

MONOCHROME 2019



THE PATHWAYS EDITORIAL BOARD 2019



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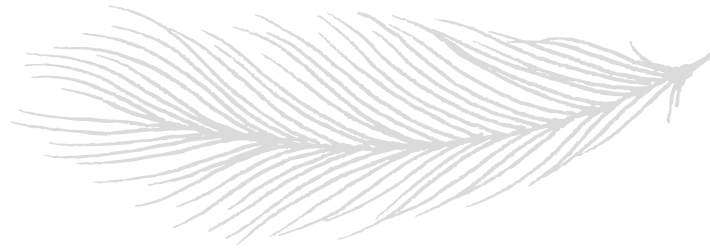
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The Letter From The Editor

We are ecstatic to share with you that we have been selected as your new monochrome magazine editors, taking the baton from Neha Gupta and Isal Shukla. Last year's work was extremely vivid, atypical and explored some very intriguing ideas leaving us with big shoes to fill. One of the biggest powers we as humans have is the power to express ourselves and communicate. We at Pathways truly recognize this power and provide this distinct platform to students to celebrate it. As your next editors we hope you the seize this power to the fullest and help build the community and knowledge of Pathways.

We look forward to your contributions to the magazine. Also, use this opportunity to document the awestruck journey of high school.

Prachi & Chitali
Editors Monochrome

Investiture Ceremony- Publication and Interact Club



The Interact club is an international service club run by Rotary International, the world's first service organization working on the local, regional, and international level to fight famine, better health, provide education, foster unity and better the world. The service club is for young people between the ages of 14 to 18 it allows them to take action and make a difference in their school and community. The interact club also develops one's leadership and collaboration skills while enhancing personal integrity. Through the Interact, students acquire helpfulness and respect for others enabling an improvement of international understanding and goodwill.

The prior Interact club members of our school have done an excellent job in establishing new connections amongst organizations and individuals, which had undoubtedly impacted and led to the betterment of society. With events such as the Aabhar Utsav where students donated books, clothes, toys, blankets, etc to be resold to the hardworking support staff of our school at low prices, making not only them but their families happy as well, while also empowering them. Likewise, the prior Interact clubs of our school have held several events namely, the eye camp, blood donation camp, Kerala flood relief, multiple foodathons, and the ever waited for Christmas carnival. All of which had been a tremendous success because of our wonderful student body and community.

As a member of the current Interact club, it makes me glad to say that we all are extremely honoured and delighted to have been given the opportunity to advance the relationships and

connections made by our prior members, and we all look forward to further expanding our relationship and bettering the community through new exciting events!

Venya Raxwal

Interact Club

Climate Change- a major problem

Climate change is being treated as something inevitable and the way we are proceeding with our daily lives whilst giving it little to no thought only adds to the problem. The truth about climate change is that ultimately it will become an irreversible phenomenon once the planet's temperature increases by four degrees Celsius. This is predicted to happen in the next century. This leaves us with the next few decades as a time to react and reverse global warming to preindustrial revolution era. This is what has inspired many but Trump to work on researching ways to deal with this change. Major institutions and corporations including NASA, Harvard University and many others are working towards making the most out of this buffer period before the start of the supposed major apocalyptic changes. The Melchiorri's silk leaf is a direct result of these researches. The leaf is a living and breathing organism which uses moisture in the atmosphere and carbon dioxide to convert it to oxygen. It also traps many major polluting factors in the air within itself. The leaf has been a game changer for climate change scientists and has widespread applications one of which is a generator of oxygen in outer space. Such inventions really do give a hint of hope for our planet but the truth is such inventions are really the keys to inspiring all of us to play our part in the smallest possible ways like closing taps, switching off lights and using both sides of a sheet of paper. The environment team at our school has begun with its initiative towards waste reduction and recycling with a paper recycling project to replace store-bought chart papers. Many more such ideas are underway to ignite a sea change within the student body.

Dev Vaidya, Environmental Secretary

One more Step Towards my Goal-



During the month of December last year, I got my acceptance letter from the STEM U-Mentoring Programme conducted by the New York Academy of Sciences.

The New York Academy of Sciences (NYAS) is one of the oldest scientific societies in the United States. It has had some of the greatest scientists as its honorary members, namely Niels Bohr, James Clerk Maxwell, Lord Kelvin, Thomas Alva Edison, Alexander G. Bell, Paul A.M. Dirac, Louis de Broglie, etc. (the full list is available here: <https://www.nyas.org/people-list/honorary-members-and-academy-fellows/>). Many of the honorary members are also Nobel Laureates.

The admission to the prestigious NYAS was awarded to me via one of their world student programs – The Junior Academy. I had to send in my application to the Junior Academy (<https://www.nyas.org/programs/global-stem-alliance/the-junior-academy/>) which required me to highlight how I have actively participated in STEM. After getting selected into the academy, I was awarded a membership to the New York Academy of Sciences as well.

It was a pleasant surprise, because many scientists who have left their mark in the field of science had/have their membership to the NYAS. This membership entails my participation in various global STEM challenges. For example, in about a month, a Genomics challenge will be starting which is sponsored by Regeneron and Medidata, both of which are prominent establishments. Regeneron, for example, is one of the leading biotechnology industries.

Moreover, I feel privileged because this membership allows me to connect with other students and mentors like me from around the world. Working with similar minds over various global challenges is an experience by itself, and I believe that this has also improved my collaboration skills.

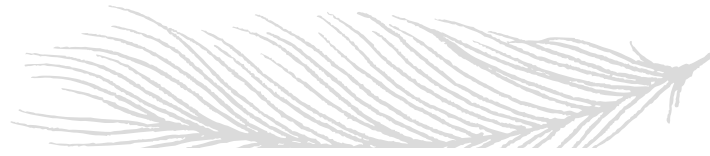
I feel that this is a great platform for people who are enthusiastic about STEM because I feel that the majority of learning happens outside of the classroom, and this is a great way of connecting with like-minded people and working on global challenges. Working with international students on a global challenge is an experience that is worth living. Moreover, I feel blessed to be capable of sharing my ideas with other great minds around the world.

Finally, I take this opportunity to thank all my teachers for their continuous support and inspiration.

Dev Verma

Grade 11

Dead Poets Society



For one of the Dead Poets Society session, under yet another perspective-building activity, we decided to explore the idea of death and what it means to us when we're looking at it from outside the glass door. "Writing a eulogy for yourself" panned out to be a perfect prompt to stir our creative juices and have our personal, sometimes morbid, sometimes sad thoughts come out as ink and words on paper this Thursday.

Here is a riveting piece by Aditi Agarwal of grade 10, who wrote this on-the-spot during the Dead Poets Society session.

A Eulogy to my own self

To my dearest Aditi,
Of 13 years old,
I am so sorry you had to die
Shriveled, withered, old.
Trapped in the body of a child
Hope chased within clumsily scribbled upon notebooks and pressed flowers.

Preserved yet forgotten,
There, but not quite alive.
Pages burned and so did ages.
And quite like that flower you traded away.

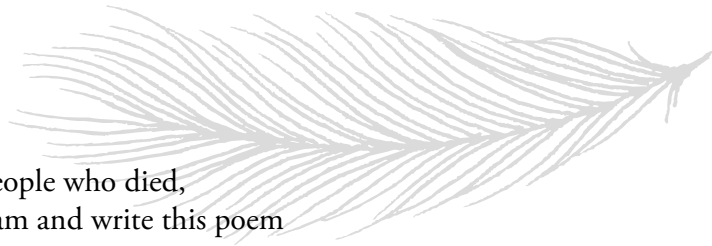
To my dearest Aditi,
Of 14 years old
I am so sorry you had to die.
Anxious eyes looking back and forth
So desperate to find in other,
A piece of yourself.
Staining page after page with ink and colors that refused to fade.
Slowly starting smiles and healing eyes, feeling yourself change.
Mourning who you were
Awaiting the girl, you would be
And hoping she would find something beautiful to say in your eulogy.

To my dearest Aditi,
Of 15 years old.
Me
A month from now,
I will stand here, yet again, delivering yet another eulogy.

You are so alive.
Old, yellowed pages of books opening after years.
You are the smell that floats out.
The faded flower who finally saw light and bloomed discarded,
Old, foolish, hope-reclaimed and love.
My love,

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You, I
Am so alive.
I stand here,
On top of the corpses of people who died,
So, I could become who I am and write this poem



I'm so sorry.
And I am not.

Aditi Agarwal

Best-selling author's visit- Lord Jeffery Archer



On Monday, 28th January '19- a bright and sunny winter morning, Pathways School Noida had the privilege of hosting the much-acclaimed English Novelist Lord Jeffery Archer on campus. Over 1100 students from over 21 schools across Delhi NCR visited Pathways Noida to meet the Best-Selling Author. Lord Archer spoke of the power of the young generation and lauded the rich youth dividend that India possesses. Jeffery Archer has also always believed in the power of

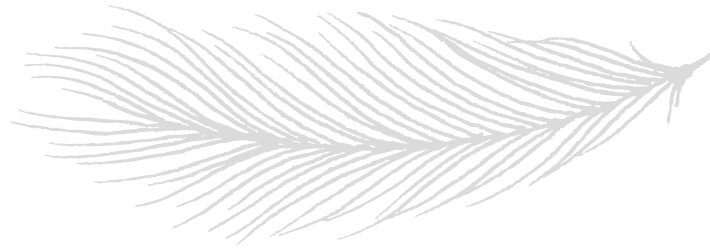
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women and known for his sense of humour and repartee, did not lose the opportunity of appreciating a girl becoming the President of the School Council.

The author's affable nature, his sense of wit and humour complimented by his zesty spirits and congeniality soon enkindled a bonding with the students. The cricket enthusiasts of PSN were particularly enthused meeting the author, as Lord Archer shares a common ardour for cricket. He summed up his address with the words of Henry Wadsworth Longfellow- "The heights by great men reached and kept were not attained by sudden flight, but they, while their companions slept, were toiling upward in the night." Lord Archer thus encouraged students to relentlessly pursue their goals with dogged determination, passion and ardency in order to achieve success.

The cherry on top was finally the much-awaited autograph signing session wherein students took his signature in copies of his books. Speaking on the occasion Dr. Shalini Advani said, "the interaction was an enriching experience for the students."

Team Pathways



Life of Pi- Mr. Yann Martel

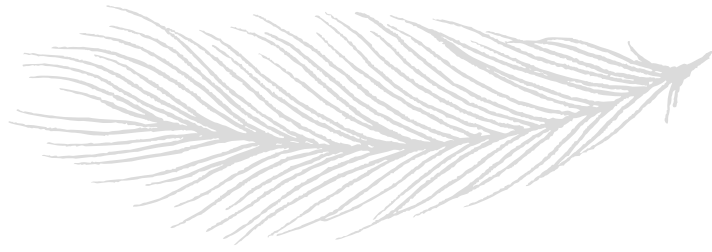
The Shri Ram School Aravali hosted an interaction with Yan Martel, author of the award winning book, 'The life of Pi'. The book is a fictional account of the journey of a boy named Pi who finds a way to survive in a lifeboat that is adrift in the middle of nowhere in the company of a Hyena and a male Bengal Tiger. Needless to say, the opportunity was not only exciting but also one that we all wanted to bag. Having seen the movie, we all wanted to meet the author of this best seller.

Mr Martel began by sharing his journey as an author and his inspiration in writing 'Life of Pi'. He talked about what he thought were the key scenes or key parts of his novel which were not a focus in the movie. In addition to this, he shared with the audience his love for India and how the country has always inspired him. He then talked about what the character meant to him and the reason he gave Pi (the protagonist of the story) some unique traits. Pi has been presented as an Omnists, someone who worships multiple gods and follows multiple religions. He later explained why this trait was important and how it helped build Pi's character in the novel. He also shared his views on religion and how he was inspired by the faith of the people in India. Another interesting feature of the interaction was his account of bringing together animals and religion in his book. He admitted that this idea came to him during one of his stays in Paharganj, a crowded haven for back packers in India.

What was interesting about this interaction was the fact that Mr. Martel connected his personal experiences with the characters in his book. Being a Canadian author, his take on India, its religion and its people was pretty interesting to listen to.

We really enjoyed interacting with Mr. Martel and believe that his words, really gave us the ability to look and approach things from different angles and perspectives.

Finally the interaction was conclude with signing of the books and departure of the students, carrying not only an insight into the technicalities of writing but also the learning and shaping of one's own story.



Recoil

He hadn't blinked In a while,
This just wasn't his style.
His hands as steady,
As his rage, all so petty.

He seemed calmed and composed,
But his eyes opened a gateway, He was exposed.
I meant to his soul, obviously,
He had proceeded with his plan all, so cautiously.

He kept still, eyes set,
He was heading to victory anyone could take that bet.
He was cold,
He did not not seem angry all emotion not in control but controlled.

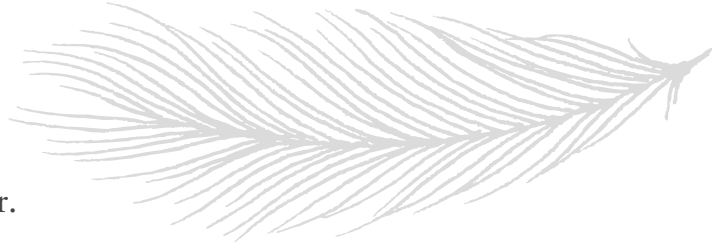
He knew he was getting one shot,
Never before had he ever fought.
He had spent way too much effort coming up with the plot,
Lately I had seen him a bit distraught.

Was this vengeance,
Could I decipher his intentions?
His calculations, the probability on point,
I felt like all of this would be just an attempt to disjoint.

But was he in the right?
I would say He had clouded sight, Some bit of fright, picked a wrong fight, But then I wouldn't
be right.
His preparation was meticulous,
Although all is just cognition of stimulus.

The bolt with the pistons all locked in and set, the spring was coiled,
His plan was way too complex to be spoiled.
The barrel the, the mount, the stock and the trigger assembly.
Designed, crafted by him directly.

He had become a master,



It was what he was after.
It drove him insane,
He was off the chain, Terribly in pain, He hadn't lost all in vain.

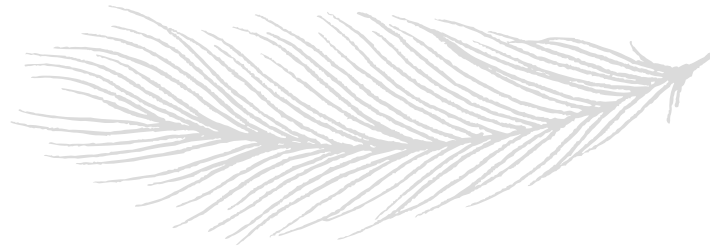
He leaned in,
His motion resembled a fiend.
Eyes in through scope aim set,
Almost time to play roulette.

It was a simple window of opportunity, bleak, so brittle,
He was certain It was to be committal.
There it was he had a clear shot, his fingers twitched on to the lower receiver,
Eyes didn't flinch, his face neither.

Everything ready, all variables measured, enough wait to end his turmoil,
He took everything to account but forgot about the recoil.

Dev Vaidya

Grade 11



The Answer

Diplomats should follow the world-view from 'the Answer' by Robinson Jeffers

There is no answer. No one answer to our world's problems. The answer is a Poem by Robinson Jeffers based on our world's endless quest of attaining ultimate perfection. I strongly believe that diplomats and leaders should adopt the worldview and ideology described that has been described in 'the Answer'

Then what is the answer?- Not to be deluded by dreams.

To know that great civilizations have broken down into violence,
and their tyrants come, many times before.

When open violence appears, to avoid it with honor or choose
the least ugly faction; these evils are essential.

To keep one's own integrity, be merciful and uncorrupted
and not wish for evil; and not be duped

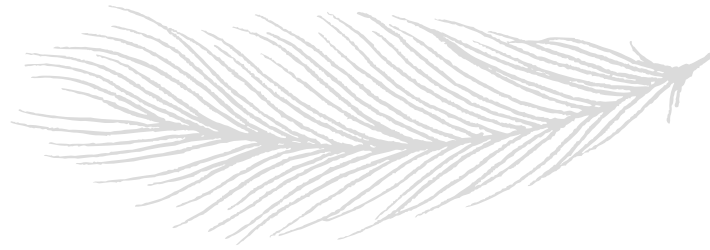
By dreams of universal justice or happiness. These dreams will
not be fulfilled.

To know this, and know that however ugly the parts appear
the whole remains beautiful. A severed hand

Is an ugly thing and man dissevered from the earth and stars
and his history... for contemplation or in fact...

Often appears atrociously ugly. Integrity is wholeness,
the greatest beauty is

Organic wholeness, the wholeness of life and things, the divine beauty
of the universe. Love that, not man



Apart from that, or else you will share man's pitiful confusions,
or drown in despair when his days darken.

Diplomacy is the profession, activity or skill of maintaining international relations. The goals of these 'international relations' is quite simply to make our world a better place. In essence to take it closer to a utopian world or perfection. But everytime we strive for this utopian world we end up closer to a dystopia, because in reality there is no perfect world. This was demonstrated in 'The Giver' a book by Lowis Lowry.

"Then what is the answer?"

The answer has been in front of us all the time, it is "not to be deluded by dreams. "

We cannot let these dreams of a perfect world shape and determine our every action. Diplomats must understand that this global perfection is unattainable and must act accordingly. We must learn from the past to understand not every relation can be mended through Diplomacy, and an attempt to correct the situation may only backfire.

"To know that great civilizations have been broken into violence, and their tyrants come..."

Whenever this attempt to make the world better backfires, someone is blamed. Diplomats must be made aware that whenever an attempt to make the situation better fails, the blame for this failure is put on someone else. Yes, the minorities.

We have seen this happen, Hitler blamed the Jews for the defeat in the First World War, this led to the Jews being ostracized and what came afterwards was unspeakable of.

Can you imagine, This was Hitler's attempt of improving the situation.

A more modern and prevalent example of this blame-game is the crisis in Europe where there has been an influx of migrants from Syria and North Africa, regions facing turmoil. Whenever crime takes place in Europe, be it large or small, it is the migrants who are blamed. For this reason and stigmatization, countries are afraid of opening their borders to those suffering in the migrant crisis.

Therefore Diplomats should drop this idea of a perfect world because whenever we strive for this insatiable dream or blurry vision, minorities pay the price. In many ways the reality of the world being imperfect is a Gordian Knot. It is an unsolvable problem. All we must do is cut the knot just like Alexander did and discard this idea from our minds. From this Diplomats and Leaders must learn that it is not possible to negotiate in every situation.

"To keep one's integrity, be merciful and uncorrupted and not wish for evil and not be duped"

Diplomats and Leaders must always act with integrity. They should wish for the good of the side they represent, but not for the opposing side of the negotiation side of the table to be worse off. We must not harm those on the opposite end of the table, because trust me, the world is round and what goes around will come back around.

Zero-Sum Diplomacy must Disappear, where one participant's gain is exactly balanced by the losses of the other participant. The gain for one side should not mean that the other side is losing. We share this planet, and to succeed as a species, we must win together. Therefore Diplomacy should work in a manner where there is synergy, making sure that $1+1=3$.

"By Dreams of Universal Justice or Happiness, these dreams will not be fulfilled. "

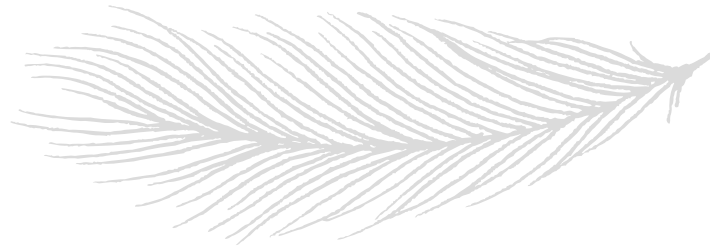
In conclusion, diplomats must understand that this endless dream of universal justice or eternal happiness will never be fulfilled.

All of us are imperfect humans living in an imperfect world. We cannot change this reality, it is constant. It's time to accept reality instead of chasing perfection, we must embrace imperfection.

"Apart from that, or else you will share man's pitiful confusions, or drown in despair when his days darken. "

Kris Nagdev

Grade 11



Action for Autism

Autism is known to affect more than 70 million individuals worldwide, and approximately 10 million people in India itself.

Despite these big numbers, autism is still a largely misunderstood condition in India. Most Indians have never encountered autistic individuals, and possess very limited knowledge about developmental disorders in general. In order to resolve this issue, over a decade ago, the NGO “Action for Autism” was founded in India.

Last year, I was introduced to “Action for Autism” where I met autistic adults and children. Along with some of my friends, Prachi and Chitrani, I volunteered at the NGO by marketing and selling products created by these individuals. We also contributed to the production process by providing AFA with our inputs and suggestions.

While discussing amongst ourselves and also with people at AFA, we realized that we could start spreading awareness about Autism by first sensitizing students from our own school. This led us to arranging a stall exclusively for Action For Autism during the Christmas Carnival. Not only did we help people gain a better understanding of this disorder, but we also managed to raise more than 11000 rupees.

The experience of working with Action For Autism has been truly fulfilling. It has made me more aware of the society around me and that inclusion of all individuals in our social and economic framework is an absolute essential.

Advika Srivastava

Grade 11

