On March 5, 2012, a viral video was released on YouTube by an organization called ‘Invisible Children’. The video, titled ‘Kony 2012’ aims to bring to the forefront atrocities committed in Uganda by Joseph Kony and the fate suffered by thousands of Ugandan children who were directly affected by the conditions in their country. To give a bit of a backdrop, Joseph Kony is a Ugandan warlord who had been leading a rebel group called the ‘Lord’s Resistance Army’, or simply the LRA. And the sole purpose of the LRA, since its inception has been to ‘purify’ the population of Uganda and turn it into a theocracy ruled by Kony himself, using his very own Ten Commandments. The LRA is a pseudo Christian group that believes in extreme religious ideology, notorious for carrying out atrocities against the civilian population.

‘Invisible Children’ on the other hand is a non-profit organization that was founded by a few college students (Jason Russell being the founder) who travelled to Uganda to make a film on the crimes carried out by the LRA; which seems noble enough. However, a few issues have surfaced which forces one to ask a few questions of the organization itself. Firstly, since ‘Invisible Children’ is a non-profit organization, one is a bit surprised when sources place the combined salary of the organizations’ three founders and co-founders around $750,000. Along with that is the phenomenal expenditure that the organization is able to incur on transportation and equipment costs, which sources place around $550,000. The government decided to be a patron to the organization by portraying Kony as the bane of Uganda’s existence, ‘Invisible Children’ gave itself the permission to travel to Uganda and make movies about an issue which has already been replaced by other, more pressing issues facing the country. In the process, and almost incidentally, the organization has amassed a great deal of funds with which to carry out their movie making ventures. And to make sure that they don’t come across as a typical American enterprise, one that is out there to exploit others and promote itself, the organization does indulge in constructing a school or two in the country and distributing clothes bought from the loose change that they seem to carry around. So where is all this money coming from? Is it the government? But how can the government spare so much money when it is struggling with a 16 trillion dollar debt? And if it can, then the motives behind making a film on the conditions in Uganda seem to go beyond just ethical or humanitarian. And is it just a coincidence that new oil reserves have been discovered in the country recently?

One asks – are there not bigger problems facing Uganda for one to spend so much time and energy in capturing a fugitive warlord? There is a new-found mentality which seems to be telling people around the world that the road to success and prosperity starts by killing the bad guy. By that logic, countries like Egypt, Libya, Afghanistan and Iraq should either have been fixed by now, or nearly there. All their powers-in-be have been done away with, and in majority cases, with the same degree of violence that characterized their regimes. In reality, what do we see in these countries? Egypt is nowhere close to being fixed, Syria is a dump, Afghanistan is still at war, and Iraq is a bigger dump. This should tell the Ugandan authorities that there are better ways of improving conditions than to let American organizations come and make movies and try and capture a guy who has been missing for a while (did killing Osama do anything to the conditions in Afghanistan?).

Does Kony deserve to be punished? Of course. He is responsible for the abduction of around 30,000 children, all of whom found themselves fighting wars they did not understand. But the cost of bringing him to justice cannot come at the expense of more positive actions that the country desperately needs to take. Not surprisingly, when I was reading about the plight of the Ugandan children, I could not help but think of the hundreds of children in India who go missing everyday. Most of them are never seen again. Worse cases of sex slavery come to the forefront. Thousands of children are mutilated everyday and left on the streets to beg. And we, as the socially aware citizens of the country, do not do anything. Our government, being equally ignorant is probably waiting for another American NGO to come and make a film on the issues plaguing our country. We have time to follow news on facebook, but we have no time to devote to more pressing issues. Sure. Go ahead and kill the Kony’s of the world, but do look closer to home, and help those who need help the most.
APPOINTMENT
Mahak Sharma has been appointed Girl-in-Charge of the cycling STA. We wish her a fruitful tenure!

SHOOTING HOOPS
In a basketball match played against The Asian School, The School Basketball Team won the match 57-46. Well done!

GOMBAR 2012
The following are the results of the Gombar Speech Trophy Contest held on 20 March, 2012.

Seniors:
Winner: Aditya Vikram Gupta
Runner up: Shashvat Dhandhania

Juniors:
Winner: Smayan Sahni
Runner up: Yash Dhandhania

Congratulations!

IH RESULTS
The following are the results of the Inter-House Hindi Debating Competition:

J vs K
Best Speaker: Ritesh Shinde
Most Promising Speaker: Abhinav Kejriwal
Winner: Jaipur

T vs O
Best Speaker: Sanat Kumar Thakur
Most Promising Speaker: Aviral Gupta
Winner: Tata

Congratulations!

MUN LAURELS
Most Outstanding Delegate Prizes were awarded to Ishan Sandhu and Prabnur Singh Bal at the Harvard MUN China, 2012. A report runs in the forthcoming issue.

The WHO?
Who is Kim Jong-un?
A dancer- Aashim Bansal
A Burmese politician- Avik Gugalia
A panda- Samarjit Singh
A fashion barber- Isham Chowdhury
A doctor- Digvijay Gupta
A magician- Aditya Maheshwari
A soccer player- Parth Aggarwal
A chinese gangster- Nakul Talwar
A master of karate- Ruhaan Dev Tyagi
A business tycoon- Rishav Raj Das

He is the new Supreme Leader of North Korea

Opinion Poll
Should the number of awards given during the Prize Giving Ceremony be reduced?

Next Week’s Question: Are you looking forward to mid-term?

(392 members of the School community were polled)

doontoon Abhishek Pai

Still afraid of girls?
Whose Article Is It Anyway?

Dear Weekly,

This is apropos the piece titled “The Week Gone By” that was carried in issue no. 2307, March 17. One was disturbed at the following lines: “In the Art School, another one of the exhibitions is now on display. Considering the frequency of these exhibitions, it was not surprising to see a fellow master inaugurate the event. A ‘Raku’ workshop was also conducted in which the attendance of masters was far superior to that of the boys.” The italics are mine, of course. Such a casual comment leveled at a School event might be outside the purview of news reporting, especially in an article that carries no author’s name! Was the author being critical of frequent Art Exhibitions? Was he also laughing at the “fellow-master?” (How a student can use the term “fellow-master” eludes me.) Was the author casting aspersion at the Raku workshop itself, which by the way had a very famous ceramic artist as its resource person? And pray what is the statistical back-up to the reportage on the attendance of this workshop? The Board of the Weekly might wish to look up the Code of Journalistic Ethics that is the part of the School Code. I quote from the same: “Pursuit of news is not a license for judgmental commentary”. (Emphasis mine)

May I request the Weekly to spare us such unpalatable humour in future? Articles without authorship are suspect, in any case. I remember that even “The Raving Eye” series used to be ascribed to the Chief Editor. Do keep us laughing, by all means, but do not feel free to play judge, jury and hangman from the lofty perch of the Weekly.

I remain your loyal friend and reader.

Warmly,
Priyanka Bhattacharyya

Meeting Social Responsibilities

I write in response to last week’s article on Social service. The article disagreed with the school’s policy of stipulating the mandatory 5 hours for service outside school walls and criticized the keeping of diaries and counting hours, as well as asked the question whether the school had wandered away from the original idea of service as was in practice. It also decries the use of social service hours for college CV’s, awards and other forms of recognition. The writer also speaks disparagingly of the publicity that some boys get from their other activity but the ‘big three’ mentioned earlier. The trouble is that in the past only a few boys were seriously involved in this activity whilst the rest rode on their backs and spoke about social service in school at cocktail parties.

I really do not understand why all this fuss over mandatory hours for social service when CAS, IAP and LAMDA, TRINITY etc also demand keeping records of work done and hours put in. The authorities have chosen 5 hours, per term for social service outside the walls which is equivalent to two days of sport, one day of academic work, three days of toye time and about half a Sunday outing, two Saturday movies and a weekend of Facebook activity.

While we continue to demand 15 hours of SUPW (government requirement) in school what we are asking for is 5 hours of looking beyond ourselves. Doscos are often criticized for being insular and not realizing that there is a world that exists outside the walls which is what social service is trying to redress. I agree, charity begins at home which is why we ask 15 hours for home and 5 for the world outside. The point that not much is being done for those within Chandbagh was a good one, but the SUPW’s should create new in-house initiatives and charities to help the less privileged in the Doon family. No one has thought of anything to replace Adult Education once the support staff was relocated outside school. Have the authorities ever denied new initiatives which boys often come forward with. Most companies have to be conscious of their social responsibility and the school is no different. We need to project ourselves to the community outside as being a responsible institution, just as demands for smarter blazers for foreign trips by our boy delegates is not a wrong thing. So I fail to fathom the jibe about image and publicity.

How many boys really do anything in the name of selfless service? All we do is for some gain, be it colours, awards, college admissions, cups and for having names on boards and what is wrong with that? We introduced colours for quiz, art, music, chess, debating and pins for the reading awards (soon the demand for drama and mountaineering colours will be made); does this mean that boys indulge in these activities only because of these incentives? Not all I hope! So why must labouring without seeking any reward only apply to social service and not to a plethora of other activities?

I tried hard to understand the second paragraph but failed. How is the school moving away from the original service model? The boys of Doon have always served the school society (generator squad, chair squad, IV, addressing the Weekly, stage committee etc) but names like Tanwala, Rampurmandi and SAMTA were also common mid term locations for service projects. What we have now is a natural outgrowth of what Foot, Martyn and other stalwarts started and these should grow in scope and variety if a dynamic and exciting social service programme is to be sustained. After all, the Bindal slum did not exist in the 30’s and 40’s and ever since Dehradun became a state capital the slums and the number of needy only increased.

When the school wanted boys to read more it introduced the reading awards and made reading a number of books a mandatory requirement for getting a Scholars Blazer. When the school wanted to discontinue inter house boxing the boys were up in arms all they wanted was that point which would accrue from an inter House competition. Why I ask, do boys mention sport, debating, art, music and other perfectly valuable and honourable activities in their college CV’s? Because they have been done (sometimes compulsorily), then why might I ask, should boys not do social service if only to be able to mention this on a CV? Yes it is in the nature of the modern youth to do things for gain and doing social service is just another activity. Somehow I get the feeling that the writer believes that social service must be voluntary and optional in order to be noble, no need for hours, diaries and records. I ask, would all DOSCOS do mid term treks or STA or sport or even come to all meals if these were not made compulsory? Sometimes activities need to be mandated before it makes meaning for some, and then if these are jettisoned later, at least

(contin, on page 4)
**RAKU!**

The Doon School Weekly interviewed Sandeep Mancherakar, an expert on the Raku style of art. works from his studio in Goregaon, Mumbai. The following are excerpts.

The Doon School Weekly (DSW): What is your specialization in the field of art?

Sandeep Mancherakar (SDM): I specialize in the field of ceramics. I have worked on a large scale mural assignment for the Kuwait port authority of the Middle East. Apart from that, I have also worked on numerous mural projects in renowned schools like Indian High School, Dubai.

**DSW**: When did you first think of art as a career?

**SDM**: Ceramics has been my passion since childhood. The ambition of becoming an artist was what made me work hard. Having chosen my passion as my career, it never really seemed like work, which is the primary reason for my achievement in the field.

**DSW**: For the benefit of our readers, could you tell us what Raku is?

**SDM**: Raku in Japanese refers to enjoyment. One can say it is the Japanese method of quick firing clay. This technique was brought about by the Zen Buddhists. This technique is used to create the apparatus for the traditional Japanese tea ceremony. The Buddhist promoted this traditional method to make clay utensils and murals.

**RAKU!**

The Week Gone By...

With the ICSE and ISC Examinations almost at an end, we have seen a sense of relief for all those who sat for the examinations this year. The Sc Formers are more ecstatic as they will finally be getting their rooms! Even though this week did not witness any grand event, School seems to have kept both masters and boys busy in some way or the other. The Headmaster's Office, in his absence, saw an unexpected guest—wild hen! We hope the Headmaster did not have to take care of it!

The A-Form went on their tutorial night-out last weekend as a training camp for their private midterms, which have restarted only for the second term. However, it did not go well for them, including staying hungry and trekking at night, leave alone the per head spending this to the annual expenditure of Rs 14000 for pocket money, for the year works out to about Rs 1000 per boy. Compare to the domestic.

As for the number of new projects started, this was in order to give boys a variety of activities, different locations, and the chance of finding something to their liking and interest. Some may like teaching at slum schools, others may prefer building toilets. While some prefer dealing with the problem of drugs and the oppression of women, or the girl child issue, others might prefer working in night shelters and feeding the malnourished. There is work with the differently abled at Raphael, the organic farms at Badholi, microfinance at Rajpur Road and working with animals, both endangered and domestic.

As for the question of funding, the social service budget for the year works out to about Rs 1000 per boy. Compare this to the annual expenditure of Rs 14000 for pocket money, 2600 for House feasts, not to mention the per head spending at the malls and movie halls, fast food joint, club fees and designer clothes that young people are used to doing these days. I estimate all this would be in excess of 50,000 annually.

I rest my case. Thanking you,

Philip Burrett

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4. The Doon School Weekly Saturday, March 24
Just be awesome and full of life
coz these 5 years ain't coming back !!!

These are 6 years where you can learn more from failure than from success.

My school
My wife
It's been six years, and I'm still tripping
And I walk out the same gates...

Keep hoping and keep smiling!

After 6 years in school, Never say that you could've done it because you didn't do it
No regrets

It would be wrong to say that DIGN was a cancer in me and always will be a part of me !!!

--Rafa Chandra

(Ex. 498/14)
A vicious thunderous path that led me to self-discovery.

Doon has provided me with a number of unforgettable memories, countless friends, and above all, it has helped me become what I am.

Doon is a symphony that will carry on with me for the rest of my life.

I started simply as 430-J, but Doon has metamorphosed that into much more.

Doon: A strange night, when an after-the-late and then found his way. But ultimately, came out on top and firmly enough wants to go back in!

School is like a time machine. It takes us from sophistication nearly to adolescence.

It was something else.

The greatest 6 years ever!!
Life at Doon was about crying as a boy, jumping with joy, learning trends, making amends, and above all having the best friends.

Life at Doon is like
- Sunday & Monday

Shourya Sinha
Ex-458-K

Life at Doon was Hot and it seriously taught me one thing:

"It's not the way to win, but the will to persist for the difference." - H.A.M. Utkarsh Uggare

The best I Ever Had:
Ex-479 K.H. 2012

Life in Doon?
It was like a Royal Story
I made it large!

Bathika
(600 KH, 12)

Doon was like a Bollywood Saga, I laughed, cried, made friends, danced. But oh in all it was worth remembering.

If we meet again we shall smile, if not, make stepping stones out of stumbling blocks.

Maheshwary
(456 - K)
Ex-550 D K

VP
(12)

The best memories!
All my life in school, I've never let my... and what's an education... I'm running in the sand. It's just the beginning... I'm not the beginning... F-82B... F-82B... F-82B... F-82B...