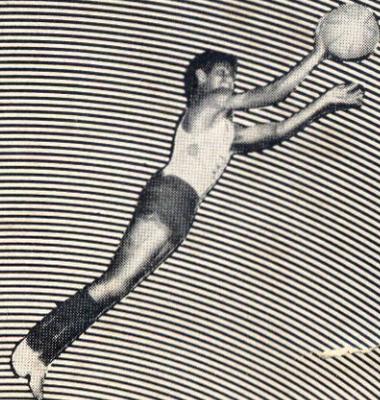


THE MITRE



STAFF LIST

1983-84

Principal : Mr. B. W. Roberts

Asst. Vice Principal
(Head of Middle-School)

Mr. R. Ringrow

Headmistress
(Junior Section)

Mrs. L. Roberts

**First Asst. Master and
Boarding Supdt.**

Mr. C. D. Beaman

CLASS MASTERS / TEACHERS

'A' Section

K.G. Miss B. D'Souza
I Mrs. S. Oliver
II Mrs. B. Morris
III Mrs. F. Daruwalla
IV Mrs. S. Mirchandani
V Mr. A. Thakore
VI Mr. S. Francis
VII Mr. G. Aviet
VIII Mr. S. Fernandes
IX Mr. A. Seymour
X Mr. K. B. Singh

'B' Section

Miss S. Sharaballi
Miss T. Pathak
Mrs. H. Verma
Mrs. C. Jolly
Mrs. M. Postwalla
Mr. R. Barrow
Mr. M. Chavan
Mr. W. H. Burton
Mr. V. Jagtap
Mr. A. Fernandes
Mr. W. Daniell

'C' Section

Mrs. M. Daniell
Mrs. B. Smart
Mrs. N. Aghaw
Mrs. E. Thakore
Mrs. B. Hussain
Mr. J. Shepherd
Mr. R. DeSouza
Mr. M. Guzder
Mr. R. Smart
Mr. A. Pathak

Subject Masters / Teachers

Mrs. V. Singh (Hindi)
Mr. N. K. Mogre (Marathi)
Mr. V. Jagtap (Sanskrit)
Mr. D. Choudhari (Craft)
Mr. W. Corda /
Prof. G. V. Pandit
(Commerce)
Mrs. K. Jadhav (Biology)
Mr. T. Charaniya (Maths.)
Mr. T. M. Sathyanarayanan
(Economics)
Mrs. C. K. Velu (Music)

P. T. Is.

Mr. B. R. Matkar
Mr. B. S. Ghodke

Mr. C. D'Monte (Library)
Mr. T. P. Donoghue
(Estate Supdt.)
Mr. S. Wells (Caterer)
Mr. C. Lee (Asst. Caterer)
Mr. C. B. Nair
(Nursing Supdt.)
Mr. R. Fox (Gen. Asst.)

Matrons

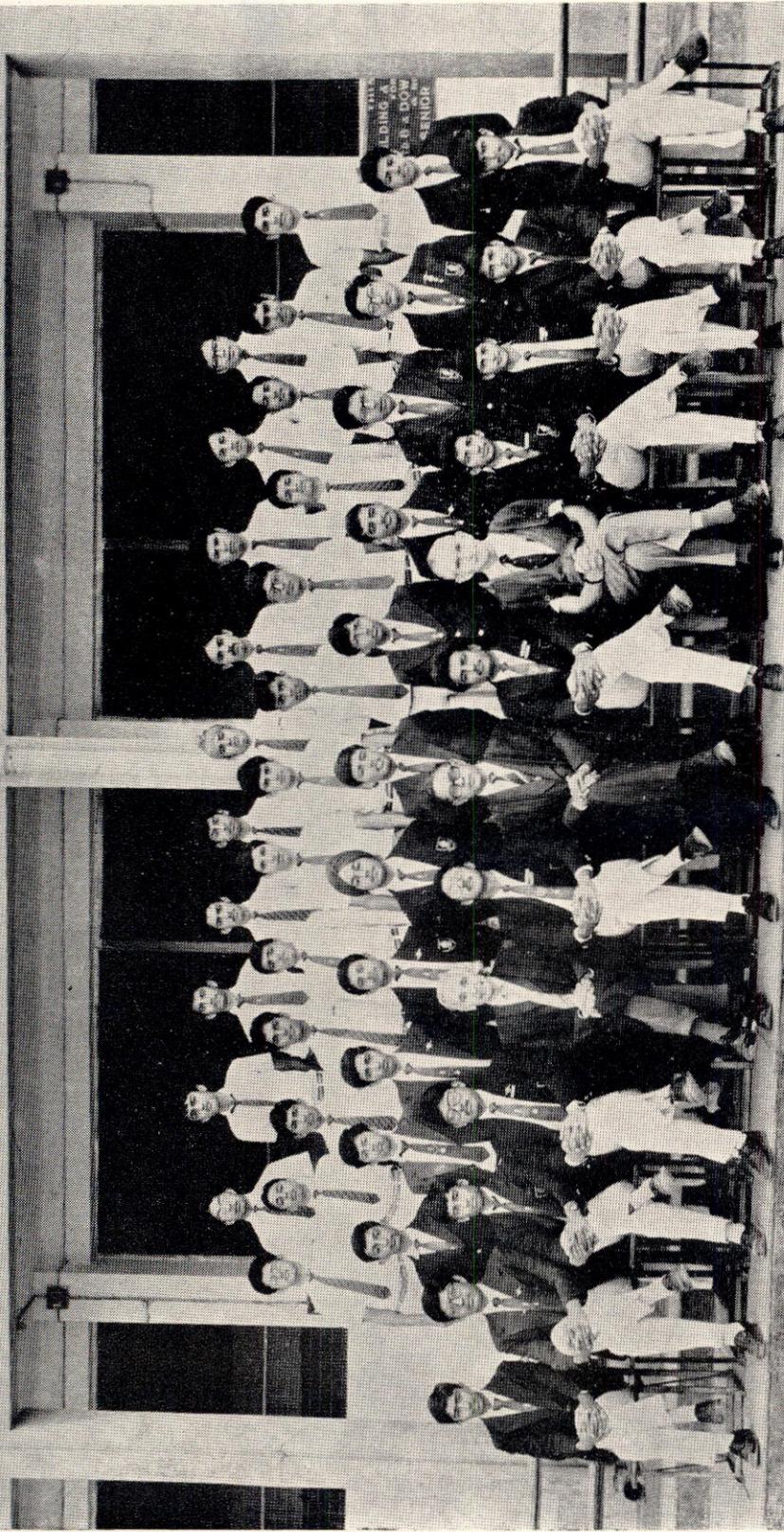
Mrs. N. Brown
(Nook / Cambridge)
Mrs. P. D'Monte (Jubilee)
Mrs. S. De Moore
(Simba)
Mrs. F. Lobo
(New New Dorm)
Mrs. M. K. Bajwa (Lunn)

Office Staff

Mr. A. R. Lobo
(Accountant)
Mr. V. K. Lele
(Steno/Secretary)
Mr. A. S. Nabar
(Accounts Asst.)
Mr. V. K. Deo
(Stores / Accts. Clerk)
Mr. R. S. Jagtap (Cashier)
Miss T. Netto
(Receptionist/Records
Clerk)



Pandora
Poonna.1



Pindole
Poonah

PREFECTS & MONITORS

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THE YEAR IN BRIEF

The School Year began on June 1st. The following were appointed the four senior prefects :- R. Khanna Head Boy, M. Mulla and K. Kundanmal Vice Head Boys, and A. Momin. These boys, along with the remaining Prefects, Monitors, and Assistant Monitors, were commissioned / appointed on June 7th.

I. C. S. E. results : The Opening Assembly of term was made more cheerful by the announcement of the ICSE results, received a few days previously. These were the best results for many years, as readers of last year's Mitre will know, with 39 first divisions (i. e. 60% and over), 36 second divisions, 1 third division and 1 failure. The best result was that of D. Das, with 10 points. So the new academic year began with morale high.

The first rain of the term came on June 15th but the Cantonment area had a light monsoon this year and there were comparatively few further wet days.

Boxing was the first event of the Monsoon term, along with the indoor games of Table Tennis and Badminton. The boxing finals were held on June 23rd, being only slightly interrupted by a light drizzle which entailed some swabbing and sanding of the canvas to prevent its being too slippery. It was nice to have Mr. Aspi Irani again as our Chief Guest. Besides making him work by presenting the prizes, we also got him into the ring to referee some of the bouts: so being chief guest is no sinecure!

The annual display put on by the Army School of Physical Training is always popular with the senior boarders, most of whom went to see it towards the end of June. They returned full of inspiration.

Football is the only outdoor game playable in the monsoon term, and in their first encounter the boys and staff teams drew 1-1. Later in the term Mr. Fletcher arranged for the school team to watch a football team on video. They certainly enjoyed it, but it is doubtful whether it improved their play! The fixtures against St. Peter's, Panchgani, brought the following results :-

Seniors (in Panchgani) drawn 1-1

Juniors (on the M. H. ground) we lost 0-2

Continuing with football, we entered three teams in the inter-school tournament—Juniors (most of our senior eleven), Sub-juniors, and Minis. (The Seniors in the tournament were from Junior Colleges) The Minis did particularly well, reaching the final. They drew against N. M. S. 0-0 in their first meeting, but lost the replay 0-2. The Juniors reached the quarter-final stage, whilst the Sub-juniors won some matches and lost others. Because of the shortage of fields, some of the matches were played at 8 a. m. and 9 a. m. : this was definitely not a good idea as it cut out all spectator-participation.

St. Peter's, Mazagon, sent their football team up here this year as last year we went down there. The match, a very thrilling one, was held on the race course and ended in victory for us 3-2. The next day the Staffs of the two schools organised teams and this game ended in a draw.

Our debaters had a big success in the Inter-school competition, beating the eleven other schools who took part. U. Madan and L. Dhansingani formed our team, the former also having the honour of being adjudged the second best speaker.

With our new school year starting in June, the prize-giving days were fixed for the end of the Monsoon term. To allow time for rehearsals, a "zero" period was introduced from August 1st onwards, at the end of the school working day. One advantage of this late date for the prize-days is that the I. C. S. E. boys can come and receive their prizes on the same occasion instead of having to have a separate one.

Before the Prize-days were reached, Independence Day was celebrated. Feeble though the Poona monsoon was, it chose to pour on August 15th. The Scouts braved the deluge to hoist and break the National Flag, whilst the rest of us had flag presentation and Assembly in Harding Hall. This was followed by the Senior School Elocution finals.

The Prize-days were on Tuesday and Wednesday, August 23rd and 24th. The dress-rehearsals of the Junior and Senior entertainments filled the whole of the preceding Monday morning - and pretty well exhausted everyone!

The Chief Guest for the Junior Prize Day was Air Commodore E. G. Salins, and his wife had the arduous task of distributing the prizes. He wrote "It has been a joy for me and my wife to be with you and participate and witness the activities of the evening. We wish the staff and the students continued success. God bless!" Little did he know of the unusual accident that two hours earlier had befallen the small boy who was to have presented a bouquet or garland: the 4½ year old lad fell into a degchi of tea! The lid was off while the bearers were dipping jugs in to fill the boys' mugs, when two of the smallest boys rushed in and had a squabble over a mug, leading to the splash. Luckily a bearer with quick reactions hauled the boy out within seconds, but he was badly scalded and after first aid rushed to hospital for lengthy and painful treatment. Very fortunately the boy had fallen in sideways and not head first; otherwise this might have been a very tragic accident. As it was, the boy recovered and returned to school the following month, praise be.

The next day was the Senior Prize-giving day with Lt. Gen. T. S. Oberoi as chief guest. After the previous day's experience, we took great precaution to see that no more accidents occurred-whereupon the M. S. E. B. stepped in and produced a major current failure from half-way through the Chief Guest's speech and throughout the majority of the entertainment! This was very sad as General Oberoi's speech was most interesting but inaudible because of the poor acoustics of the hall, and the entertainment was naturally also spoilt, though the Hindi play was more audible than the rest and therefore much enjoyed. The General wrote: "It was a great pleasure

to be with the students and staff and witness this superb function. It spells volumes of the efficiency of the Principal and staff and dedication of students. Everything they displayed was superb." We are most grateful to him for encouraging the performers by staying on right to the end despite the current failure. During the interval in the entertainment, he asked the Principal whether the school had a T. V. set and was told that we have a black and white one. Therefore he said that he would give us a coloured T. V. set, which would be lovely for the boys to watch. I wonder when it will come ?

At the final assembly of the term we were sad to say goodbye to Mr. and Mrs. Fletcher who were leaving to enable him to take up an appointment as Vice-Principal of a school further South. The football players whom he had coached so keenly over the years presented him with a magnificent trophy to express their gratitude. Mr. and Mrs. Smart have joined to take over their teaching assignments.

During the monsoon break we had the sad death on duty of Ranga, the vegetarian cook for the past 30 years or so. Though he had been ill (with kidney trouble) for a long time, his death came suddenly; in fact he had already cooked the evening meal—brinjal pickle—and several boys and staff commented on its delicious taste. He will be greatly missed—may his soul repose in peace.

At about this time, as the kitchen gas-cooking ranges—the "chulas"—were getting in poor condition, they were replaced by new metal ones, a big improvement and easier to keep clean.

The autumn term began with the I. C. S. E. class having their Selection exams, and the idea was to get as much work done as possible throughout the school during September before preparations for Founders and athletics began.

We had two more extra-curricular successes in the middle of the month with the G. K. team coming first out of the ten schools taking part in the Poona Jaycees Competition and the Elocution team coming a close second to St Helena's in the Inter-school competition held at the Poona Club. M. Choudhari came 1st in the Junior section, and in the senior section Rohit Khanna was unfortunate in that one or some of the judges did not think his piece suitable (though the audience thoroughly appreciated it). In future those who organise such competitions should make clear beforehand what the rules and conditions are, to prevent disappointment.

The weekly Scripture Union meetings continue every Wednesday, and boys also enjoy attending the camps at Nasrapur. Mr. Francis took the Junior group there towards the end of September, and the Senior group went with Mr. Pathak and Mr. Singh in February.

The P. T. A., besides arranging the inter-house General Knowledge, also organises occasional lectures. One such was given by Group Captain Trilochan Singh on "Trekking", illustrated with slides, and it was most interesting.

October was as usual the Founder's month, and the zero period was re-introduced for the fortnight or so before Founder's Day to allow nearly an hour's practice each day for the P. T. display and the Thanksgiving Service before the normal class periods, each shortened by five minutes, started. At the Thanksgiving Service in St. Mary's Church on October 26th, there were, as introduced last year, two choir items, one by the boys' choir and one by the staff choir, this latter having about twenty members. The Principal's sermon is printed elsewhere in the magazine. It was altogether a most inspiring service and it is nice that each year the congregation includes an ever-increasing number of old boys and other well-wishers.

The exhibition attracted crowds, both after the service and after the P. T. display. This P. T. display has to be completed in an hour, as it is too hot for the spectators if it starts early and it gets dark quickly after the sun sets. The chief guest was Mr. K. S. Sidhu, Divisional Commissioner, Pune, and he wrote "An excellent P. T. display. A great deal of effort must have been put in to achieve perfect co-ordination and timing. The boys displayed unusual skill at the mat and the horse. The P. T. instructor, the members of staff, and students deserve heartiest congratulations. My good wishes."

The fete had a very special chief guest to open it – the boy who had fallen in the tea in August! In place of a bouquet or garland which he would not have appreciated, he was given an ice-cream which he certainly did enjoy. He then spent his coupons at the typically noisy fete stalls. I have never yet understood why the music played at the request stall has to be so loud as to be distorted, but I gather I am in a small minority in my lack of understanding and appreciation of the noise. The boys were most disappointed that this year St. Mary's school was already closed for their Diwali break and so the usual blue cloud did not descend on the stalls.

Founder's Week is a traditional occasion and few changes ever occur. So the week came to an end with the Cricket matches. The school team drew with the main Old Boys' team, and the staff team lost to another Old Boys' team, but a good time was had by all, and it was nice to have so many old boys present both there and at the other activities of the week.

This is a good opportunity to express once again our grateful thanks to the A. F. M. C. authorities for so willingly lending us their grounds for the Inter-House and Old Boys' and occasional other school matches. We are really fortunate to have their use and much appreciate their generosity.

Before the Diwali break began, there were two or three days of school. During these the exhibition was dismantled, some teaching was done, Athletics heats of field events started, and there was a most interesting afternoon for class 10 organised by Rotaract. In Harding Hall there has long been a framed list of the four Basic Rules of Life, and these boys were given three situations and asked to give their solutions applying these rules. Their eagerness to take part and their intelligent replies came as a pleasant surprise to the Rotaract organisers, who generously gave prizes for the best answers.