

Class of '85

Following the publication of author **Ashwin Sanghi's** heartfelt defence of his erstwhile Cathedral School batch mate, beleaguered, recently ousted Chairman of the Tata Group, **Cyrus Mistry** in a news website this week ("The one defining characteristic of Cyrus was that he always managed to be universally loved."), it was revealed just how significant and noteworthy old school ties can be and how they connect some of the city's leading denizens in a holy bond. The Emmy winning thespian **Kaizaad Kotwal**, another member of the 1985 batch had posted Sanghi's paean to Mistry, drawing our attention to it. Could this trio of successful individuals, each a leader in his own but vastly different field, really have shared chutney sandwiches, football matches at break time and science lab tests together? And what does it mean growing up in such distinguished company? "Over



Ashwin Sanghi and Kaizaad Kotwal and (below) Cyrus Mistry

the past few weeks I read several articles about the Cyrus-RNT spat but none of them spoke about Cyrus as a person. Having been his friend at Cathedral school, I wanted to let people know that Cyrus is a decent human being and that he took up the position at Tata Sons with noble intentions" said Sanghi. Kotwal on his part offered, "When we were in school we really had no idea where we would end up professionally. I suppose the

running of hugely successful empires was in Cyrus' blood, Ashwin, also from a business empire has turned into a globally best-selling author. Had he not taken to writing he would have had global success as the main drummer to any massive group or band, as he used to win every music competition with his rock star talent."

A global tycoon, a best-selling author and an Emmy winner. All articulate, successful and dare we say it, endearingly portly as they approach their mid fifties. Now what was in those chutney sandwiches?

