My student exchange at Southridge School, Canada was a memorable one, filled with mesmerizing and captivating experiences: from free interaction with girls (unlike at Socials!), witnessing the fading sunset of ‘Beautiful’ British Columbia, to jumping into an ice-cold lake (while it was snowing), I will cherish these memories forever. To leave a place which was almost like a home away from home was much harder for me to do than it is to write an account of it. Had I not gone for exchange, I would have never met the people I met, seen the places I had only heard of (from Salil especially) and learnt what I did, which has inculcated in me the importance of respecting and appreciating other cultures. - Aditya Sukhia

During our exchange to the Hutchins School, Australia, we made good friends, many of whom were of different nationalities - Taiwanese, German and Spanish. The staff and the student community were extremely helpful and shared an excellent relationship. On a more personal front, our exchange helped us to become extroverted and gave us the confidence to make new acquaintances. It was definitely an invigorating experience, and we are glad that we got the opportunity of going for exchange. - Aaditya Guptaa and Vishesh Kochher

When I was asked to write about my exchange to Chadwick School, California, I didn’t know where and how to begin, what to describe and what to leave out, so I have done my best to highlight the most amazing two months of my life. I realized, and am still realizing, the value of those two months and what an impact it had on me when it was all over. When my host family came to the airport to see me off, they had tears in their eyes, which (contd. on page 3)


**News-in-Brief**

**WELCOME ABOARD**

Rahul Luther has joined the teaching faculty as an Assistant Master in the Mathematics Department. We wish him a fruitful tenure.

**DEBATING COLOURS**

Saurav Sethia was awarded Debating Colours on May 30, 2008. Congratulations!

**TOY STORY**

Praman Narain has been appointed as the boy-in-charge of the Soft Toy Manufacturing STA.

**RAISING A RACQUET**

The following are the results of the Inter-House Tennis Competition, 2008:

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Well done!

**CHESSMATE**

The following are the results of the Inter-House Chess Competition, 2008:

1. Jaipur
2. K ashmir
3. O beroi
4. Tata
5. Hyderabad

Congratulations!

**Unquotable Quotes**

This class is very worst.

ADN, very best.

King is Singh!

Prashant Bhandari, the real King!

You ducklet!

Abhimanyu Chandra, head duck.
Only two A-Formers don’t have shins.

RSF, straight to the point.
The movie Mangal Pandey is a martyr of 1857.

RSF, now we know why History is fun.
A ll the articulate items in your home are brass.

AKM, we are speechless.
I feel for you, Vi Raj, but you don’t feel me.

AKM, really hurt.
Come back to next.

PKN, on TV!
We can have it on the first month of August.

Vivek Santayana manages time.
I made a hat-trick in bad dusts.

Animesh Gupta, that’s nothing to be proud of.
Bunker Roy is the Secretary General of the odd U.N.

Shauurya Kuthiala, Model Delegate.
Have you seen Kung Fu Pandey?

Shivam Pal’s new blockbuster.
Cristiano will leave Ronaldo.

Bharat Ganju, the soccer specialist.
People who call racists racists are all raising.

Jayant Mukhopadhyay, for the minorities.

**Poetry**

The Tide Goes Back

Kanishka Malik

In the days of autumn, my friend,
Don’t be scared of the fallen leaves,
And of yourself in the mirror, turning,
Similar to the leaves into mud-like colour.
For you must remember,
That is where they belong.

And these leaves feed the ground so more can grow.
You must remember,
That everyone in his time,
Sees the grey season.

Haven’t you seen
In your green times
That the storms always went back?
Because they knew,
That they all had an end.

It’s just that some last longer.
The way the clouds give rain,
And the rain goes back,
In the same way,
We have to return,
To the one,
Who sent us here.

Oh my friend, just remember when you look around,
That everyone you see will always,
Go back to the same place,
Where life is ignited to bring us all here.
That you are not the only one.

And remember that even the tide goes back,
To where it came from,
For it also must let these sands,
Be the rulers for a while.

**LETTER TO THE EDITOR**

This is an extract from the Guardian newspaper article entitled ‘50 People Who Could Save the Planet’:

Bunker Roy, Educationist

Bunker Roy, 62, set up the Barefoot College in India, the only school known to be open only to people without any formal education. Roy’s idea is that India and Africa are full of people with skills, traditional knowledge and practical resourcefulness, who are not recognised as engineers, architects or water experts but who can bring more to communities than governments or big businesses. The college trains the poor to combine local knowledge with new green technologies: 15,000 people have learnt to become ‘barefoot’ water and solar engineers, architects and teachers.

Bunker (ex 125-J ‘62) was a sportsman of note at School and was national squash champion, representing India in the game. A stint in Bihar during his college days during a severe drought changed his future. He founded the NGO SWRC at Tilonia in the Ajmer District and also the Barefoot College. I thought this could be publicised through your paper as an example to other Doscos that there is room in this world for thinking out of the box.

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Saurav Sethia was awarded Debating Colours on May 30, 2008. Congratulations!
We started off feeling rather nervous, having absolutely no idea about what lay ahead of us in the approaching two months. However, it turned out that we made great friends at Wanganui College, New Zealand. The Inter-House music competition saw Chandra drumming for the House, and me singing the song ‘Twist and Shout’ by the Beatles. The bungee-jumping was another amazing experience. For us, it was a blend of fun, exposure to cultures, and delightful moments at the music school, the sports field and the golf course. It was a great opportunity for us to experience travelling alone and to make lifelong friends.

Jai Sharma and Vedant Chandra

Exchange is undoubtedly one of the highlights in a Dosco’s life. I had only heard about such memorable times from others, but when I myself got a chance to go for exchange, experiencing it first-hand was naturally very different. Be it parties, hockey, classes, sightseeing, learning new customs, sports, making friends, bumping into Gary Kirsten on my flight or even just spending a few moments doing nothing but chatting. I enjoyed it all and these memories of Bridgehouse School, South Africa, will linger in my mind forever.

Aruj Shukla

During my exchange, I tried my hand at nearly everything, ranging from rappelling down a 120 feet cliff to trying my hand at poker (even though I wasn’t good at it!). I even got the chance to watch a cricket match featuring some greats such as Andy Bichel and Darren Lehmann. I didn’t realize how quickly time passed, as it was filled with fun and memorable experiences. When it was time for me to say goodbye to everyone, I couldn’t believe it. Overall, the entire experience of exchange at St. Philip’s College, Australia was amazing and I really had the time of my life.

Tushar Aggarwal

Surprised me as I did not realize how close I had become to them over the two most amazing months of my life. I never felt out of place when I was there; in fact I always felt that I was a part of their family. I had the most wonderful time of my life, which I will never forget. The best part of the exchange was the lifelong friends I made, who plan to visit me next summer.

Arjun Kapur

Opinion Poll

Do you think that the average Dosco is content with mediocrity?

Yes 55%

No 45%

(248 members of the community were polled)

Next Week’s Question: In the wake of recent events, do you think that our parliamentarians are a disgrace to democracy?

Yes 55%

No 45%

Hidden below are the names of eleven famous poets

Wordsearch

The Who

Who is Enid Blyton?

A strolloger - Yash Malhotra
An astronomer - Shrestha Verma
An actress - Udit Kapur
A soccer player - Mohit Gupta
A writer - Sumaer Sandhu
A musician - Sambhav Sethia
She was possibly the most prolific and popular author of children’s stories, ever.
Who’s Fooling Who?

Two viewpoints have been triggered by Dwaipayan Banerjee’s article ‘Stop Fooling Yourself’ (last printed in Issue no. 2188)

Vishnukaant Pitty

The Dosco of today is often perceived by society as a conceited and overconfident individual possessing an unassailable air of haughtiness. The truth is that people who so readily try to pass judgement on the mettle of Doscos with such intense scrutiny, often fail to grasp the underlying nature of Doscos.

One thing that a Dosco is generally accused of (and wrongly so!), is of being rather arrogant and snobbish. Quite contrary to this, in school, Doscos are taught to treat each other as equals, whether it be through the common pocket money, or because we all live together in a small community. Because such a sense of equality is instilled into every Dosco through this system, a sort of contempt for the snobs in society creeps into his mind. However, on realizing that the rest of the world is not quite like the campus that he was brought up in - that, unfortunately, the world (rather than the Doon community itself) is fraught with ‘snobs’ flaunting the wealth of their parents, Doscos tend to withdraw into their shells, unwilling to have anything to do with ‘such people’. This behaviour is the very same attitude that the society interprets as the characteristic arrogance of the Dosco.

Further, the pretence of high-handedness that a Dosco is perceived to display to the world outside is not only a defensive ‘shield’ developed by the Dosco, but is also his faith in himself, even though it be at the cost of ignoring all others. It is this faith that defines Doscos, or for that matter, many successful men. One doesn’t always need to flow with the tide and revel in mediocrity to be a part of society. Thinking differently and separating oneself from the mainstream doesn’t mean that one harbours contempt for the rest of the world.

The much-hated show of superiority of Doscos is but a display of confidence, which is often misconstrued and disliked by society. Even if this is, in essence, a misplaced confidence in one’s abilities, it forms an essential part of one’s character, ensuring that at any point in life, a Dosco never loses heart, never doubts his goals or his ability to achieve them. This is one of the reasons why the school, in its vast curriculum, includes a varied credit system for the boys. In these assorted activities that the school offers, almost every Dosco has something that he can aim for, some stimulus to spur him on to work, and continue achieving during his stay at Doon. The aim of this system is definitely not to instil in the Dosco a false sense of satisfaction at reaching minor, intra-school goals, but rather to imbibe the capability to aspire for a dream and then follow it.

Society interprets actions in its own way - often misconstrues them; but it is in the hands of the individual to sieve truth from the false perception - to implement that which is necessary, and no more. Adapting to the whims of society at every step, though a tempting option at the many crossroads they have to stand at, is not necessarily the most viable one.

Revant Nayar

In the article ‘Stop Fooling Yourself’ featured in the front page of last term’s Golden Night issue (reprinted from the Week, 2000), Dwaipayan Banerjee has boldly declared the Dosco of his time to be mediocre, arrogant, and unaware of what goes on in the outside world. I would like to approach the topic more cautiously, and add my own views to it. These are some of my own observations and interpretations of the modern Dosco, and how he is evolving. They are not necessarily true, but I hope they will provide some food for thought.

I would like, first, to compare the present Dosco to the majority of teenagers of the same age group in various schools all over India. Modern-day luxuries available to those teenagers are not provided to him. Whether he admits it or not, it is perceptible that the elution he experiences or the respect he receives on lifting a sports cup or winning a prize in any event is generally unrivalled by that in any other occurrence. Meanwhile, the respect his peers outside receive is determined by how ‘cool’ they are. The Dosco spends much more time pursuing achievements than others.

The various skills and activities that are systematically and professionally taught to students in most day schools are learnt by the Dosco through trial and error, his intuition, or even from others. The school offers highly intense competition in almost all spheres, and the Dosco engages himself fully in that. The question that presents itself is: is the Dosco getting the actual point behind all this?

One now notices lines of Doscos ‘trying out’ for various activities, all of them hopeful for a flash of luck at the vital moment to bring them victory. This desire to participate is not negative, but it is the attitude and the motive behind participating which is disheartening. The only apparent motive is to be the victor, and by being so, to win the admiration of his peers and also his seniors, in a place where ‘studliness’ increasingly determines one’s status in school.

The disturbing fact of the matter is that most Doscos only pursue sports, and out of these, few are even moderately skilful. Intense competition to ‘manage’ various teams at the house level results in the decline of real aptitude. Many of these inter-house matches become a test of the players’ aggression and josh, rather than skill, proficiency, and most importantly, the proper spirit of the game. Seniors have shown harsh behaviour when it comes to losing matches. Under the illusion that pressurizing their juniors will improve their performance, they have undermined the sportsman’s spirit in the community. Very few Doscos actually involve themselves in scholarly pursuits. Creative writing, debating, quizzes and other intellectual activities are looked upon as trivial, and meant for a minority of the students who are intellectually inclined. The silver lining is that ‘scholars’ are no longer ridiculed and discouraged, but are slowly being given their due by the community, unlike earlier.

4. The Doon School Weekly Saturday, July 26
5. The Doon School Weekly Saturday, July 26

चाट्र विद्विषाय: एक विचार

मेरे भाषा में है कि छात्र-विविषाय का मैं एक महत्वपूर्ण उद्योग है सार्थकता के आदर-प्रदान। यह आदर-प्रदान कई भाषाओं में है संभव है। तरीक़ा, भीमा, बाल के तरीक़े आते हैं। कुछ स्थानों में है सार्थकता का है। आदर-प्रदान किसी के लिए आदर-प्रदान करता है। वह आदर-प्रदान का लिए आदर-प्रदान करता है। उसके लिए आदर-प्रदान का है। उसके लिए आदर-प्रदान का है।

चाट्र-बाल की तरह वह तो तो वह आदर

(कलात्मक लोक)

विचार शाखा

तक्षाल नामक

रेलवे भारत

शहीद की सही बात कर भी थी। भारत से करे अपने की बात कर भी थी। वह आदर-प्रदान करता है। उसके लिए आदर-प्रदान का है। आदर-प्रदान करता है। उसके लिए आदर-प्रदान का है। उसके लिए आदर-प्रदान का है।

मनोवात यह कि वह हो पंजीयन पर था और उसके पंजीयन में अंग्रेजी की आ। भी थी। यहीं एक वह रोजी और में देखा और देखा और देखा। वह आदर-प्रदान करता है। इतना आदर-प्रदान करता है। इतना आदर-प्रदान करता है। इतना आदर-प्रदान करता है।

चाट्र विद्विषाय: एक विचार

नेहरू स्कूल की संस्कृति का एक पुतला और महात्मा गांधी चार है। आदर-प्रदान के आदर-प्रदान के पाठ विचार की सार्थकता की असुरक्षा कहते हैं। भाषा में कर कह इसे से साहित्य की शक्ति आ जाती है। छात्र कुंवार-बाल की बात कर रहे हैं। आदर की बाल-बाल लेने के द्विविध के लिए आदर-प्रदान का एक लिख दिया गया है।
Viewpoint

A LIBERAL ARTS EDUCATION

Deep Singh

This article aims to substantiate the growing acceptability and importance of a liberal arts college in providing a broad-based college education. As The Doon School's fabric is woven within the ideals and traditions of the liberal arts philosophy, it is all the more important for students here to continue their education within such a framework after school, before narrowing their career choices and joining a specialized trade or profession. A liberal arts college, broadly speaking, is one with an educational structure that makes it mandatory for all students, despite their choice of major, to complete a stipulated number of classes from a variety of disciplines, resulting in the conferral of a degree.

The objective of a liberal arts education lies in acknowledging a symbiotic relationship between different fields without seeking to stratify branches of knowledge as completely separate in scope and extent. Historically, which is of pivotal importance in class instruction regardless of the subject, corroborates subject analysis from a uniform vantage point; consequentially dispelling doubts about the practical usage of informational sources while providing students with a sequential perspective. This pedagogical technique is additional to the understanding of bare concepts comprised within a field of knowledge.

Securing admission into a liberal arts college is contingent on the holistic assessment of student achievements across fields such as debating, dramatics, sports, music, art, publications and other extra-curricular activities contributing to the formation of a well-rounded individual. The students of The Doon School have immense opportunity for self-expression and development as all the aforementioned activities occupy an exalted and pivotal role in this institution. Academic achievements will of course take preponderence over other credentials, nonetheless an all-round ability enables a student to differentiate himself/herself from amongst a vast pool of candidates applying with comparable grades. All-round excellence across various endeavours has for years received due recognition at The Doon School since the institution of the General Proficiency Cup; awarded to the most suitable candidate within the junior and senior categories on an annual basis.

Summarily, a liberal arts education purports to holistically empower an individual's ability to arrive at tenable conclusions through deep introspection. This mechanism of empowerment manifests in an individual's ability to temperately accept the myriad viewpoints even though individual concurrence may be unachievable. Conclusively, educational training to see subjects from different frames of references evokes an insatiable hunger to constantly learn; contributing to the well-being of those who are yet to join us in this journey of life.

FedEx, Up Close

Yash Malhotra on a close encounter

Wimbledon is often considered the showpiece of the best tennis of the world, and this year, with Roger Federer trying to become the first-ever player to win six consecutive Wimbledon titles, the whole world was watching even more intently. Apart from that, Rafael Nadal had recently just won in Queens Club as well as at Roland Garros, and many people wanted to see Nadal putting up a good fight.

On the twenty-third of June, I was in London: a dream come true for any tennis-lover; for it was so close to the day that Wimbledon began. I just had to go! I pleaded with my father, and eventually, he agreed to take me. I was overly excited and could not sleep that night.

So, the next day, I got up at four and set off for Wimbledon with my dad and my sister. We stood in the queue for around seven hours but it was all worth it.

While I was crossing the courts, I caught a glimpse of some of the best players in the world. Then I peeped through the grill and saw none other than Roger Federer! I just could not believe it! I rushed towards the entrance of the court, and it was like a dream come true. I mean, Federer, who, for years, I've only seen on television, was hardly ten feet away from me! He was practising with someone else. He was very tall, well built and handsome which was just like the way he looks on TV.

After practising, while he was coming towards where I was standing, I begged him for his autograph and a picture. He smilingly came up and gave me his autograph which was just like the way he looks on TV.

After practising, while he was coming towards where I was standing, I begged him for his autograph and a picture with him. He happily came up and gave me his autograph and also posed patiently for a picture. I feel like I am the luckiest person in the world! Who gets a chance to meet his idol? I guess I am one of the fortunate few.