grey. It will hurt. But I will heal. Someday, I will be happy and the Rain shall fall soft and dry the tears that desecrate my smile. One day I shall hurt the ones I love the most. But I will apologize. And I will be forgiven. Someday I will lose the ones I love the most, and tears will once again take me. But I will come back stronger. Someday I will sing a song that moves a million, tell a story that holds a billion. And one day, the Earth, in unknown verse, will commend me to the Stars.

One day, I will pray.

One day, I will be married. Someday I shall have a prodigal son. One day I will be old. One day, I will see the end. Far, but see it still. Like a vertical horizon, remarkably peculiar, yet arresting. Inviting. One day my soul will protest for freedom and I will perceive that the close is close. I will know many things, except, all my life has been nothing, but a conspiracy for salvation. But someday I will. When the Angel smiles and Death's cold arms embrace me warm. And I close my eyes and forsake my breath.

Trisham Saikia [XI Science]

## Single By Choice?

We know that a large of the populace, at least in metros, is single and living it up. There are clubs, vacations and hotel floors specially designed for this set. But while stereotypes have been demolished and no one 'pities' singles anymore, do people, particularly females, aspire to that state? Is the single state thrust upon them? And is every singleton, however independent, lover-of-solitude and hater of the children and family routine, in the end, a Bridget Jones looking for permanence in relationship? Kanika Singh, a young professional in her mid-thirties argues "What may look like choice to you may not be to me." In fact, Singh echoes a huge concern of young, successful women today-not averse to the idea of love and commitment but who have problems finding the "right" partners in an age when women equal, if not surpass male achievement at work. Being high achievers often mean that these women are less likely to settle down with just anyone for the sole purpose of attaining a "respectably married status". And in case the husband fails to fit in with their desire for social mobility, successful women, says psychologist Rakhi Anand at Delhi's Vimhans, are also less likely to stick with the marriage. Earlier women would tell their erring husbands "do what you want to discreetly but don't throw us out." NOT ANY LONGER...Also, today we will find very less number of girls crying over their luck because their beloved has left them. Majority of the girls nowadays don't give a damn to relationships. Career and success is their cup of tea.

The percentage of single population in the country is obviously at rise, like in the West, where at any given time an estimated 50% of the population is single. Film critic Aruna Vasudev, even as she tells people to get married at least once, just to experience it!!!, says "the best part about being single is that you make your own choices, who to meet, where to go, what to resist."

So what is better being single or hitched? Of course no one can answer that. Happiness, perhaps, lies somewhere in the middle. It is us who have to decide what's correct for us, like what once popular actor and former Ms Universe, Sushmita Sen had replied when asked whether "life really rocked"? "Life rocks" doesn't really mean that we go on rocking. No matter how it defines your graph, high or low, you make it rock. Yes, as long as I remember, I have made the choice", was her answer.

Nikita Chakravorty [XI Arts]

### The Real War

And just when you're 'bout to find some peace  
 The shout of a gun brings it back to life again  
 And then we can see dead bodies and burning homes  
 When the vagabond named war, starts to roam  
 Peace and harmony are pushed very far  
 When the guys come out to fight a war  
 They fight with great valor and pride  
 And even when they are shot  
 They treat the bullet as their newlywed bride  
 But, even if they smile  
 You can see the sadness  
 The tears of helplessness in their eyes  
 That why have they become so cruel?  
 Have they even forgotten the meaning of humanity?

And as the war ends  
 What is the profit anyone has made?  
 Maybe the blood of the innocent, the ashes of burned homes  
 Tears of a mother on the death of her only child  
 Cries of agony and pain  
 Are these the products they wanted for a bargain?

De-evolution of man has started to begin  
 People are turning into animals, which can clearly be seen  
 The mindsets of people are turning insane  
 No one cares for anybody; they are just killing in the name

But these all circumstances can be changed  
 It is said that one man can make a difference  
 So why can't we all come together  
 And save this world from being rampaged  
 People should avoid vengeance among each other and spread  
 benevolence  
 They should fight the injustice and stop the growing chaos and  
 violence  
 Only then peace will reign in this world & people will have  
 nothin' to moan  
 And thus the real war will be won

Ramanuj Bhattacharya XI [Arts]

### AGONY AUNT

- My best friend acts really obnoxious and says inappropriate things to others. Unknown to her, she always ends up alienating them. Now people have started talking behind her back and her reputation is at stake. I feel I should do something. Please help.

-abc

**AA:** You should go up to her and tell her exactly what she is doing. Tell her about the damage she has been causing to others and herself. Being frank is the important thing. Ask her to think before she says anything, whether its offensive to others. Be gentle, not accusing and all will be fine.

- I am a 17 year old boy. I have many friends, many of them are girls. People seem to think I spend too much time with these "girlfriends" of mine. As such, I have been labeled a flirt. On reflecting, I feel that I do tend to deviate towards them. Is this wrong?

-xyz

**AA:** Technically, there is nothing wrong with associating with the opposite sex. In adolescents it is as natural as the sun rising in the east. However you must take care to respect the other and stay within the limit. As to being called a flirt, if you have committed nothing more serious than engage in conversation, should just grin and bear it. You need not take heed of baseless gossip.

*[You may drop any problems, addressed to **Agony Aunt**, in the bin to be provided in the junior library room]*

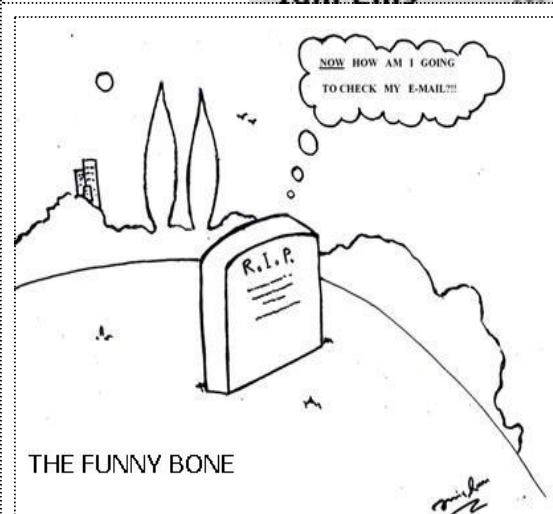
### SPECTRUM OF MY LOVE

You are someone who knows my needs, my hopes,  
 Dreams and desire,  
 With a genuine interest in all that I do someone  
 Who guides and  
 inspires.  
 Your heart is full of compassion, is generous, kind  
 And forgiving,  
 Your smile is loving and tender and adds so  
 Much gladness to living.  
 You are someone with infinite patience, who  
 Soothes my troubles  
 away.  
 Someone with limitless faith, in me, and love  
 For me day after day.  
 By warm understanding and gentleness, too, that  
 Makes life more rich and  
 complete.  
 You are full of true wisdom and strength of loveliness,  
 insight and grace  
 You are someone whose love I will cherish forever...  
 Yes, no one can take your place.

Niharika Ghoshal [XI Arts]

**BOOK REVIEW - Rebels Wit Attitude**

Rock music has been the principal outlet of youth rebellion for more than half a century, and though rock rebels have been idolized and profiled extensively, their humor has not been at the center of attention. In *Rebels Wit Attitude*, music writer Iain Ellis throws a spotlight on the history of humor in rock music, and its use as a weapon of anti-establishment rebellion. The performers who are the subjects of Ellis' study are not merely musicians or comedians—they are artists whose works exude defiance and resistance. Discussing the work of iconic figures as diverse as Chuck Berry, Bob Dylan, Lou Reed, the Beastie Boys, and Madonna, Ellis reveals how issues of politics, ethics, race, and gender, among others, have energized their expressions of rock (and) humor. *Rebels Wit Attitude* is an entertaining look at some of the greatest rebels in American rock culture and a fascinating history of humor and dissent. In *Rebels Wit Attitude*, music writer and professor Iain Ellis throws a spotlight on the history of humor as a weapon of anti-establishment rebellion, paying tribute to the great rebel humorists in American rock history and investigating comedy and laughter as the catalyst and main expressive force in these artists' work. The performers who are the subject of Ellis's study are not merely funny people - they are those whose art exudes defiance and resistance, whether aimed at social structures and mores, political systems, esthetic practices, or the music industry itself. Subversive rock humor has emerged as a formidable force of modern art, building a reputation for rock music as a rebellious—sometimes dangerous—form of expression that can dismay the adult mainstream as it empowers the youth culture. In this study of rock's impact on youth through the decades, Ellis proves that the most subversive rock humorists serve as the conscience of our culture. They chastise pretensions, satirize hypocrisy, and pour scorn on power, corruption, and lies.



**MOVIE REVIEW -DELHI 6**

After the stupendous success and acclaim of Rang De Basanti, Rakeysh Omprakash Mehra's Delhi 6 has opened to a mixed reaction from the "critics". For all those of you who have come out with pitchforks against a certain Mr. Danny Boyle, Delhi-6 is a must-watch. Rakeysh Omprakash Mehra's Delhi 6 is set in what is now popularly perceived as 'real India'. Unlike Jamal Malik however, Roshan (Abhishek) is no slumdog. He is an NRI who accompanies his grandmother whose last wish is to spend the remaining days of her life in Delhi 6, a locality she was married into. Born and brought up in America, Roshan is fascinated with everything that happens around him. Traffic jams, sweet shops, by lanes, lack of water in loos – all of it to him is 'kewl'. What mesmerises Roshan the most however are the human relationships in Old Delhi. "You don't know who is family and who isn't," he says to himself in one of the scenes where all the neighbours are present with his grandmother in the hospital. Along the way, we are introduced to everyone from this neighborhood – a sweet shop owner, two warring brothers, a lecherous photographer, a local buffoon, a goat, a pregnant cow, an ancestral radio and god knows who and what else! Delhi-6, is full of such characters – poor perhaps but with hearts of gold. And like in every story there is a pretty girl – Bittu (Sonam) in this case – who catches the attention of our hero. Roshan posits an interesting case. He is born of a Hindu father and a Muslim mother – the two prominent communities in the Old Delhi area. Before you know it, Roshan becomes part of this milieu and gets embroiled in the politics of hate. Whether he manages to break out of this and show people the light is pretty much what the movie is all about.

-A. Barsha [VIII]

## FATHER TO SON

- You can never go up a ladder with just one nail.
- A smile can take you miles
- If you have several tasks, do the hardest first. The rest are a breeze.
- A minute of extra thinking now can save hours of worry later.
- All the wisdom and advice in the world is useless when not applied.
- The easiest way to find happiness is to quit complaining.
- What you have to do, do wholeheartedly.
- Anger blows out the lamp of the mind.
- The small courtesies sweeten life, the greater ennoble it.
- You don't know what you can do until you try.
- It is your attitude, not your aptitude that determines your altitude.
- Your expression is the most important thing you wear.
- If you leave things to chance you will accomplish very little.
- It takes a great person to be a good listener.
- One does not improve through argument but through example.
- People become fools when they stop asking questions.
- Your goals should be **S**pecific, **M**easurable, **A**ctionable, **R**ealistic, **T**imely.
- If you stand still and watch the world go by, it will.
- The key to leadership is to accept responsibility.
- Good leaders delegate and keep calm in times of storm.
- Minds, like parachutes only function when open.
- We learn from our mistakes, seldom from our successes.
- Never fear to negotiate but never negotiate out of fear.
- An opportunity rarely knocks twice at the same door.
- Tough times never last; tough people do.

Trisham Saikia [XI Science]



MESSAGE OF THE MONTH

### WRACK YOUR NOODLES!!

- Q N:1** Name the song of the year in the 'Grammy Awards- 2009'.  
*"Viva la Vida" by Coldplay*
- Q N:2** Which Indian Tabla maestro won the Grammy in the contemporary World music album category for his collaborative album "Global Drum Project"?  
*Pt. Zakir Hussain*
- Q N:3** Which song by Kid Rock was nominated for the best pop performance by a male singer?  
*"All Summer Long"*
- Q N:4** Which "R & B" superstar won a Grammy for the best female "R & B" vocal performance in 2009 Grammy?  
*Alicia keys for the song "Superwoman"*
- Q N:5** Which song by Lakshmi Shankar was nominated in the "Best Traditional World Music Album" category for the year 2009?  
*"Dancing in the Light"*

### HOLI Hey!!!!

The riot of colours in spring is reflected in the festival called Holi. This festival seamlessly integrates colours with delight; love and oneness. Though, it is known by different names all over the country and the world, but in spirit this festival is all about the universal theme of victory of good over evil. In this occasion, B&W wishes everyone who likes a little colour in life, a very happy Holi.

Rishav Thakur [XI Arts]



MIND'S EYE

*What do you think this picture says?*

Write a caption in not more than 10 words about your opinion of what this picture is trying to convey. The Best entries will be published in the upcoming newsletter. Please send in your entries to any of the members of the Editorial Board.

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