

Every heart's a hurricane,  
Each soul a starlit sea,  
Every mind's a meteor  
Unbound by gravity.  
And everybody's wishing  
They could learn to tame their tides,  
When nothing more than nature  
Is what's echoing inside.

Every life's a lightning bolt,  
Yet everyone's told no;  
Bite back all your thunder  
And don't let the wild things show.  
Every heart's a hurricane,  
Everyone a world within,  
Every life too short for loathing  
Any storms beneath your skin.

~e.h

Nearly a year has gone by since a new committee took over the Welham Girls Alumni Association.

The committee consists of some old and some new, but the Die-Hard enthusiasm remains unfazed and ever present.

The new committee consists of the following-

<b>Name</b>	<b>Designation</b>
Shivani Anand	President
Natasha Verma	Vice President
Devyani Vasudev Vohra	Treasurer
Diya Walia	Secretary

Arshiya Takkar	Member Communication
Shruti Lakhanpal Tandon	Coordinator We Care
Renee Chanda Chandola	Member Compliance
Hema Mehra	Member Liaison and Coordination
Parbeen Kaur	Member Memorabilia
Anjali Sapra	Member Finance

The above team is like two hands, each digit imperative to sustain and continue the work started by our predecessors.

The aim behind the work we do is three pronged. Firstly we as an Alumni Association we want to provide a space for all Welhamites to have a platform to connect, not only with each other, but to connect back with School. The education we received went beyond the classroom and sports field. The camaraderie we developed with each other stands true to this day.

When I first went back to School after many years as a parent looking to admit my older one, I found myself with tears streaming down (those who know me will be amused) , when I met Mrs. Brar, who was the Principal at that point, and she saw the mess I was in, she smiled and said “My dear you are Overwelhamed”. This emotional response is what sums up our bond with our school.

The second aim behind our work is to provide support not only to our School, but also those who were and are instrumental in moulding us.

The third but not the least is to “Give Back”. Most of us in School grudgingly or some with better humour trudged through all the activities School encouraged us to participate in, be it working with Prem Dham, Cheshire Home, Mother Teresa Home or teaching at John Martyn School.

Those of us who belong to the Era when all the Social Service activities were not part of College Application requirements went along with all the Social work with great enthusiasm. The impact of these values which were inculcated in us have been deeply rooted into our psyche and are the backbone, of what we as Alumni aspire towards.

#### **Targets and Goals for the Committee- 2019 - 2020**

- City wise chapters to be made fully functional with coordination in Delhi.
- Events and Lecture Series to be organized in all cities to create a cohesive society.
- Increase awareness and provide more support to One For One initiative started by Shruti Lakhanpal Tandon and to double the number of girls we are supporting. We are at 52.

- To re-evaluate our corpus and finances so that we can consolidate as well as restructure our support to the teachers, as well as provide emergency funds to our ex and present staff in school.
- Registration to be focussed on the jubilee batches for this year 1969, 1994, 1999. Diya Walia will be the contact person so please be in touch to coordinate the registration and donation schedule for School.
- Setting up of a Motivational Interactive Lecture Series. The aim is to create a platform where present Welhamites as well as girls who have passed out and are still looking for direction have a platform to interact with Notable alumni of Welham's.
- Communication – A big challenge, as we have the Dinosaurs as well as the millennials as our target audience.  
Arshiya Thakkar our newest and youngest member has been made communications in-charge and she is going to putting in systems where we can reach out to all: Email Blast, Facebook, Website as well as Instagram.  
All events to be shared on all mediums to communicate with the maximum.

### **Work Achieved for 2019-2020**

- Consolidation and streamlining of all financial matters has been achieved. A healthy corpus has been created and it will provide a sustainable inflow for all the work we are aiming to achieve.
- The alumni at present supports the education of 3 girls at the Aasara Trust. The One for One initiative spearheaded by Shruti Lakhnopal Tandon has been an inspiration for us and as a committee we are committed to achieving our target.
- The One for One is now supporting the education of 52 young street children at Aasara in Dehra Dun.
- The We Care initiative has been a source of support to our teachers who had left school many years ago. At present we provide a monthly income to 5 of our teachers. Any requirement for Medical help has also been provided by us.
- A Scholarship has been set up in School for the Class 4 staff. The Alumni will provide for the education of a girl child of one of the members of the staff. This scholarship will be at the school the child is presently studying in, the aim is to provide support to the Didi / Berahji / Maliji family by taking on the education and mentoring one of their daughters. The aim is to increase this to 5 girls in a few years. For this year we are committing to the education of one child till graduation. Opportunities for college scholarship for the future are also being looked in to.
- In this year we have also undertaken the responsibility of helping one of our young alumni, in continuing with her college education. Due to unfortunate circumstances in her family this brilliant young girl would have been deprived

of a well-deserved education. The alumni have undertaken the responsibility of helping her by providing the funds for her three years in Delhi University.

- On the 14<sup>th</sup> of December 2018 we held the AGM as well as Tadpole Night, it was a lot of fun and the girls in Delhi and Mumbai had coordinated the event on the same evening. There was an excellent turnout at both venues.
- The Investiture Ceremony was held on the 1<sup>st</sup> of February this year and the Alumni welcomed the batch of 2019 into their fold.

#### **List of Events for the Year 2019-2020**

- AGM for the year 2019 will be held on the 21<sup>st</sup> of September.
- Founders in School – 19<sup>th</sup> and 20<sup>th</sup> of October.
- All City Chapters coordinated Alumni Sports Day Lunch – Date in November to be confirmed.
- Lecture Series – The first event is scheduled for December. The exact date to be confirmed.

We hope to see many of you participating with us in all the upcoming events as well as working in making our Alumni Association even stronger this year.