

JULY 2023



THE CATHEDRAL NEWS

VOLUME 1

THE EDITORIAL



Dear Readers,

Welcome to the first issue of the Cathedral News, where we explore the most significant and exciting aspects of the Cathedral experience. And, for the international curriculum, welcome back to school. While it's only been a week (not even, thank the rains), we're sure that was enough to remind you of the delights of being in school: climbing three floors every morning, taking rounds of the quad when you're late for PE, and our personal favourite, morning assemblies! But also welcome back to the small pleasures of Cathedral: mooching off your friend's chilli cheese dosa, staring at the clock with glee at 12:49 pm, and participating in hearty class discussions that entail alternating eruptions of indignant yelling and infectious laughter. We know you missed them.

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With The Cathedral News this year, we aim to provide you with a refreshing break from the unrelenting whirlwind of tangled nerves and bitten nails that inevitably form a part of school life. Beginning with the annual classic 'Behind the Blazer,' we will introduce you to the diverse group of students that constitute the Prefect Body and their even more diverse interests and qualities (yes, the Blazer doesn't constitute their entire personality, at least for most of them).

If you think you know Cathedral too well, we invite you to ponder our expert opinions on school traditions, contrasted with the presumptions you had when you first came to Senior School. But don't let the 'Expectations vs. Reality' unnerve you too much (you get accustomed to all of it real quick). And in the spirit of getting accustomed to new things...

Cover and Illustrations

Anushka
Reshamwala

Do you remember the uproar of excitement, intertwined with fuss, when ChatGPT was first announced? We decided to test out the (prudent) theory that one can identify the fabrication of an Artificial Intelligence with absolutely no trouble. Head to 'Human vs. ChatGPT' and scan the QR code to predict where these enlightening articles originated. We'll leave you in suspense until the next issue, where we'll also publish the result of our little experiment. As you analyse these snippets, take a minute to update yourself on the trending topics they talk about (expert tip: if you find a factual error, it's most probably written by ChatGPT - that, or we didn't do our job properly).

This year, we also called on you, the reader, to contribute to some of our sections which have compiled our school's favourites and secrets in two newly introduced columns. Every vote counted, so read ahead to see if your choice made it to the top.

As the next few months brim with excitement and laughter (and occasionally, nausea), as you wade through the barrage of Dramatics, CMUN, and, unfortunately, exams, remember to take a step back every once in a while, and be grateful for the small things, the experiences that being a Cathedralite allows you to have, and the indelible memories they create. If you have any feedback for this issue or suggestions for the next, please feel free to reach out to either of us at 1009-2022-23@cajcs.in (Nishita) or 004-2009-10@cajcs.in (Hrishit).

Until Next Time,
Yours truly,
Nishita Malhan and Hrishit Asar

BEHIND THE BLAZER

SIDDHARTH KUMAR

The best way to begin to describe Siddharth would be to call him a multifaceted person. If you think that he's serious and hardworking at all times, you're grossly mistaken. His best achievement is when he's successfully wasted an entire period supposedly "finishing off other work," which I suppose makes sense since he's in bed by ten every night. While that's one aspect of Siddharth, the other one is rather well-known and clearly visible in his work every day. If you're ever looking to perfectly define what it means to be conscientious, dedicated, systematic, and focused, I would suggest getting to know Siddharth. His efficiency in all that he does, focus, and clear mindset is something I am always in awe of. His ability to dabble in various activities such as MUN, debates, elocution, and dramatics while being equally brilliant at all is another one of his incredible qualities. He is also extremely passionate about cricket and an avid supporter of RCB. His passion for history and economics is well brought out in his deep knowledge and understanding of the subjects and his readiness to always learn more. Another aspect of Siddharth is how he interacts with others. Whether it be his friends, juniors, or even seniors, the respect and understanding he gives to all those around him is admirable. If you ever need someone to talk to on a bad day, or cheer you up when you're feeling down you can always talk to Siddharth. The generosity, warmth and consideration he brings to every conversation truly sums up his personality. There is truly nobody more deserving than Siddharth and you can trust that you are in good hands with him as your Head Boy.



TIA BHATNAGAR

If anyone claimed only tall people make good leaders, the best way to convince them otherwise would be to introduce them to Tia Bhatnagar (as long as you manage to spot her). An incredible speaker, it's impossible to tell whether she's better at debates, MUN, or elocution. Her ability to persuade, captivate, and impress any audience makes her brilliant at all three. Despite her self-professed proclivity to eat and waste time in class (believe me she's proud of it), she's one of the most intelligent people I know. Her awareness on a plethora of historical and political topics allows her to engage passionately in conversations based on just about any global issue you can think of. Unbelievably, she's even more knowledgeable and motivated about economics - although I should mention that she refused to take the AP in Microeconomics, calling it "yuck". If you saw the sheer number of responsibilities Tia handles with remarkable ability, you'd never believe how much time she wastes annoying her friends in a day. It must be stated, that of all her attributes, the best are her compassion and kindness. In all the time I've known Tia, her willingness to be understanding of others and their problems has never ceased to amaze me. Approachable, determined, and conscientious - Tia Bhatnagar is in every sense, the epitome of what it means to be a Headgirl.



BEHIND THE BLAZER



HRISHIT ASAR

If there's anyone who goes against the saying "the empty vessel makes the most sound," it's Hrishit, because he does indeed, make the most sound, but has brains enough for the entire class.

If he isn't running around school with seventeen papers in his hand, he's probably solving integrals for fun. He'll never be on time for band practice but he'll never be late for any school event, and he takes more pride in his table tennis skills than he does in his math ones.

He plays to win, and takes on every challenge with focus and determination, yet still somehow finds the time to get 8 hours of sleep, and the energy to make extremely bad jokes at 8 in the morning.

But don't let his serious demeanour fool you, Hrishit is also fiercely loyal, incredibly kind, and an extremely good listener. He's elbow-deep in work at all times, but will still always help you out if you ask for it. When you meet him, just talk to him about how computer science is the GOAT subject and I'll guarantee you'll make it to his good list.



AKSHAY VORA

If you walk by the AVR in the morning and see a group of people gathered around someone watching an NBA game on their laptop, you've probably found Akshay Vora. I became friends with Akshay in the 8th grade because of our mutual interest in debate, and suffice it to say he's now become exponentially better than he was back then (thankfully now there's actual competition between us). Watching him systematically eviscerate another team's case as whip is a pleasure, but if you're on that team it's absolutely terrifying. Our biggest shared passion, though, is cricket and while Akshay loves the RCB, test cricket is where his heart truly lies. That's probably why his first thought after we learned we'd get to wear blazers this year was that we should do a coin toss - like test captains - in them. In school, Akshay's intellect and understanding of Math and Physics make him a brilliant person to study with. He has an outstanding ability to take the most complex of concepts and explain them in the simplest of ways. No study session is complete without music, and rap is yet another domain Akshay is always willing to discuss and explore. If you want to strike up a conversation, just talk about Eminem. Despite his easy going nature and ability to make people laugh at any given point, he has a deep sense of duty and responsibility. He's also incredibly competitive and if you give him a challenge, you can bet he'll give everything he can to complete it. Akshay Vora is dependability personified, and I'm beyond confident that he'll live up to the blazer and tie

BEHIND THE BLAZER ✨

KABIR CHAWLA

A man of many talents who is probably the (second) hardest working person you will ever meet and the permanent president of the NBA (unrelated to basketball), Kabir is one of the chilliest and most deserving of the blazer. Despite finding time from nowhere to always diligently finish the million things he's doing, his day is incomplete without at least half an hour of Clash Royale. Besides being a great friend, math and football enthusiast and a below average drummer, you'll find Kabir playing basketball or hand-cricket wearing his blazer on the hottest day with pride and is still one of the most approachable people who will be sure to help you in anyway he can, unless you're in his robotics team.



VRINDA AGRAWAL

Vrinda Agrawal is hands down the sweetest and kindest person you will come across. Her charm lies in her versatile personality. With a knack for perfection, she's got a discerning eye for detail and will not rest until every "i" is dotted and every "t" is perfectly crossed. You'd most often find her dishing out free advice on how to make your project more creative (and she'll make sure you take it!) Vrinda's constantly armed with an infectious smile lighting up every room she walks into. But don't let her sweet demeanour fool you for she's a rock-solid pillar of responsibility. She's the one who will take charge in a crisis, or shoulder extra responsibilities without batting an eye. She's equipped with the weirdest of interests, be it her obsession with the colour blue or her love for collecting keychains.

VIDHI SHAH

If you ever hear a completely unrelated, random fact stated at the wrong moment, Vidhi is probably nearby. Regardless of the lack of appropriate timing, her unwavering commitment to her endeavours is evident, as she consistently demonstrates perseverance and determination. Her communication skills, however, are questionable, every text she will send will be riddled with typos, somehow encountering more autocorrect mishaps than anyone else. Vidhi's infectious sense of humour brings joy and laughter to those around her, creating an environment of camaraderie.

BEHIND THE BLAZER

MALAY MEHTA

Cathedral's very own Shaquille O'Neal, and the all rounder of the century, almost any skill can be associated with Malay. From the moment he joined school, everyone has looked up to him (literally). He's the only person who would ever approach teachers 20 minutes before English Elocution with his own written poem asking to participate in the event. From making up his own assignments, to getting grades, to completing projects the day we get the guidelines, he's got it all. He's one of the most responsible people in the grade, and never fails to take initiatives to help others. If you ever need help with anything SAT or college related, he's probably doing it when you want advice, so he'll be sure to help you with anything needed. You can find him at lunch where he'll probably be eating 'khakhra', 'dhokla' or 'thepla' from one of his 5 boxes. I'm sure he'll make a great prefect and a leader this coming year.

PAARSH BAFNA

Whether it be on the tennis court, in the quad playing basketball, on the football pitch or practically any other sport fathomable, you would find Paarsh Bafna playing his heart out. Paarsh loves a challenge and he is just about ready for any opportunity that dares to cross his path. Despite having joined the school in grade 11, Paarsh has made a tremendous impact on his cohorts which has resulted in him becoming one of the most decorated prefects. He has taken every opportunity to further both Barham House as well as Savage house. If you ever see Paarsh during the breaks, he will always be with his favourite delicacy, "Chawal". He will never fail to remind you that his favourite movies are "Taken" and "Top Gunn" and that his most memorable moments have been listening to Sheck Wes' song "Mo Bamba". Paarsh is used to saying, "break a leg lads" before his countless sports matches, perhaps he took that phrase a tad literally. Most importantly, he goes above and beyond in all his duties and is the most helpful person you'll ever encounter.

DARAIUS DASTOOR

If you come across someone with the most questionable taste in fashion rambling on about the band paramore (although he claims to gate keep them), you've met Daraius. a guitar aficionado, a math whiz, and one of the most hardworking and nicest people i've ever come across. Daraius does it all. He claims that doing calculus sums calms him down. Yes. Calculus. He also thinks that his humour is one of his many talents but it's like his brain has a personal vendetta against comedy, sabotaging every attempt he makes to be funny. Talk to him about anything music related and you'll be his new best friend, but please never, EVER ask him to sing because that never ends well. Besides helping everyone expand their music libraries with his daily song recommendations, he leaves no stone unturned when it comes to helping anyone with anything be it a student or a teacher. His unwavering kindness and willingness to go the extra mile for others is truly what sets him apart.



BEHIND THE BLAZER

ANIKA SHAH

When you see Anika, you don't expect anything to be out of the ordinary. Unfortunately, that is not the case. Others (and she herself) will tell you that she's a smart, diligent, hardworking young woman whose list of great qualities is seemingly endless. And despite her horrifying laugh haunting the hallways of the school (this is completely true), she's, quite literally, a walking juxtaposition. Whenever she's walking or running around, her hands are flailing, and she's doing ten different things at once, from being the symposium Dep-Sec to running for so many house events as IB Captain. But, despite her chaotic and lovable energy, every single task she has to carry out is done to perfection. Her leadership qualities shine through the way she tried to get the entire school initiated into her cult (ask her about it and you'll forever be on her good side). I can't find a single person to relate to my displeasure of having to deal with her, because, despite anything I might write or joke about, she's an amazing person. She's always, always there for anyone; teacher, student, junior, friend. And while doing all of this, she always finds time to "bless" everyone's ears with her questionable singing skills. All these aspects of her personality make her who she is, and I'm so happy to know her. The school comes to life with her yelling at everyone she can find. And although she acts like her positions define her, she's so, so much more than them. I don't know anyone who wears the blazer better than her.



FAARAH BHAVNAGRI

If you see an impeccably dressed girl at the canteen who willingly distributes all her lunch money to anyone (...literally anyone) who asks, chances are you've met Faarah. At first glance, Faarah may appear as a shy and dutiful student, but she is so much more than that. Whether you're her close friend or just a mere acquaintance, her warm heart and selfless nature immediately makes you feel safe, and as if you've known her your whole life. She is the epitome of selflessness, and you can trust her completely when it comes to approaching her with any problem, whether big or small and she will take it upon herself to make you feel better. However, don't let her gentle demeanor deceive you. Despite it all, 'Fair'ah (as some of us like to call her, much to her irritation- Try it) possesses a remarkable ability to effortlessly combine her compassion with unparalleled tenacity and leadership skills. She has the power to inspire and motivate even the most unmotivated individuals, making Palmer one of the luckiest houses this year to have a role model like her. While we playfully tease her for being too nice (which really is a thing for her), Faarah truly embodies everything that Cathedral stands for—compassion, intellect, hard work, unmatched capability, and truly nobody deserves to be a prefect more.

P.S: Pro tip—If you want to express your gratitude, buy her a cheese dosa from the canteen. She will never refuse.



BEHIND THE BLAZER

KARTIKEYA DAIYA

Known for his amicable presence, aspiring engineer (business major?), and amateur photographer Kartikeya is a force to be reckoned with in the student government this year. Holding the titles of Barham house captain, IAYP President, English Elocution secretary, and most recently, "gym bro," he has been declared the most decorated prefect by his peers.

He is also a wildlife content creator, specialising in animal reels that have taken the internet by storm. Thousands of views? No big deal for him. He cites the song "Bombastic Side Eye" for his leap into fame!

What sets Kartikeya apart is his unwavering dedication and diligence. He tackles his numerous tasks with the grace of a seasoned juggler. And let's not forget his hidden talents. He is a budding chorister and an adroit pianist, but he is yet to reveal his key to success. (KTK we're waiting pleaseeee)



ALISHA GULATI

L'il Miss Dependable is the perfect way to describe Alisha. Easy to see why you want her as your best friend. A great listener, she will take pains to understand what is needed and help solve it in the best way possible.

Born to play sports, she has easily dabbled with over 12 different sports playing at various competitive levels. A "puppy magnet", Alisha can hold a long conversation with a dog just like a human. A strong yet affable personality, she wears her opinion on her sleeve and makes no bones about it. She will fiercely defend a friend or a cause that she believes in.

Her calm and collected mind drives her skill in pistol shooting where she holds the Gold Medal in the city.

Have you met anyone with a repertoire so wide? Her friends' delight, her mother's pride, every moment with Alisha is an awesome ride!



JAI SOLANKI

An exceptional footballer and accounts prodigy, 'Dzai' is one of the most persevering people I know. He says he goes to the gym but don't let him fool you since this man is built like a stick. A common favourite among his classmates and juniors, more people call him by his nickname than his actual one. If your opinions on football do not coincide with his, prepare yourself for an hour long debate which will definitely drive you out of your mind, and if your balance sheet doesn't tally with his, let's just say you've lost those ten marks. As long as you agree that Dybala actually contributed towards Argentina winning the world cup, Jai Solanki will help you to the best of his ability.



BEHIND THE BLAZER ✨



MARIAM HUSSAIN

Usually fooled by her timid and soft spoken behaviour, you wouldn't expect the dedication shown by Mariam Hussain (yes, her name certainly has 2 s's, I promise you). She's the one giggling the loudest in class during scholarly discussions. She may not strike you as a genius at first glance, but her impressive accomplishments speak for themselves. Conversing with Mariam is like eating an almond chocolate - mostly delightful and satisfying, yet every now and then, there's that peculiar texture that catches you off guard. She effortlessly excels in every endeavour she undertakes, leaving you wondering how such a dynamic blend of sweetness and peculiarity can coexist.

If you ever find yourself looking to win her favour, five words are enough: "Apple is better than Android." Say this and watch as her eyes light up with shared enthusiasm. You won't find a more earnest listener than Mariam and she can always be found in 12B, giggling away with someone (not saying who).



SIA KAPOOR

It's impossible to describe Sia in one word. She is a whirlwind of energy, always bustling with multiple activities. Whether she's leading the charge with Encore, CMUN (mind you sometimes she does 15,000 steps a day for this), assemblies, or experiments in the chemistry lab, she always brings her A-game (or at least that's what she wants you to think). Her infectious laughter that echoes through the halls, brightens everyone's day. One of Sia's superpowers is her ability to be there for you when you need her the most. Her warm hugs are legendary, instantly melting away any worries or sadness. Now, Sia may have a terrible sleep schedule, often staying up until 3 am, but that's just part of her charm. She's always up-to-date with the latest celebrity gossip and can entertain you with these and dramatic stories about her life (and her brother's life too) for hours. She's the queen of procrastination, but somehow manages to shine even when she's scrambling to complete tasks. But what truly sets Sia apart is her unwavering support and wise advice. Whether it's tackling house activities or dealing with school stress, she'll go above and beyond to find a viable solution for any problem you may have. Her infectious spirit, endless talents, and genuine care for others make her an absolute gem. I couldn't be prouder to call her my friend and now, a prefect and monitor of our school.

BEHIND THE BLAZER ✨

RUSHAD TATA

The tall man in the blazer who is sure to turn some heads, Rushad Tata is the most responsible person ever. Punctual would not even begin to describe his attitude to any meeting whatsoever. He is the only person I have ever known to carry a Top Hat and an Umbrella to a children's movie. Rushad is an infamous figure in Parsi Colonies due to his immense love for celebrities like Michele Obama and Cindy Crawford. However, his love for these celebrities has been replaced by an even greater affection for the Barham House and its monitor(s).

Rushad is an invaluable asset who will work tirelessly to outshine his sister's accomplishments (although in vain). His reputation as an athlete precedes him. He takes to the skies like an angel while doing the high jump, sometimes crashing to the ground. Rushad does everything in his power to convince us all that he is, indeed, to inherit the Tata Group after about 240 successors. One thing he has inherited, no doubt, is the generosity of his namesake Ratan Tata. Rushad is a wildcard, unpredictably so. He can either be the most energetic and excited person or be as dull as dishwater. Needless to say, a run in with Rushad will always leave you questioning his sanity and with a smile bigger than his list of track and field achievements.



JAIVARDHAN JAIN



A man with negative rizz, an avid chess player and the most lost 12th grade student, while all these terms can be used to describe him, nothing describes Jaivardhan Jain better than a true friend. A guy who's always there for you and a guy who puts his all into everything despite saying he's going to get canned. You can give him a call at 3 in the morning and he'll be there to help (probably because he was awake learning some form of a boring chess opening). While procrastination might be a skill he's mastered, he somehow manages to get all of his work done with dedication and determination and always exceeds his expectations, other than hitting the gym, something he is yet to discover. Ask him to do anything and with a simple nod (and sometimes an eye roll), he'll get it done. Despite looking like the textbook definition of a nerd, his music taste is surprisingly good, ranging from classic hip hop to twenty-one pilots, ask him for a recommendation and he won't disappoint. A hopeless romantic all his life, the only thing that he's said he loves is demon slayer which can be a deal breaker. Whether it be needing someone to beat in Mario kart or someone who's going to get you late no matter where you plan to go, JJ's the man to go to and the best friend you could ask for. Parents call him responsible and friends call him gullible, but at the end of the day there's no one more deserving of the dripped-out blazer than him.

BEHIND THE BLAZER



SANAYA NAGPAL

If you ever walk through school and hear someone whining about anything and everything at the top of their lungs, newsflash: You've met Sanaya. She'll crib and cry about how she can't run three centimeters to save her life, how her brain is the size of a walnut, how her fingers are too small to hold a basketball. As Basketball Captain, House Captain and School Prefect, her plate is full of a myriad of things to complain about. But one thing I've learnt in my years of friendship with this woman is that you never, ever listen to her (juniors, this does not apply to you). Because despite her cribbing and crying, she can do everything under the sun, and do it so, so well. Her sass and contagious laughter can make anybody's day better. Anyone can get on her good side by saying the words 'chappri' or talking to her about dogs (but if you make her angry, trust me, she will throw stones at you). Her 'abnormal' love and intellectual prowess in psychology and biology can amaze anyone who decides to come her way. I'm not kidding when I say that Sanaya's spirit animal is a panda, and that makes her one of the most approachable and amiable people I've met. The talent and heart this girl has is, perhaps, limitless. Despite her plethora of positions, no position is enough to describe the wonderful person she really is.



RAYA POREDI

A walking embodiment of talent, hard work and ambition, Raya is a girl who has an uncanny knack for conquering any and every challenge - from music, sports to academics. She sets the bar high, higher than Everest on stilts. She resembles a caffeine powered squirrel (minus the caffeine) running around school finishing the numerous responsibilities she takes on while never failing to greet everyone around her with her infectious energy. The one thing she does take really seriously other than excelling at school is board games. Never EVER play a board game with Raya as she will make you play the same game a zillion times till she wins. Raya will constantly be saying things like "I'm a jazz obsessed polemicist" and "We are ducks" thinking this will add to her apparent quirkiness, but do they really? Although she has a problem committing to almost everything and everyone, her commitment towards being the best version of herself shows through her unwavering work ethic and giving her all into whatever she does, even if the task at hand is coming up with a 'quirky' Instagram bio. Raya is one of the most diligent and talented individuals I have ever come across and is always willing to lend a helping hand to anyone who might need it no matter how busy she is.



AMAN NAYYAR

Definitely the most well rounded person I know. Even after doing so much, Aman manages to excel at almost everything he does. He's dedicated towards whatever he puts his mind to, whether it's squash or MUN. Other than the fact that he likes jazz, he has a great taste in music, and allegedly goes to the gym too. You can have the most interesting arguments with Aman but also the funniest conversations. He's never short of any jokes, just short in general. Jokes aside, Aman is very approachable and is always ready to help you.

BEHIND THE BLAZER

WHO'S MOST LIKELY TO...?*

Rizz their way out of a speeding ticket	Paarsh Bafna
Call out to the dosa man with a shrill "baiya"	Faarah Bhavnagri / Kartikeya Daiya
Read Amazon comments as a source of humour (inspired by true events)	Akshay Vora and Siddharth Kumar
Make a real lightsaber	Hrishit Asar
Believe that caffeine solves everything	Sia Kapoor
Vote for Trump just for the plot	Aman Nayyar
Lock themselves out of their house	Rushad Tata
Accidentally call a teacher "mom"	Jai Solanki
Find a mistake in an exam paper	Kabir Chawla
Randomly start singing	Anika Shah
Attend an awards' ceremony in chappals	Raya Poredi

EXPECTATIONS VS REALITY



Ananya Tawakley, Laila Bacha, Adya Joshi



Remember in seventh grade when the teachers told us our behaviour wouldn't be tolerated in senior school and we shrugged it off thinking we'll deal with it when the time comes? Well, here's a glimpse into the expectations we had as nervous eighth graders and the realities we face as experienced and wiser seniors.

Expectation

Interview with a few expectant (naive) 8th graders:

Q1) What do you think of Senior School so far? What struggles do you think you'll face?

A1) I actually quite like Senior School. It's definitely different from Middle School, but so far it's not been as scary as I thought. I think the academics will be much harder in comparison. The workload has increased for sure. We didn't have 80 mark midterms last year, so this year is a bit more intense. Plus we also had a Math diagnostic test. So, it has been difficult to manage. I'm hoping I'll be able to adjust and it'll get easier from here.

Q2) What do you think about the extracurriculars?

A2) The extracurriculars seem really fun. I hope we get to use them as opportunities to interact with our seniors. I'm not sure what I want to try out for yet but I'd be open to participating in events that mainly cater to my interests. House games seem super exciting but I think they'll be quite tiring since they're directly after school hours. Same with house activities like dramatics and sports. I've heard they require a lot of your time. So, I'm a bit hesitant to try out for everything they have to offer.

Q3) Your grade has already had a few general assemblies. What is your take on the rules about turnout in Senior School?

A3) The enforcement of rules for turnout seems to be a lot stricter. The whole system of minus points is definitely new for all of us. Houses are being taken a lot more seriously than they were in Middle School. It seems like it's easier to lose house points than it is to gain them.



EXPECTATIONS VS REALITY

Overall, they're looking forward to a more academically challenging environment as well as a plethora of extracurriculars. They also showed a lot of excitement about AP classes and all the college prep activities.



Reality



Interview with Siddharth Kumar, Anika Shah, Aman Nayyar, Tia Bhatnagar and Akshay Vora (head to the Behind the Blazer section for an introduction on each of them).

A few moments of awkward silence as we wait for Aman to join the meeting.

1) Are the seniors really intimidating and will it be a very formal relationship between 8th graders and the seniors throughout the year?

Aman: I think that expectation is false and they'll see this during dramatics when the captains let loose and at the house party after dramatics which is...not that 'formal'.

Tia: Sometimes it feels formal just because of the work associated with the captain but as long as the junior doesn't cross any boundaries the seniors can actually become pretty good friends.

2) Will there not be enough opportunities for everyone in the house system?

Siddharth: See it depends on the event - for some it's really competitive but for some the house will desperately need people to participate. For example this year Savage is literally taking Anika for debates which is a massive L just for some context...

Aman (clarifying indignantly): We are not taking Anika, we are NOT taking Anika.

Siddharth: I've tried out for squash every year but that hasn't worked out (*slightly rueful tone*). Nonetheless everyone gets an opportunity to do something eventually.

Aman (in his capacities as squash captain): I'll take you this year, don't worry.

3) Will the house system be really competitive, to the extent that it affects your friendships?

Akshay: I don't think it affects your friendships, it's similar to how basketball and cricket games during PE can get a bit competitive.

Anika: Honestly, I don't agree with Akshay, it's very competitive. There are friendships that get broken during dramatics and athletics because all you're thinking about is beating the other house. It shouldn't impact the 8ths and 9ths that much but it is especially competitive for the 11ths and 12ths.

Siddharth: I think Anika's a bit toxic to be giving advice here. The rest of us are actually pretty chill.

Aman and Akshay agree enthusiastically

4) Will there be a divide in the grade after people split into different curricula?

Aman: No, not at all. We did get a bit detached during online but offline and with the whole grade being in the same building, the closeness of the grade should remain intact.

EXPECTATIONS VS REALITY

Siddharth: And to be fair, the school's taking a lot of effort to match the timetables in terms of exams and big events like dramatics.



5) Will there be strict rules about turnout?

Aman (in a fit of rebellion): NO.

Tia: Please, Aman no. Yes, there are very strict rules.

Aman (annoyed that he was interrupted): They are strict to an extent, but I'm just saying that 8th graders don't need to get stressed about it - I mean look at Karan Parekh...

Rest of the conversation ceases to be quotable - Aman requests that it be made clear that he was joking throughout.



6) Will the academic pressure be very overwhelming in senior school, with exams and APs?

Aman (incredulously): 8th graders asking about APs?! That's mad.

Anika: If you manage your time well, and talk to seniors, it's very doable. Talking to seniors is very important.

7) A lot of the eighth graders expect the teachers to be stricter and harsher in senior school, thoughts on that?

Akshay: It's the exact opposite actually, the teachers don't have to be after you, they're a lot more lenient, you can have a more friendly relationship with the teachers.

Tia: Obviously there's a sense of formality because it's a teacher-student relationship, but in the sense of them being stricter because you're in senior school, there's honestly nothing. They're more understanding and trust you more because you're older and can manage your workload and extracurriculars.

8) Since it's their first time, the eighth graders expressed a lot of excitement towards house games, so what should they expect there?

Akshay: House games is like fifty percent march past though.

Aman: Wait do we have to lie though or ?

A few moments of incoherent gibberish

Akshay: I mean.. It's really hot and you have to march, and it's also after school so that can be painful and if you miss it, it's a big issue. Honestly we only had a year of house games, then we joined IB but it is definitely fun, you still get to play sports and everything. Sometimes it can be quite unproductive though.

Aman: Long story short, it's fun when the selection of a sport is going on and if you're participating in an event.

9) They have very high expectations for events like Social, Encore, East meets West, Sports Day, even Dramatics. Which of these events live up to the hype and which of them don't?

Aman: East meets West, Nostalgia is one of the best events of the year, even CMUN...

Anika (interrupting enthusiastically): YEA CMUN IS THE BEST GUYS.

Aman: Yea CMUN is definitely one of the best events of the year. Encore can be a bit overhyped because no one prepares too well for it, it can be better if people take it more seriously but it's definitely lots of fun. Sports Day, I honestly think it's underrated, everyone hates and dreads it, going and standing in the heat for eight hours a day or whatever.

EXPECTATIONS VS REALITY

Aman's tone becomes more eager to share

But if you participate in an event, the experience is something you've never experienced before, some of the best memories I have are from Sports Day. Last year I beat the athletics captain in a specific race (Aman adds very nonchalantly) And the joy i felt was like-

Siddharth (interrupts, saying what everyone was thinking): Real subtle Aman.

Anika: Please don't add that.

Siddharth (agreeing vehemently): No, no you can't add that.

Aman (retorting passionately): Bro who are you- I mean I know you're the head boy but I don't care, you have to flex!

A little more disagreement is followed by Aman ending by saying sports day is definitely a fun event.

Siddharth (riled up with a lot of school spirit) : Sports day is one of those events where if you choose to channel house and school spirit it can feel really cool. I for one enjoy marching with the band and the flag and everything, the entire feeling-

Aman (interrupts, saying what everyone was thinking): Man said he likes march past.

Siddharth: Okay yea if you're gonna complain all the time you won't like it but if you try to find some value in house spirit, then Sports Day can get really fun.

Aman: Siddharth just likes march past because he's the head boy and gets to carry the flag.

10) Any other events?

Anika: Swimming is amazing.

This statement was followed by brief statements of intense disagreement.

Anika (continuing): Swimming is amazing, dramatics too, everyone please try out.

This is for the Savagites especially.

Aman: Dramatics is lots of fun guys.

We have been told to add that savagites are encouraged to try out for everything.

Editor's Plug: There's CMC, CATH CON, Resonance, and InQuest too.

11) What about social, does that live up to the hype?

Aman: Okay so for social everyone thinks it's going to be like the movies, you ask a girl out and you go and you dance, it's not even close. Yes, while you do ask the girl out in a cute way or whatever, at social you and your friends just get together and take pictures for one and a half hours.

So to welcome the eighth graders, while senior school comes with the excitement of screaming your heart out at Encore and wasting half of your time at the Fun Fair in the curly fries line, remember to keep your hair tied up, shirts tucked in and nails cut, but don't forget to have fun.

HUMAN VS. CHATGPT

Sia Kapoor, Aman Nayyar and Arsham Hirani

*In our increasingly digital world, we find ourselves relying more and more on ChatGPT and other AI technologies for various tasks. It's truly remarkable how these systems have become scarily accurate and human-like in their responses. However, it is crucial to remember that while AI has made significant progress, there are still drawbacks that we cannot ignore. Although Chat GPT can generate coherent responses, its arguments may lack depth or fail to consider nuanced perspectives. Human writers, on the other hand, possess critical thinking skills, emotional intelligence, and a broader range of experiences that enable them to provide more thoughtful and viable arguments. If you think you can guess which of the following has been written by ChatGPT or a student, scan the QR code and fill in your answers. Results and winners will be announced in the next issue.**



1. Feminism

A. Feminism, the movement advocating for gender equality, has had both positive and negative effects.

On the positive side, it has fought against discrimination and promoted women's rights. Feminism has raised awareness about societal inequalities and inspired progressive changes. However, feminism faces criticism as well. Some believe that the irony of feminism is that while its aim is to promote equality, it has perpetuated division and undermined traditional values. Recognizing the gains while addressing valid concerns is imperative.

B. Feminism has brought about significant positive changes, challenging gender norms, advocating for women's rights, and promoting equality. It has inspired women's empowerment, increased representation, and sparked important conversations. However, like any movement, feminism is not immune to criticism. Some argue that it neglects certain issues and undermines men's right for the growth of their own. It is essential to acknowledge the complexities, address concerns, and work towards an inclusive feminism that benefits all genders while striving for a fair and equitable society.



HUMAN VS. CHATGPT

2. Data Privacy

A. Data privacy in a surveillance state (a country that engages in pervasive surveillance to identify criminals in their country) is a pressing concern. As governments and corporations collect vast amounts of personal information, individuals' privacy rights are at risk. Surveillance measures, while aimed at ensuring security, raise questions about the balance between safety and civil liberties. Striking the right balance requires robust legal frameworks, transparent oversight, and public awareness. Safeguarding data privacy in a surveillance state is crucial to protect individuals' rights.

B. The Edward Snowden leaks in 2014 compelled the world to question the validity of transparency and whether a surveillance state (a country that engages in pervasive surveillance to identify criminals in their country) is ethical or not. With many governments implementing regulated covert surveillance policies to investigate the civilians in their country, many argue that it is a violation of their right to privacy. Where is the line between a surveillance state and basic human rights drawn? Maintaining a democratic society that values both security and personal freedom must be ensured.

3. Glass Ceiling

A. The glass ceiling is a metaphorical barrier that obstructs women's progress in reaching top leadership positions. Despite significant advancements in gender equality, this invisible barrier remains prevalent in various sectors. Women encounter limited opportunities, gender biases, and societal expectations that hinder their professional growth. To shatter this glass ceiling, organizations and society must actively promote inclusive policies, provide equal access to education and mentorship, and address systemic biases.

B. The invisible glass ceiling that restricts several individuals from excelling in a specific field due to their gender or culture is more prevalent than ever. These discriminatory barriers are a product of corruption that the rich manipulate for their own selfish benefit. This barrier permits them to promote people not based on merit or qualification but based on their own personal gain and opinion. Penetrating this invisible barrier is a problem that all societies in the world face.

4. Women's Rights in India



A. Women's rights in India have been a subject of extensive debate and progress. Despite ongoing challenges, efforts to improve gender equality have gained momentum. Significant legal reforms, increased representation in politics and education, and campaigns against discrimination and violence have played crucial roles in empowering women and fostering their rights, shaping a more inclusive and equitable society.

B. Women's rights in India have been tumultuous throughout history. Despite these challenges, legal campaigns and significant reforms have been pivotal in the representation of women. Women empowerment has been greatly aided by notable legislative changes, increasing political and educational representation, and efforts against discrimination and violence, which has led to a more diverse and fair society.



HUMAN VS. CHATGPT

5. 'F.R.I.E.N.D.S' TV Show

A. Friends is one of television's most enduring cultural icons. The sitcom enraptured audiences worldwide through humor, relatability, sharp banter, and enduring connections. The sitcom weaves life's ups and downs together with humor, creating a sitcom that impacted viewers for years, and continues to do so despite having ended years ago.

B. The iconic TV show 'Friends' has left an indelible mark on pop culture. With its relatable characters, witty dialogue, and enduring friendships, the series captivated audiences worldwide. 'Friends' seamlessly blends humor, romance, and life's ups and downs, creating a timeless sitcom that continues to resonate with viewers, long after its final episode aired.

6. Pros and Cons of Online Learning

A. Online education provides a multitude of benefits, allowing students to learn at their own pace by providing flexibility, convenience, and access to a wide range of resources. Despite that, it lacks practical experience, provides distraction, and can hinder one's self-discipline. Effective education requires a balance between these benefits and drawbacks to provide students with a holistic learning experience.

B. Online learning offers flexibility, convenience, and access to diverse courses, promoting lifelong learning at one's own pace. However, it lacks hands-on experiences, can be distracting, and requires self-discipline. Balancing these pros and cons is crucial for effective online education, ensuring a well-rounded and engaging learning experience.

7. IPL 2023 Final



A. Chennai Super Kings snatched the IPL title from Gujarat Titans, thus equalling Mumbai Indians' laudable record of winning five IPL titles. In the quest for a momentous victory, the match entailed cut-throat competition, dubious predictions, ruthless sixes and deceptive bowling. This galvanising final is entrenched in the hearts of zealous fans and has incentivized many more. The enthusiasm of the audience reciprocated the boundless efforts made by cricketers such as Ajinkya Rahane, who sealed the stairway to victory at the penultimate moment by unleashing an admirable six and four.

B. The IPL 2023 final delivered an electrifying spectacle, captivating cricket enthusiasts around the world. The clash between two formidable teams showcased exceptional skill, fierce competition, and nail-biting moments. With star-studded line-ups and tactical brilliance on display, players left no stone unturned in their pursuit of the coveted trophy. The match witnessed breathtaking boundaries, superb catches, and breathtaking wickets. In the end, amidst jubilant celebrations, one team emerged victorious, etching their name in IPL history.

8. Rail Strikes

A. The United Kingdom is currently grappling with a surge of rail strikes, causing major disruptions and testing the patience of commuters nationwide. Workers across different rail companies are voicing their grievances over working conditions, wages, and job security. These strikes have resulted in cancelled trains, overcrowded platforms, and frustrated passengers. With negotiations between unions and rail companies at an impasse, the future of UK rail travel hangs in the balance, leaving commuters anxiously awaiting a resolution.

B. Due to unfulfilled demands of a pay raise and a hole in their finances, rail workers of several companies have chosen to strike across the United Kingdom. With the goal of creating chaos, action has been undertaken on dates preceding grand events. As these actions are inhibiting the commute of passengers, who scramble to book alternative means of transport that are triple the price and gravely threatening the supply chain, it is of utmost importance that a consensus is reached.

CATHEDRAL'S FAVOURITES

Malay Mehta, Nyah Bhat, Varenya Pakvasa and Dia Makhecha

The following answers have been compiled using the responses to the Google Form we sent out to the entire school about a month ago.



What is your favourite song of all time?

This first one is not only the highest charting single on the Billboard Hot 100, but also on Cathedral's Top 5! Written by British rock band Coldplay, the song **Viva La Vida** delves into the complex intertwining concepts of love, life, death, and war, tugging at each of our heart strings. It literally translates to "live life", something we often forget to do, and fail to recognize the importance of.

Number 2, which may not come as a surprise to anyone, is One Direction's **Night Changes**. Never failing to jerk tears, it lets us reminisce and reflect on the countless sweet memories that make up life, and how important it is to cherish each one of these because sooner than we know it, the night will change.

Next up is the only artist that has the power to freeze time, holding back every girl in her dreamy, Taylor era. **Love Story**, with its country music flair and entirely acoustic melodic line, lends itself perfectly to a solo guitar accompanied jam, where one can let their thoughts run wild, subconsciously painting a smile across their faces.

The penultimate song on this list is Stephen Sanchez's **Until I Found You**, written in a style full of shades of the 50's - nostalgic, elegant, and a fine sing along.

To end this section, last, but not the least, is a song strikingly different in character from the rest on the list, with its upbeat bass line sure to get you on your feet. **Blinding Lights**, by The Weeknd, with a synth-centric pop theme has Cathedral moving to the beat!

What is your favourite TV show? (Released during/after the 80's)

Is anybody shocked that **F.R.I.E.N.D.S** got the most votes? Absolutely not. F.R.I.E.N.D.S is an American television sitcom trailing the lives of six reckless adults living in Manhattan. It's almost certain that if you've watched this show, it's probably been more than once! If not, you're probably living under a rock.

Coming up next, falling short of a few votes to the leader, we have quite a shocker in the show '**The Office**', an American mockumentary sitcom television series that depicts the everyday work lives of office employees at a fictional firm, injected with humour, and friendships larger than life. (The theme song is cool too!)

Brooklyn 99 and **Suits** take the third and fourth spot respectively. The show Brooklyn 99 features detectives that are all offbeat and easy to fall in love with. They will do anything to find their criminal and have plenty of fun along the way.

CATHEDRAL'S FAVOURITES

On the other hand, *Suits* is the first show on this list that is not a comedy, rather a serious law drama, grappling viewers and leaving them with a sense of longing to turn into paralegals.

With **Big Bang Theory** and **How I Met Your Mother** filling some of the additional spots, this composite list is a wonderful amalgamation of some of the best shows.



What is your favourite movie?

This list was topped by **Avengers - Infinity War**. These fictional heroes, darting through worlds effortlessly, are Cathedral's favourite characters. Infinity War brings the Avengers together, in a tenacious battle against their common enemy, Thanos. The story unfolds in a dramatic, captivating fashion, leaving you hooked.

Next up is the **Shawshank Redemption**, a 90's film based on Stephen King's story. This drama tells the story of a banker sentenced to life for the murder of his wife and her lover, despite his claims of innocence. In a change of events, he befriends a fellow prisoner. The intertwining of these tales leads to a money laundering operation, heightening the plot without a wasted second.

Third on the list is the **Parent Trap**. Dominated by females in lead roles, it makes one thing certain - by the end of it, you will long for a twin too. As estranged twins are fortuitously reunited at summer camp, they switch lives to connect with the parent they never had the chance to. As the end nears, the family finds a way to bind itself together, and melts the audience's hearts.

Where robots meet glowing lightsabers, and furry bears put on a display of the fiercest loyalty - the flame of the galaxy burns with life, as George Lucas' brainchild comes alive on the screen. Number 4, **Star Wars** takes you through an adventure in the stars (literally), on planets that are nothing short of utopic, exploring the themes of sheer bravery, hope, coming together, and the gift of family.

Last up on this list, is finally something Hindi! Riddled with glittery dance numbers lighting the stage up coupled with unabashed intertwining love stories, **Yeh Jawaani Hai Deewani** had to be on the list of favourite movies.

Cathedral's Fun Facts

1. After long nights up, binging shows instead of switching the night lamp off, you find yourself dozing off between classes. The couches outside the Physics lab are very comfy for this!
2. Sometimes, when you feel like moving your feet from under those desks, to around the hallways - the floor between the first and second is a camera blind spot. It acts not just as a viewing gallery for PE going on downstairs, but also as a great hangout spot!
3. Lastly, an interesting piece of knowledge. the floorboards in the gymnasium haven't been changed since the 1900's... so, over the past 120 years, every batch has written ICSE board exams in the same exact room!

