



Editorial Note

I never thought a Google Meet could feel like a newsroom—but this vacation, it did.

Coordinating layouts across time zones, chasing updates over WhatsApp, editing articles in the dead of night—this wasn't how I imagined spending my last summer break at school. But somewhere between the late calls, missed deadlines, screen fatigue, and bursts of unexpected creativity, we managed to bring something truly special to life—our first-ever 20-page edition of the Mayo Monthly.

It's strange how things evolve. What once began as a modest 8-page issue has now doubled—not just in size, but in ambition, in reach and in heart. Maybe that's why this edition feels different. It carries more than just reports and recaps—it carries moments. Snapshots of growth, glimpses of adventure, and reflections that remind us of just how much can happen in a few short weeks.

From the adrenaline of trekking up distant trails to the diplomacy and discovery of international exchanges, this edition showcases how Mayoites spent their summers not just relaxing, but exploring, connecting, and learning beyond the classroom. These pages echo footsteps taken far from home, and voices that bridged countries, languages, and perspectives.

But for me, this issue also feels deeply personal. This is my last summer break at school. And maybe that's why every sentence, every layout, every caption feels so meaningful. Because I know how rare these moments are—and how quickly they pass.

We often treat vacations as a breather from the “real” work of school. But looking back, I think vacations are the work—not of academics, but of becoming. It's in these quiet spaces that we find ourselves. Whether it's a shared laugh during a trek, a new friend met across borders, or the chaos of trying to meet a deadline while everyone else is asleep—these are the stories that shape us.

The Vacation Edition was built in fragments—stolen time between travels, inconsistent internet connections, and the quiet pressure of making something meaningful. But we made it. With heart. With hustle. With the unwavering Mayo spirit.

To every contributor who showed up, who cared, who created—thank you. We made this together. Apart, yet together.

Here's to the 150th summer. Here's to the 75th year of Mayo.

*Editor-In-Chief
Aditya Jain*

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*Design Lead Note,
Editorial Board*



Timeline



23rd April
*RSC at Step
by Step School*



27th April
Har Ki Doon Trek



27th April
Darwa Top Trek



28th April
RKCMUN'25



28th April
Dayara Bugyal



28th April
*Mt Everest Base
Camp Trek*





25th May
German Exchange



12th May
USA Tour



23rd May
South Africa Exchange



3rd May
IPSC Squash



2nd May
Wesley College Exchange



29th April
WSC Regional Round



30th April
Austria Tour



July Timeline



*6th July
Reporting Back*



*6th July
Youth Camp
Germany*



*25th July
Symposium*



*7th July
Flag Assembly*



*26th July
DWPS MUN*



*28th July
Inter-House Yoga*



Gresham's, UK

A 500-year-old school in the English countryside—it sounds like the beginning of a fairytale. I imagined Hogwarts, but Gresham's was even more magical.

This trip wasn't just a visit—it was a transformation. It shifted my view of schools, people, and the world. I saw how things can be done differently—and better.

From day one, Gresham's stood out. Steeped in tradition yet incredibly welcoming, it brings together students from around the world in a way that feels seamless. I never felt like an outsider. Gresham's reminded me of Mayo—it felt like home.

What truly amazed me was the freedom. Students weren't micromanaged—they were respected. Sixth formers had phone access all day, yet I rarely saw misuse. Teachers were approachable, warm, and always respected. The bond between staff and students was built on mutual trust and maturity.

One feature I admired was their device-based system. Every student uses a programmed device for schoolwork and communication, which is efficient and hard to misuse. There was no dearth of excitement. From laser tag and wall-climbing to ziplining and go-karting, every activity pushed us to grow. Events like the "Gritty Grasshopper", chapel services, Speech Day, and regular fundraisers kept life engaging and meaningful. All of this happened against the serene backdrop of the English countryside—lush fields, charming towns, and windswept beaches. I soaked up every moment.

To my juniors: if the chance comes, take it. This wasn't just a scholarship or a school trip—it was a dream lived. I returned with memories, friendships, and a broader perspective that will stay with me for life.

By Krishnav Agarwal



Celebrating 75 Years of Readership



Hale School, Perth

My exchange experience at Hale School in Perth, Australia, has been a transformative experience—both academically and personally. From the moment I arrived, I was awestruck by the school's rich traditions, commitment to excellence, and the warm, welcoming community.

Through the experience, I gained a deep appreciation for Australian culture and education while also developing lifelong skills and values.

Academically, Hale encouraged independent thought and discursive learning. Open discussions and collaborative projects pushed me out of my comfort zone and helped me grow intellectually. I became more confident in presenting ideas, improved my communication, and sharpened my critical thinking skills.

Beyond academics, Hale's emphasis on holistic development allowed me to explore sports, the arts, and leadership in a balanced way. I built on my self-management skills.

Interacting with peers from diverse backgrounds taught me empathy, teamwork, and cultural sensitivity. Whether through group projects, dorm chats, or school events, I formed lasting friendships and a broader worldview.

As my exchange comes to an end, I left with gratitude. Hale has shaped me into a more confident and thoughtful individual. The experiences, lessons, and connections I've made will stay with me throughout my life, and I'm proud to have been part of this incredible community.

By Janesh Khushwah



Reminiscing Legacy. Reinventing Future.

Wesley College, Melbourne

It's easy to underestimate an exchange program. You expect a change of scenery and a few stories to tell. What I didn't expect from Wesley College, Melbourne, was a complete reimagining of school, boarding life, and student freedom.

From day one, Wesley didn't just welcome us—it absorbed us. The boarding houses felt more like university flats than dorms. But it wasn't just the infrastructure—it was the culture that left a lasting impression.

Wesley strikes a rare balance between formality and fun. Their Founders Day Assembly, for example, began solemnly and ended with music, confetti cannons, dancing prefects, and a singing school captain. It was bold, unexpected—and it worked.

What stood out most was the freedom. Students are trusted. We could explore Melbourne on our own—no shadowing, no rigid schedules. From Queen Victoria Market to the graffiti-filled AC/DC Lane, every outing deepened my sense of independence.

There were endless moments of joy: late-night games of Chameleon with housemates, surfing and caving on school trips, and just sitting in the city with friends.

Every interaction mattered. Every teacher listened. Every activity fostered growth. It was school, but never a chore. If you're considering the Wesley Exchange, Carpe Diem, seize the opportunity. This isn't a brochure—it's a transformation. You'll return with stories, yes—but also with a stronger voice, a wider worldview, and a heart that's just a little more open.

And that makes all the difference.

By Siddhant Singh Parmar



St. John's College, Johannesburg

We – Nripraj Jain, Vansh Mittal, and Nirvaan Tikmani of Grade 11 – took part in a five-week exchange to St. John's College, Johannesburg, South Africa. Since arriving on May 23, each day offered new opportunities to learn and grow.

This exchange has been much more than just a trip. South Africa greeted us with warmth and a strong sense of identity. One unforgettable tradition has been the Saturday war cries, where the entire school unites in chant and cheer. It's more than school spirit; it's a celebration of pride and history.

Outside school, we've explored Johannesburg's culture and history. A World War II museum showed us the deep global connections of the past, while walks through botanical gardens and quiet forests gave us space to reflect.

Learning rugby has been a major highlight. Though we were complete beginners, our peers and coaches encouraged us, helping us enjoy and understand a whole new sport.

We also witnessed the 92 km Comrades Marathon—an awe-inspiring display of human resilience—and attended the National Theatre Festival, a vivid reminder of art's universal power.

Boarding life has been equally enriching. From late-night dorm chats to shared meals and spontaneous basketball games, we've formed friendships and found a strong sense of community.

As our time here nears its end, we're soaking in every moment. Because experiences like this don't just change your surroundings—they change you.



Educational trip to Austria and Belgium

My recent educational trip to Austria and Belgium was truly unforgettable. It wasn't just about visiting new places: it was about stepping into new ways of thinking and learning. Being in a completely different environment, surrounded by new languages, cultures, and teaching styles, helped us see education through a much wider lens. It reminded us that learning doesn't only happen in classrooms—it happens everywhere, especially when we're open to it.

One of the most eye-opening parts of the trip was visiting schools where students learn through projects, hands-on work, and real-life experiences. Watching them collaborate freely and think independently was inspiring. Interacting with local students made us realise how much we all have in common, despite our different backgrounds. It was a genuine exchange of ideas—one we'll carry with us for a long time.

What touched us most was visiting historical sites, especially those connected to World War II. Walking through places that hold such deep memories and hearing stories from local guides was humbling. It made the lessons of history feel real and reminded us of the importance of peace, empathy, and the values that connect us all.

From exploring museums and soaking in culture to learning from the people we met, the trip was a journey of growth. It deepened our understanding of the world and showed us the value of stepping outside our comfort zones. More than anything, it taught us that true education isn't just about grades—it's about reflection, awareness, and the relationships we build along the way.

This trip didn't just broaden our minds—it opened our hearts.

By Aarnav Saraogi



German Exchange

From May 25th to June 9th, I had the opportunity to take part in a student exchange program in Germany — an experience that turned out to be much more than just a trip abroad. It became a journey of cultural immersion, learning, and self-discovery.

We stayed in Radolfzell, a peaceful town in Southern Germany, each of us living with a host family. This was the most meaningful part of the trip. I got to be part of their everyday life — sharing meals and adjusting to unfamiliar routines that soon felt natural. What stood out for me was the balance and simplicity of their lifestyle: walking or biking everywhere, enjoying slow meals, and having fewer screens and more conversations. It made me reflect on how rushed and distracted our daily lives often felt back home.

At Schloss Gaienhofen, the school we attended, I noticed a calm, respectful atmosphere. Classes encouraged open thinking, and students seemed genuinely interested in learning. Teachers felt more like guides than strict authorities, and the focus was more on understanding than just marks.

We also visited Konstanz, Zurich, and Milan — each city offering its own culture, energy, and lessons. From Switzerland's cleanliness to Milan's artistic flair, the variety across such short distances was fascinating.

What made the exchange truly special were the people. My host family welcomed me like one of their own, and I formed close bonds with both German students and my classmates. Being far from home brought us all closer.

This experience taught me independence, confidence, and a new way of seeing the world. Most of all, it reminded me that some of the most powerful learning happens when you step outside your comfort zone — and pedal through someone else's streets.

By Yatharth Jandial





Trekking expeditions

Mt Everest Base Camp Trek

For the first time in 33 years a group of 22 students, accompanied by dedicated staff members, successfully completed the Everest Base Camp Trek—a remarkable feat of endurance and spirit. As part of the 150 years of excellence, this accomplishment reflects the core values that define the institution: perseverance, leadership, camaraderie, and a relentless pursuit of excellence. Battling freezing temperatures, navigating steep, treacherous trails, and braving unpredictable Himalayan weather, the boys met every challenge head-on with courage, unity, and determination.

It stands as a proud and inspiring milestone in the school's rich legacy of adventure and achievement.



Har ki Doon Trek

23 adventurous Mayoites from Classes 9 and 10 undertook a 12-day expedition to the stunning Har Ki Doon valley in the Garhwal Himalayas. Starting at Ajmer on April 27, the journey led them through Mussoorie and Sankri, covering over 60 km at 12,000 feet. Exploring Osla, Baslo, Maninda Tal, and the serene Ruinsara Tal, they camped under starlit skies and forged memories to last a lifetime. The trek concluded with thrilling white-water rafting in Rishikesh. It was a trek of resilience, teamwork, and self-discovery, leaving each student enriched, empowered, and inspired.

They returned with tired feet and hearts full of a newfound appreciation for nature, and stories they'll carry with them forever.



Dodital and Darwa Top Trek

24 Mayoites conquered the epic 67 km Dodital and Darwa Top trek from April 27 to May 4. Trekking through the breathtaking Himalayan landscapes, they explored the charming village of Nald, and embraced the thrill of white-water rafting in Rishikesh.

Each step tested their endurance, strengthened their bonds, and brought out the best in their spirit of adventure. They faced challenges with grit and grace, embodying true resilience, teamwork, and leadership throughout.

An expedition of growth, discovery, and lasting pride—where challenges shape character, and Mayo legends are born.



DEMYSTIFYING DEBATE

What exactly is Asian Parliamentary Debating?

Asian Parliamentary Debating (or APD for short) is a 3-on-3 team format, where two teams go head-to-head — Government / Proposition (who supports the motion or topic) and Opposition (who opposes it). Think of it like an intense courtroom battle complete with logic, persuasion, and passion.

Each debate has:

- 6 speakers in total: 3 from each team
- 8 speeches: 6 main speeches and 2 reply speeches
- Each speech is timed (usually 7 minutes for seniors and 4-5 minutes for juniors in inter-school competitions)

Team	Speaker Position	Role
Government	Government Prime Minister (PM)	Opens the case, defines the motion
Opposition	Leader of Opposition (LO)	Responds to PM, presents Counter
Government	Deputy PM (DPM)	Rebuts LO, adds new arguments
Opposition	Deputy LO (DLO)	Rebuts DPM, adds new arguments
Government	Government Whip	Summarises Govt. Case, Rebuts
Opposition	Opposition Whip	Summarises Opp Case, Rebuts Govt.
Final Reply	DPM / PM or DLO / LO	4-Minutes Summary of the entire debate

Key Takeaways

1. Don't fear the motion.

Even the toughest motions can be broken down. Focus on what's at stake and key words in the motion. There's no "wrong" side—just explain why your side makes sense.

2. Speak up, even if you stumble.

Confidence > perfection. Judges care more about your ideas than grammar. Keep going—you'll improve with every speech.

3. POIs (Points of Information):

These are short questions from the other team. Try taking at least one—it shows engagement. You don't have to answer right away; just acknowledge it and return to it later.

4. Debate is a team sport.

Don't do it all alone. Share ideas, play to each other's strengths, and build chemistry. A consistent team always beats a solo star.

5. Think globally, speak locally.

Use real-life examples—from school fights to cricket—your audience will relate better.

6. Address the room.

Engage everyone, not just judges. Your goal is to persuade and be heard.

7. Start small. Stay curious.

Join a mock session. Watch rounds. Ask questions. You don't need to know everything—just be willing to learn.

Debating sharpens your thinking, speaking, and confidence for competitions and life.



Travelogue



“

In this special vacation edition of Mayoor, our Travelogue section captures the heart of student adventures—stories of discovery, connection, and learning beyond school walls. From quaint towns to bustling cities, these journeys left lasting impressions and unforgettable memories.

”

Trip to Greece

My trip to Greece was filled with moments that felt both exciting and peaceful, a rare mix in everyday life. Each day brought something new, a sense of curiosity and freedom. Away from screens, time slowed down in the best way. Shared laughter, long walks, and unexpected surprises with my parents made lasting memories. It wasn't just a holiday but memories which will stay forever.

-By Granth Diwan



Visit to Singapore

I recently had the exciting opportunity to travel to Singapore with my parents to visit my aunt during my summer break. Singapore is a beautiful and modern city with clean roads, tall buildings, and lots of greenery. The nights are full of colourful lights, and everything looks bright and lively. The whole city is very well-organised and has a disciplined and peaceful community. I'd like to mention that the streets were clean and dust-free, and I could also experience Singapore's monsoon towards the end of my journey.

-By Salam Akshat



Visit to Thailand

This summer holiday, I visited a beautiful island in Thailand called Koh Samui. The place was full of life: people were friendly, weather was sunny, and food was delicious. Each day was packed with fun activities like zip-lining, and jet skiing across clear blue waters. We also enjoyed quiet moments on the beach while watching the sunset. I had a great time with my family, and we made lots of amazing memories together.

-By Abhimanyu Deorah



Diary of a Mayoite



Monday

On Father's Day, I woke up expecting the shouting of my housemaster or the ringing of bells, but instead, I lay in unbroken silence. Memories of the frantic packing—after weeks of watching my batchmates prepare for the day we'd all depart—flowed through my mind. The sun's golden rays streamed through my window, wrapping the room in warmth, and with them came the comforting certainty that I was truly home.

That peace lasted all of two seconds before my sister came crashing through the door—like a truck meeting a deer on a dark road: loud, sudden, and entirely too enthusiastic. She was bright, buzzing, and possibly dangerously excited. As she rattled off her plans for the day at lightning speed, I couldn't help but wonder where I'd be if I were still on campus.

Most likely, I'd be trudging to class, sweating or shivering depending on the mood of the weather gods, clutching a half-drunk cup of coffee and a slice of barely-buttered toast from the mess hall. Two hours earlier, I'd probably have been in a mad scramble, one sock on, one missing, desperately begging someone—just this once—to lend me a spare pair of stockings. He'd never see them again, and frankly, in a week, neither would I.

My train of thought was shattered.

"Now repeat what I just said!" my sister's voice boomed, snapping me back to reality.

I sighed and dragged myself out of my pyjamas and into a T-shirt—something I hadn't worn in nearly two months. And even though I was home, far from the iron grip of campus rules, I couldn't shake the irrational fear that someone would call me out for being out of uniform—and worse, for not wearing a vest.

I wandered into the dining hall, lured by the rich, familiar smell of bacon and eggs. The toast shimmered with golden butter, glistening like nectar from Olympus. Somewhere nearby, I heard the soft pour of fresh coffee into a mug—it might as well have been the fountain of youth. Five minutes later, my plate was clean.

For a brief, glorious moment, I felt like a king at a royal feast—until, to my warm astonishment, my father yanked me out of my chair and shoved me out the front door. My sister was waiting. We were going shopping.

"Will we eat out?" I asked, half-hopeful, half-desperate.

After a pause, he said, "Umm... sure." Without another word, I ran to the car.

With my dad in the driver's seat, we set off for four hours of the most boring thing ever: shopping with my sister. Lord, if there is a hell, it's a city-sized H&M with her. As I waited in the corner, I nearly started missing our triple math periods—at least my brain wasn't pickling while my sister picked out clothes that would stay in the closet after just one use.

After a hefty lunch—details of which I'll spare you (let's just say it was indulgent enough to add a few kilos to my frame)—we returned home, where I promptly surrendered to a well-deserved nap. As I got ready to sleep, memories of my dorm, my friends and batchmates, house staff all came back to me in a rush. I never imagined I would miss that place! I would miss Mayo!

"It is a home away from home" - I remember a batchmate telling me on my first day. I understand now what he meant.



Freedom of Speech Should Protect Hate Speech

1989 to 1990, Kashmir.

From loudspeakers on mosques calling Kashmiri pandits out, telling them to leave the valley altogether. Violence on the street, their leaders being gunned down like pigs to slaughter. There were two communities at that time, but only one could remain. Violence is a terrorising force, yes, but more generally, hate speech was used to rid Kashmir of its former inhabitants, death letters, and public shows of force.

Though very few were killed, those who remained were not exactly living either, forced out of their homes just by fear.

Is that what freedom of speech is? Fear mongering and venomous hate? It was not the mere force of the opposing party that ruined the community; it was the sentiment and aura created by hate speech. It was in the case of the Kashmiri pandits, so it was in the case of the jews during the Holocaust. Hate speech is a tool of terror, the same as C4 or a varmint rifle!

Despite this, I admit impediment,” Speech is powerful. It can stir people to action, move them to tears of both joy and sorrow, and inflict great pain. We cannot react to that pain by punishing the speaker.” Justice Oliver Wendell Holmes described the concept in a 1929 dissent. If we try to regulate hate speech, we invariably risk taking people's voices away from them. Is it possible to distinguish between hate speech and legitimate speech?

Section 153A of the Indian Penal Code prohibits citizens from creating disharmony or feelings of enmity, hatred or ill-will between different groups of people. This does cross over Article 19 of the Indian Constitution, protections of certain rights regarding freedom of speech; however, the I.P.C. does not mean that any person who publishes words that tend to create class hatred can be convicted under section 153A. Deciding situations with a very faint line of circumstances which fall within the protection of freedom of speech and which fall within the abuse of the same is indeed a mammoth task. In the case of Javed Ahmad Hajam, a professor who, in a student-teacher WhatsApp chat, made inflammatory remarks about Jammu and Kashmir, was charged with an FIR under section 153A. Comments such as “Article 370 was abrogated, we are not happy.” This is a controversial thing to say, but by allowing the appeal of Javed Ahmad Hajam, the Supreme Court created an important precedent of not allowing the mischievous usage of legislations like Section 153A of the IPC, which restricts freedom of speech.

So what is and isn't hate speech?

The UN states “any kind of communication in speech, writing or behaviour, that attacks or uses pejorative or discriminatory language concerning a person or a group based on who they are, in other words, based on their religion, ethnicity, nationality, race, colour, descent, gender or other identity factor.” though this is not a working definition it does clearly define a line between legitimate and illegitimate speech.

The Taliban arbitrarily arrest, torture and kill government employees, human rights defenders, journalists and critical voices. All of this is based on a hyper-conservative interpretation of Islam. Taliban authorities view anyone who has left Islam as having committed apostasy, a crime they believe should be punishable by death. It is not hate speech to criticise the Taliban on religious grounds. I just did it in this paragraph.

Speaking to a large crowd at a rally in the western state of Rajasthan, the Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) leader made controversial remarks describing Muslims as “infiltrators,” going on about how muslims will displace Hindus and steal their wealth. It's inflammatory, but it's also invalid criticism based on widespread falsities.

These are both statements that are inflammatory and based on religious grounds. They aren't both hate speech, though.

Hate speech's goal is not to inform or add to the marketplace of ideas. Hate speech is never a factual statement or an expression of somebody's soul. It's a tool to denigrate a group. Victims of hate speech cannot enter the “open marketplace of ideas” as equal participants to defend themselves, because hate speech effectively silences them. Hate speech dehumanises individuals so that they can't be seen as humans and therefore can be ignored and discriminated against. It's an attack on someone's identity.

Freedom of speech protects someone's right to have a voice, so why would it protect a tool that silences ?



Freedom of Speech Shouldn't Protect Hate Speech

In today's increasingly polarised world, the idea that freedom of speech should protect hate speech is both provocative and morally challenging. Yet, despite its discomfort, the principle of free speech must extend even to the most offensive and controversial ideas. This is because the alternative—restricting speech—poses a far greater danger to the foundation of democratic societies and human rights.

Firstly, freedom of speech is a fundamental right upon which many other human rights depend. Even when individuals hold harmful or controversial beliefs, they retain the right to express those viewpoints. This protection applies across various forms of media—whether written, artistic, or spoken.

However, freedom of speech is not absolute; restrictions do exist, particularly when speech incites violence or defames others, to protect societal safety. The ongoing legal and moral debates around these restrictions reflect the challenge of balancing free expression with public order. Nevertheless, the preservation of free speech is essential to defending human dignity and advancing human rights across nations.

Secondly, freedom of speech is crucial for self-governance—the ability of individuals to chart their course in life and make choices that reflect their true selves. This includes the freedom to pursue careers, build relationships, adopt lifestyles, and hold beliefs without fear of unjust judgment or punishment.

At the heart of self-governance is the liberty to express thoughts and opinions openly. Exercising free speech empowers individuals to develop unique viewpoints and live authentically according to their conscience. Our personal beliefs are shaped by experiences, exposure to diverse ideas, and reflection on the world around us. Protecting free speech nurtures communities that honour individual intentionality and the pursuit of self-discovery.

Thirdly, allowing people to express their thoughts freely has psychological and social benefits. Open expression enables individuals to process emotions rather than suppressing them, which can reduce social anxiety and mitigate the development of depression.

Suppression of thoughts often leads to increased feelings of guilt and shame, worsening mental health. Research shows that thought suppression correlates with higher rates of anxiety and depression, particularly among isolated individuals. When people are forced to silence their beliefs or emotions to conform to social norms, it can harm their mental well-being and distort their worldview. Therefore, freedom of speech plays an important role in mental health by allowing authentic expression.

Admittedly, freedom of speech can be messy. Tolerating speech that is ugly or hateful is not comfortable or agreeable to everyone. Nonetheless, the core principle is to permit a wide range of expression, even if that expression is distasteful or offensive to some.

This tolerance is vital for a healthy and functioning democracy. The free exchange of ideas—including those considered inappropriate—serves as a safeguard against the suppression of dissenting voices and helps expose falsehoods and hoaxes. However, with this freedom comes responsibility: societies must cultivate a culture of critical engagement and respectful discourse to mitigate the harms of hate speech and misinformation.

In conclusion, protecting hate speech under the umbrella of freedom of speech is essential to upholding human rights, fostering self-governance, and supporting psychological well-being. While challenging, this principle ensures that democratic societies remain open, vibrant, and resilient.

Only by allowing the broadest range of expression, coupled with critical and respectful dialogue, can we navigate the complexities of free speech in a diverse world.

By Janmejay Singh and Arjun Baheti



Sports Highlights

Football

Interestingly, Football emerged as one of the most viewed sports with thrilling matches, along with the fan favourite Cristiano Ronaldo winning the Nations League for 2nd time. The match went on till penalties, where Portugal clinched its title after scoring all 5 kicks and won the match, a well-deserved farewell for Ronaldo.



Tennis

Alcaraz turned the French Open Final after being on the brink of defeat, making the match go on for 5 hours. Fans were surely thrilled to see Alcaraz win the title after defeating World No. 1 Jannik Sinner. It was a tough, exhausting match that tested both players physically and mentally until the very end.



Cricket

This May, cricket truly stole the spotlight as one of the most entertaining spectacles of the season. The highlight, without a doubt, was Royal Challengers Bangalore (RCB) clinching their first-ever IPL title after 18 long years. It was a moment of pure joy—not just for the team, but for fans around the world—especially for Virat Kohli, whose unwavering dedication and tireless pursuit of glory finally bore fruit in spectacular fashion, silencing critics and fulfilling dreams.



Formula 1

The 2025 F1 season has seen McLaren dominate the entire season with Piastri and Norris leading as the championship front leader closely followed by Mercedes, Redbull and Ferrari.

Tour de France

Tour de France 2025 thrilled fans with intense climbs and sprints. Tadej Pogacar claimed a stunning overall victory, outpacing Vingegaard and Evenepoel in a dramatic, high-stakes final week showdown.



Power, Paranoia, and Platform Wars: The Trump–Musk Rift

What happens when a twice-impeached former president with multiple indictments collides with a tech billionaire who treats federal regulators as personal adversaries? You don't get a political alliance—you get an ideological black hole, where the rule of law, ethical restraint, and institutional legitimacy are sucked in and spat out as memes.

*Donald Trump and Elon Musk are no longer just figures of influence; they are avatars of two modern maladies: paranoid populism and libertarian techno-arrogance. Their recent public spat—Musk mocking Trump's age and relevance, Trump branding Musk as a “bulls**t artist” who “came to the White House begging”—isn't just ego. It's a glimpse into the emerging shape of 21st-century power: erratic, performative, and algorithmically amplified.*

Legally, the contrast is striking—yet eerily parallel. Trump faces felony charges for trying to overturn a democratic election and hoarding classified documents. Musk routinely plays chicken with the SEC, treating compliance as optional. What unites them is contempt—contempt for legal constraint, for regulatory oversight, and, most dangerously, for the very idea of being accountable to anyone but themselves.

In a functioning democracy, legal institutions check private ambition. But when wealth and notoriety become shields, the law becomes theatre. One appeals to political martyrdom; the other cloaks his actions in the myth of innovation. Both subvert accountability and sell it as heroism.

Ethically, they are mirror images. Trump cloaks vulgarity in nationalism; Musk cloaks recklessness in futurism. Trump's world is transactional—loyalty over law. Musk's is utilitarian without limits: disruption justifies everything, especially when paired with market gains.

Consider Musk's takeover of Twitter—now “X.” He gutted content moderation, reinstated banned extremists (including Trump), and called himself a “free speech absolutist”—while banning critical journalists. That's not free speech. It's ego-governed information warfare.

Trump, in turn, uses Musk's platform as a megaphone—and a rival to his own Truth Social, a platform whose existence shows how the First Amendment has become a branding tool for the political fringe.

Politically, this is Faustian drama. Trump seeks re-election while attacking institutions; Musk plays kingmaker, injecting himself into electoral conversations and meeting Trump behind closed doors.

This isn't politics—it's power as performance. Their spats are real, but they share a goal: control of the digital public square, and by extension, political reality.

The real danger lies in their audiences. Trump's base thrives on resentment and conspiracy. Musk's followers embrace techno-utopian delusions, where disruption is a moral good. The result? A politics of provocation, where belief is measured in retweets, and governance feels more like a livestream than a legislature.

This is not a partnership. It's the commodification of power. One wants the throne, the other the platform—and both are willing to tear down democracy to get there.

As legal scholar Lawrence Lessig warned, “Code is law.” But in the hands of men like Trump and Musk, both code and law are tools to be bent, broken, or bought.

We're not watching a feud—we're witnessing a preview of a post-democratic future, where billionaires squabble over the ruins of public trust.

Unless we draw clear lines—legal, ethical, political—we risk waking up not with leaders, but with overlords.



The UN's Greatest Joke Yet: Giving Pakistan a Gavel

It began with blood on the highway to Pahalgam. Tourists — unarmed, carefree and entirely uninvolved in any political theatre — were gunned down in a calculated act of terror. This wasn't random violence. It was a theatre. A cruel message, scrawled in bullets.

And behind the curtain? The usual suspect: Pakistan's military-intelligence complex, an institution so habituated to exporting instability that it now seeks global validation for its expertise by applying to chair United Nations counter-terrorism committees.

Let that sink in.

The state that has institutionalized asymmetrical warfare, provided safe havens for UN-designated terrorists, and turned the Line of Control into a launching pad for jihadist incursions now believes it should be the world's referee on terror. One might laugh, if it weren't so grotesque.

The attacks in Pahalgam, Poonch, and elsewhere are not isolated. They represent a renewed phase in Pakistan's long game: using non-state actors as strategic assets in a post-conventional battlefield. India's response — Operation Sindoor, precision operations, and an all-party diplomatic outreach — demonstrates restraint, but more importantly, it reflects a disturbing global truth: when terrorism becomes strategy, the victims are always civilians, and the world rarely intervenes.

This is not just a bilateral issue. It is a regional flashpoint with global implications. South Asia houses a quarter of humanity. Two nuclear powers with unresolved borders, a history of war, and wildly divergent civilizational paths cannot remain in perennial tension without threatening international stability. The global security architecture, supposedly built to respond to such threats, has responded with little more than polite disapproval and institutional indifference.

India has, for decades, made the case that Pakistan operates a dual-state model — a civilian façade that mouths diplomacy, and a military-intelligence core that nurtures, funds, and deploys terror as foreign policy. Documents have been provided. Intelligence shared. Names named. And yet, the UN system — hijacked by geopolitical vetoes and institutional inertia — continues to treat Pakistan as a misunderstood neighbour rather than a state sponsor of terrorism.

Consider this: while Pakistan demands leadership roles in anti-terrorism forums, it continues to protect actors like Hafiz Saeed, delay action on Jaish-e-Mohammed, and deny its role in Kargil, Mumbai, Pulwama, and now Pahalgam. This isn't negligence; it's strategy. So the question must be asked — not to India, but to the international community: How many more funerals will it take before moral clarity replaces moral ambiguity?

India has not responded with vengeance. It has responded with sovereign responsibility — engaging diplomatically, acting militarily where necessary, and advocating internationally with quiet dignity. The all-party delegation, which travelled globally to highlight Pakistan's duplicity, did not go to demonise a nation, but to defend an ideal: that terror, in any form, under any flag, must be confronted, not negotiated with.

Yet, India is consistently asked to “de-escalate.” What the world forgets is this: when one side is planting bombs and the other is building schools, neutrality is complicity.

The UN, for all its founding aspirations, now stands at a moral and strategic crossroads. It cannot both claim to lead the fight against terror and give procedural legitimacy to those who finance it. Granting Pakistan a leadership role in anti-terror bodies is not just offensive to victims — it is a dereliction of duty.

And so, while India strengthens its borders and guards its pilgrims, the real question is for the world:

Will you continue to mistake the arsonist for a firefighter? Or will you finally call Cruella by her name — and bar her from the kennel altogether?

By Siddhant Singh Parmar



When the Sky Went Silent: The Tragedy of Air India Flight 171

The engines roared to life, wheels lifted off the ground, and for a brief moment, everything felt perfect. Air India Flight 171 had just taken off from Ahmedabad, rising into a clear afternoon sky, heading toward London. Inside the aircraft, 241 people—families, students, workers and crew—sat obviously during what would be the final moments of their lives. Just 32 seconds after takeoff, something unthinkable happened. The engines died. The plane lost all power.

And then—silence.

On June 12, 2025, the unthinkable became reality. The Boeing 787 Dreamliner, one of the most trusted and advanced jets in the world, crashed into the hostel block of BJ Medical College, barely two kilometers from the runway. Fires spread, buildings collapsed, and a city that had heard the roar of takeoff just moments earlier was now filled with smoke, sirens, and heartbreak. Only one person survived. Everyone else on board, along with 19 people on the ground, was gone.

I still remember reading the headline. As a student who loves planes—not just for how they fly, but for the stories they carry—it didn't feel like a crash thousands of miles away. It felt personal. I'd spent hours watching takeoffs, reading about aircraft design, and dreaming about being in a cockpit one day. But Flight 171 showed me that even in the safest of skies, things can go wrong in ways we never expect.

What made this tragedy even more haunting was what investigators found. Both fuel control switches—the very system that keeps the engines running—had moved to the "CUTOFF" position during climb. That shut down the engines mid-air. But why? No one knows. Those switches are designed not to move accidentally.

They're protected. They're deliberate. Yet somehow, they flipped. The cockpit voice recording gave us a glimpse of the confusion in those final moments. One pilot asked, "Why did you cut off the fuel?" The other said, "I did not."

It's hard to wrap your head around how something so small—two switches—could bring down an entire aircraft full of people. And as the investigation unfolded, more painful truths came to light. Some families were sent the wrong bodies. Safety audits revealed lapses in training and operations at Air India. Global pilot unions started questioning if enough was being done to protect the people in the skies. All of it pointed to something deeper than just a single mistake. It felt like layers of failure—technical, human, and systemic—stacked on top of each other until the worst happened.

And then, amid the wreckage, something strange was found: a copy of the Bhagavad Gita, burned but intact. It felt symbolic, like some quiet reminder of resilience in the face of something that makes no sense.

This crash changed me. I'm just a 10th grader. I don't have a pilot's license or thousands of hours of training. But I do have dreams. I dream of a world where planes don't fall out of the sky without explanation. Where every switch, every checklist, every person in the cockpit knows exactly what to do, even in chaos. And I dream of being someone who helps make that possible.

Flight 171 wasn't just a tragedy. It was a wake-up call. For airlines. For manufacturers. For all of us who love the skies. It reminded me that flying is a privilege, and safety isn't just about machines—it's about the people behind them, the training they get, and the systems that support them. We owe it to every life lost to never stop learning, asking questions, and building a world where the sky is as safe as it feels.

By- Akshaj Agrawal



Hindi Elocution



What is Elocution

Elocution refers to the art of clear and expressive speech, especially the pronunciation, tone, voice modulation, and delivery when speaking in public. It's often practiced as a performance skill and is commonly taught in schools to improve public speaking, confidence, and communication.

What is Hindi Elocution?

Hindi Elocution is the same concept of elocution, but delivered in the Hindi language. In a Hindi elocution competition or practice, the speaker:

- Chooses a Hindi passage, poem, or speech.
- Focuses on correct pronunciation of Hindi words.
- Uses voice modulation, proper pauses, and expressive tone.
- Delivers it in a way that holds the audience's attention.



Class 6 Hindi Elocution

Hindi Elocution for Class 6 was held on 18 July, at the Junior School Assembly Hall.

88 students of 3 sections participated in Individual Recital, Group Poem and Skit category; and enthralled the audience with their memorable performances.



Class 5 Hindi Elocution

The Hindi Elocution event for Class 5 took place on 22 July at the Junior School Assembly Hall.

A total of 66 students from three sections participated in various categories, namely - Individual Recital, Group Poem, and Skit. Their captivating performances left a lasting impression on the audience.



Class 4 Hindi Elocution

The Hindi Elocution event for Class 4 was held on July 25 in the Junior School Assembly Hall.

Twenty-five students from all three sections took part in a range of categories, including Individual Recital, Group Poem, and Skit. Their engaging performances captivated the audience and showcased their talent and confidence.

Ms. Priyanka Bhattacharya, the Vice-Principal, addressed the students after the performances, praising them for the thought and effort they had put into their presentations of Hindi poetry and drama. She remarked on how confidently they had spoken on stage, how vividly they had brought the characters to life, and how their work reflected not only talent but also a genuine appreciation for the language. She encouraged them to continue exploring Hindi literature and to take pride in preserving its rich tradition through such creative expressions.



Symposium



The Symposium 2025: A Celebration of Youth, Ideas, and Creativity

The Symposium 2025 proved to be an unforgettable experience for Class 7–8 students from Mayo College Boys, Mayo College Girls' School, The Scindia School, Daly College, and Pingroove. Held on the 25th and 26th of July, this vibrant two-day event was a thrilling blend of ideas, collaboration, and youthful exuberance. Every moment was filled with discovery, expression, and connection, making it one of the most memorable events of the academic calendar.

The event kicked off with the signature Baraza sessions, designed to encourage open discussions and reflective thinking. Students from the five schools sat together in mixed groups, sharing thoughts on a wide range of topics — from technology's impact on relationships to the meaning of leadership in a digital age. Guided by skilled facilitators, these sessions nurtured empathy, active listening, and diverse perspectives, enabling participants to connect on a deeper level beyond school boundaries.

Following the reflective atmosphere of the Barazas, the mood turned celebratory with a grand carnival that lit up the campus. Colorful stalls, lively music, fun games, and delicious food created a truly festive atmosphere. Each school contributed creatively — from dunk tanks and karaoke corners to interactive art zones and DIY workshops. The laughter and cheer during the carnival spoke volumes of the friendships being formed in real time.

One of the most talked-about highlights was the trip to Jollywood, a whimsical, locally-themed amusement destination. This excursion brought out the adventurous spirit in everyone. From thrill rides and role-play theatres to quirky souvenir shops, Jollywood was a delightful blend of fun and fantasy. Students explored creatively-designed sets, engaged in spontaneous performances, and even collaborated on mini-films during improv workshops — a rare chance to mix entertainment with hands-on learning.

Back at the Symposium venue, a wide range of beautifully curated workshops ran throughout the two days. There was something for every student: storytelling circles, pottery, spoken word poetry, theatre improv, digital art design, dance fusion, sustainable fashion, and even beginner's robotics. These workshops were led by passionate artists, educators, and professionals, many of whom brought a unique, real-world touch to their sessions. The focus was not just on skills, but on process, expression, and personal voice — which made each experience deeply enriching.

As the event drew to a close, the final evening was marked by a warm and inclusive reflection circle, where students and mentors gathered under starlight to share what they'd learned, laughed about, and loved. Many spoke of how the Symposium gave them the courage to try new things, meet new people, and think in new ways.

In every sense, The Symposium 2025 was more than just an event — it was a celebration of youth, a melting pot of cultures, and a reminder that when young minds come together with curiosity and kindness, magic happens. The bonds formed and memories made will surely echo long after the tents are folded and the lights dim.



Creative Head's Note

They say, "Design is the silent ambassador of your brand." For us, the Mayo Newsletter is more than a collection of pages — it's how we tell our story.

When I joined the team, the goal wasn't to change everything. It was to take what was already good and make it feel even more Mayo — premium, polished, and personal. Over the months, we started experimenting together. New typefaces, cleaner layouts, better flow. Little changes that, when put together, made a big difference.

It wasn't about making it look pretty. It was about making it feel right. About guiding the reader naturally, letting the visuals carry the same tone as the words, and creating a rhythm that keeps you turning the pages.

Looking at the newsletter now, I see more than a design. I see teamwork, shared ideas, and the belief that details matter. And while we've come a long way, we're not done yet — because in Mayo, we don't settle. We refine. We aim higher. Always.

Warm Regards,
Advit Jain

Guess the Faculty

“ You Bloody Morons!! ”

Lexicon Lounge:

Relevance

Meaning: the quality or state of being closely connected or appropriate

Abhor

Meaning: regard with disgust and hatred.

Ambiguous

Meaning: having more than one possible meaning | uncertain | doubtful

Sporadic

Meaning: occurring at irregular intervals | scattered

Elope

Meaning: escape from or avoid (enemy or pursuer)

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at one place.



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