Each renowned institution in the world has its own ethos. Although they bear an obvious resemblance to each other in their fundamental objectives, the ethos derive their uniqueness from the demographics, histories and the mission of the respective schools. Doon's ethos is highly influenced by the lofty principle of austerity; in fact, many cite this austerity as the reason why Doon continues to meet its glorious vision. However, that is not wholly true, and this article will show how schools with different systems continue to accomplish the same objectives as ours. The particular system that I am referring to in this article, lies in the city of Cape Town; a system that I had the privilege to be a part of under the Exchange programme.

Bishops Diocesan College was founded in 1849 by Robert Gray, the Bishop of Cape Town who was educated at Eton and Oxford. Therefore, much of the founding stones of Bishops are of British origins, a denominator that unites our own School with Bishops. However, it is within these “British” schooling parameters, along with a few other broad parameters, that the differences between Doon and Bishops appear to be notable. These differences are visible in the senior-junior relationship, different perspectives on what constitutes holistic education, and the degree of independence enjoyed by the students. Initially the senior-junior relationship in Bishops appeared highly different from the hierarchy established in our own school. The concept of juniors adhering to seniors’ authority is as prevalent there as it is within our own walls. However, there is no punitive mechanism that enforces this concept. Instead, as I observed, the senior-junior hierarchal structure is an accepted norm at Bishops. Their juniors have full faith in the belief that hierarchy is the natural order of any institution, while seniors, on their part, have sufficient knowledge of their own roles in this relationship. In this bilateral relationship, the masters understand their own role of placing their faith in the seniors’ leadership. I feel it is the confidence of the masters in this relationship that has allowed the latter to flourish; unfortunately, we don’t always see the same level of confidence in our own School.

The concept of holistic education in Bishops also stands in sharp contrast to our own, at Doon. At Bishops, sporting activities constitute a major part of a holistic education and personal development, if not the very kernel. As I was told there, sports was a medium for teenagers to release their energies. For this reason, a heavy investment, by both the School on a collective level, and the boys at an individual level, is made in sporting pursuits, sometimes even at the expense of other activities. However, the same is not true for us- at least I don’t feel it is anymore. The desire to enrol in an Ivy-League occupies the mind of almost every Dosco today. What this has directly resulted in, is that boys only pursue activities that bolster their resume, which in turn, has engendered a dismissive and negligent attitude for activities like sports, especially when put in perspective to what sports meant earlier. Therefore, in Doon today, students’ focus has shifted from holistic education to a resume-oriented one.

The most obvious contrast between Doon and Bishops is the independence that Bishops bestows on its own students, as opposed to the limited independence that Doscos enjoy. Over weekends, boys are allowed to go for planned excursions with their own families, or by themselves. Mobile phones are allowed at all times. Generally too, boys are allowed to reserve more independence for self-directed activities. More importantly, boys at Bishops (and other exchange schools) seem to treat this independence as a granted right. On hearing my stories of early morning PTs and strict frisking on entry points to School, they couldn’t be more astonished.

(Continued on Page 3)
NET GAIN
The School participated in the All India IPSC Boys Badminton Tournament at Pestle Weed School. The team comprising Krish Aggarwal, Mayank Kukreti, Sparsh Garg, Vansh Gupta and Nishiketh Gupta emerged as the runners-up in the under-17 Team category. In the under-17 Individual category, Mayank Kukreti reached the Semi-finals and won a bronze medal while Krish Aggarwal bagged the gold medal. Krish Aggarwal and Mayank Kukreti have been selected for SGFI nationals.

Kudos!

CLEAN SWEEP
The School participated in the Manorite Table Tennis Champions held at St. George’s College, Mussoorie. In the under-19 Singles category, Shyamal Singhal was declared the winner while Harshvardhan was the runner-up. In Under-14 Singles category, Arjun Vaish, was declared the winner while Arnav Malhotra came runner-up. In the Open Doubles category Anuman Goel and Shyamal Singhal stood runner-up. The School stood Overall Champion.

Congratulations!

OBITUARY
Dev Lahiri was a House Master of Hyderabad House, and later went on to become the Headmaster of Lawrence School, Lovedale. Mr. Lahiri retired after working with Welham Boys’ School in the capacity of Headmaster,

In the late hours of this past Thursday, Mr. Lahiri passed away. On behalf of the entire Chandbagh Community, we offer our condolences to his family for their incredible loss.

“Nobody ever drowned in their own sweat.”

— Ann Landers

WAVES OF SUCCESS
The School participated in the 3rd Sanawar Invitational Inter-School Swimming Competition, 2018. The following are the results:

In the Under-14 category, Aryan Prakash won a gold medal in the 50m Breaststroke and 100m freestyle. He also won a silver medal in the 100m Breaststroke and 200m Individual Medley. Neil Bulchandani won a bronze in the 50m Backstroke. Vinamra Agarwal won a silver in the 50m and 100m Butterfly. The Relay Team comprising Aryan Prakash, Neil Bulchandani, Vinamra Agarwal and Eainth Habibullah secured a silver medal.

In the under-17 category, Jayaditya Dhaiya won a Gold Medal in 100m Breaststroke, a silver in the 50m Breaststroke and a bronze in the 200m Individual Medley event. Shaan Bulchandani won a silver medal in 50m Freestyle and a bronze medal in 100m Freestyle. Balraam Suri won a silver medal in the 100m Butterfly and bronze in the 50m butterfly event. The team comprising Shaan, Jayaditya, Balraam Suri and Krish Aggarwal won the silver medal in both the 4x100m Freestyle Relay and 4x50m Medley Relay.

Well Done!

Around the World in 80 Words
Former United Nations Secretary General, Kofi Annan died at the age of 80. The United States of America imposed import tariffs worth $16 billion on Chinese goods. Australian Prime Minister Malcolm Turnbull narrowly won a leadership vote on Tuesday against former Home Affairs Minister Peter Dutton. The Kerala Government began massive cleanup as floods and rain started to subside. The Indian Hockey Team beat Hong Kong 26-0 in the Asian Games. Donald Trump’s former attorney Michael Cohen pleaded guilty of felonies.
UNDER THE SCANNER

Kerala Floods | Sriman Goel

About a fortnight ago, torrential monsoon rains poured down upon Kerala, filling the state's 42 dams to full capacity. The downpours of the entire four-month season funnelled down the time of just two months to transform Kerala into a wasted wetland. Since the beginning of this month, the floods have resulted in the deaths of 400 and almost a million displaced people.

The flooding hazard has been categorised as a ‘Disaster of Serious Nature’ and a ‘catastrophe’ by the Central Government as numerous SOS alerts have been surfacing in the panic-stricken state. According to the Chairman of the Western Ghats Environmental Research Commission, Madhav Gadgil, the state government could have easily prevented this “man-made calamity” with a simple environment-conscious policy. The principal cause of the floods was the sudden overflowing of Kerala’s dams and the continuous rainfall. This could have been averted by state authorities if dam operators had begun to gradually release water in advance instead of waiting for the dams to be filled up. The dams were opened only after floods began, further worsening the situation and adding to the deluge faced by low-lying regions. Thirty five of the 42 dams in Kerala were opened for the first time in history, with all 14 regions of the state being put on high alert.

Donations from all over India have flowed into Kerala, including large sums of financial aid from individuals and state governments alike. The UAE also offered financial assistance of 700 crore rupees for Kerala’s relief fund. Doctors have flown in from Maharashtra on Air Force crafts, leaders and officials have pledged to forego money worth months of their salaries, volunteer teams have rescued hundreds on inflatable boats and about 4000 relief camps have been set up to aid the affected citizens of Kerala. The quick response by all sections of the nation have united and brought more than 30,000 victims of the flood to safety.

As the water level in the state begins to subside and the Cochin airport moves back on track after runway flooding, the government is now focusing on the major rehabilitation projects for nearly a million displaced people. These people are now moving back to their homes, with reconstruction and safety work being carried out by NGOs as well as the Kerala government. The destruction caused by the 2018 Kerala floods was not unlike the great flood of 1924 in the same regions and memories of the catastrophe resurfaced this month. Kerala has faced two of the worst natural calamities in the last century. We can only pray that there is not a third one.
Doon truly is a remarkable place! It’s a place where people meet as absolute strangers, evolve into being colleagues and before you know it, they are your family. Mona, for our whole family, went from being any other colleague to a didi for Asmi and me, and bua for my daughter.

The first time I met her, however, was just like a Dosco: while I was in search of food. Looking for a place to have dinner after a movie one Diwali night, so a colleague (who knew her well) and I landed up at her house – which was then outside school- to wish her ‘Happy Diwali’, though my eyes were on the food all the while!

However, I quickly realized that she was somebody for whom relationships were the most important thing. Strangely enough, though most people like to have the upper hand in a relationship, she allows herself to take the backseat and surrender some of her freedom to another. One night, while I was unwell and staying at her house, we began talking, and I was loud! It so happened that her son Shiven had an exam the next day and was studying in the adjoining room. Soon, being the concerned mother than she is, Mona told me to speak softly in quite a combative tone. It soon became an argument where we were hurling comments at each other. It was then that I erupted, “Don’t think that you can make me leave your house just because we had an argument. I am going to stay right here so you better go and close the door instead.”

On a more serious note, Mona is perhaps the strongest person I know. I can only imagine how hard it is to raise two children single handedly. For a young parent, like myself, it was great learning just watching her bring her children up. She knew exactly how she wanted to do things and was determined to execute it in that manner; as many from her department would know. I have seen, quite intimately, some of the worst times she has gone through over the years. I have also seen the immense grace and elegance with which she has handled herself.

Though it hardly was all work and no play! I genuinely think that masters in Doon have as much adventure and as much fun as the boys do. In fact, it was on one of our (Mona and some other masters along with myself) late night drives to Mussoorie that one of our male colleagues realised that women can navigate through the mountain terrain as well as any man. I can never forget the multitude of things Mona has done outside the classroom: she’s done dandia in the Rosebowl, produced the Founder’s Street Play for almost a decade, directed and produced an umpteen productions and even done an all masters play. Mona and I have had our jinxes too, thrice had we planned that we would go on mid-terms together but she was unwell on one of those occasions and I broke my hand on the other two. So the next time we planned a night out where we’d go to the same place in different busses so the spirits wouldn’t be able to jinx us.

Amidst the fun though, many of us are unaware of her stellar academic achievements; perhaps because she is too grounded to let even an iota out. She was a recipient of the Fulbright scholarship in education and is a PhD in astrophysics from Delhi University. However, what I most respect about Mona is her ability to effortlessly make deep human connections with people. She was always somebody who was aware of her own limitations; often times these were related to her health and well-being. She compensated for this by remaining as invested in as many lives as possible- her tutees, other colleagues on campus as well as her students. Every Navaratri, I have seen the fervor with which she calls all her tutees and students to her house for Puran-Aloo. Here too, its always more than just the food; the conversations, the light-hearted jokes, but most importantly the profound lessons she imparted in utter nonchalance. When I envisage the day she will leave Chandbagh and head out as the Vice Principal of Unison World School, Unison will get Dr. Mona Khanna but MAK (fondly called Mac) will always stay with us, here on campus.

Dr. Vidhukesh Vimal pens his thoughts on Dr. Mona Khanna’s departure from School.

An Integral Difference
Open Letters to AGS

Mrs. Purnima Dutta and Kushagra Kar pen their feelings on the imminent departure of a valued friend.

Dear Anamika,

As you ready yourself (and the rest of us in the department - in your typical, understanding 'counsellor-esque' way), to leave Doon, I would want to tell you things I haven't before - though I always wanted to - to say to you.

Working with you in the department (and in the Weekly) has been one of the most fun experiences of my professional life. Anyone who has ever worked with you will recognise the nit-picking editor, the superb organiser, the great honest-to-goodness critic that you are. Thank you for all the constructive feedback! However, the fun part was the way that you would always laced your feedback and suggestions with large doses of empathy and dollops of good sense and humour.

I remember those thorny articles by students, where we would try to guide them on how to speak the truth without being hurtful, and how you would so beautifully put your point across - explaining, suggesting and offering alternative ways of articulating their thoughts in a more balanced manner.

In the department, I think I speak for the rest of us left behind, we have always relied on you to minute the proceedings in the most-meticulous-manner possible, while you would also have the most matter-of-fact solutions to issues that teachers at Doon deal with on an everyday basis. I will forever hold on to those minutes, just as a reminder of how one could be balanced, perceptive and forthright in one's dealing with young people.

I will also forever remember how your ability to put forward, in the most subtle manner, what you thought was the most efficient manner of problem-solving, helped us tide us over sticky situations.

My French is shaky, but I know 'par excellence' is the word that I would have for you if I were ever privileged enough to write a 'reco' for you. All the best for all your future endeavours, AGS Ma'am!

After four years of working with publications and MUNs, it goes without saying that I have met and interacted with a lot of people. As a young B-Former, though, it means a lot when a master chooses to be open with you, cracking jokes, telling stories, and listening to your problems. It means a lot to have someone who not only understands you, but genuinely helps. By A-Form, that person begins to watch you grow, take on responsibility, and become independent. Very few people can understand the struggles of all that, and fewer still will guide you through it. Another year goes by, and trust settles in. No longer do you simply interact as a student with a teacher, but rather, one friend to another. After four years of laughing, talking and sharing with her, I know that AGS ma'am is a friend, and one that will hold beyond the walls of Chandbagh.

I believe that very few words genuinely encompass how I feel about Anamika ma'am leaving School. The closest I ever got to saying the right thing, I hope, was when I handed her the first copy of her last DSIR as Master-in-Charge. On the envelope, I wrote the following words:

Dear Ma'am,

Within this envelope sits your final DSIR. From the Beatles cover, to where we are now, your support for the the board has been our driving force. I remember Jobri once saying I was lucky to be getting a publication with you as our teacher, and he was so true. I hope this issue serves the purpose of a proper swansong. – Kar

With this final issue of the Weekly, I say it all again.
“Unlearning Intolerance”

The Doon School Weekly interviewed an Indian diplomat and Independence Day Chief Guest, Mr. Aftab Seth.

The Doon School Weekly (DSW): The Indian media has been accused of not being fearless enough in recent years. Given the current political situation of our country with entrenched violence in Kashmir, do you think that the media will still take a step ahead and still be fearless?

Mr. Aftab Seth (AFS): Even today, there are still people who are very courageous, and will still write and voice their opinion, at least I hope they will. If there is no overt or oppression, the press will survive. There will always be people who have the courage, who will say what he or she feels is needed to be said.

DSW: Given the current political situation of our country, it would not be wrong to say that there has been a pervasive rise of intolerance. There is a new generation that is being born into this intolerant environment, how do you think we can make them unlearn intolerance?

AFS: By practicing it oneself. When one sees injustice being done before them, one should have the courage to stop it. That’s the only way, because if we all succumb, and if we all let what is happening around us to continue to happen and not take a stand, it will never stop. We all have to be vigilant, and when one sees something which is happening which is wrong, speak out. There is a group of us, around fifty former civil servants, who are not aligned with any political party, but are interested in the constitution, and in preserving it. When we see something wrong happening, and that includes lynching, we take a stand.

When one sees injustice being done before them, one should have the courage to stop it.

DSW: When it comes to taking a stand, you spoke about Aung San Suu Kyi, and how she unlearnt intolerance, but keeping in mind what is happening in Myanmar right now with the Rohingya Muslims, what do you think happened there when it comes to unlearning intolerance?

AFS: In my opinion, the Rohingyas are an aberration for Suu Kyi, in the sense that she has not spoken out to the extent that many have wanted her to. Many people have said that the Nobel Prize for peace should be withdrawn, but I do not think that it’s right. She’s trying to do something, and it’s not that overnight she has become undemocratic or intolerant. She grew up under house arrest, and faced many other problems, so she’s suffered a lot. In spite of that she knew that she had to be tolerant if she wanted to gain power. I believe she has managed to tread a very fine line. The army still has 25% of the seats in the National Assembly, so they can influence the outcome of things very easily, and so she has to tread carefully, and to that extent I think we have to give her the benefit of doubt. However, I do not believe that she has become intolerant.

DSW: Many Doscos take history and political science as subjects, wishing to pursue careers in law and international relations. What skill do you think is required for any person who wishes to be a diplomat?

AFS: It is what I said in my speech: one needs to have a sense of wonder at what one sees around them. One goes to a country, and one should be struck by the wonders and the beauty of the place. One should be struck by the people, the food, and the culture. If one is struck by it, one should make the effort to understand it. One should also understand to respect it. Whatever race or culture, one should respect it and be struck by it. A sense of wonder is the beginning of learning. One of my teachers, Mr. R.L. Holdsworth, used to call it the ‘great inquisitive spirit’. He used to say “You must have the great inquisitive spirit”. When one goes to a place one must be inquisitive about everything, and not obtrusive. Be inquisitive and ask, because only by asking can one understand. One must observe, through observation and through the osmotic process of actually living and breathing the air of that country, and eating its food and knocking shoulders with its people does one understand. Finally, if you are inquisitive, you need to have a rigorous intellectual discipline, and you will have to read constantly and keep learning.
The Doon School Weekly (DSW): Having been one of the youngest members of the Parliament, how important do you think youth representation is in the Parliament?

Mr. Kalikesh Singh (KSH): I think youth representation is important for societal change, considering that 50% of our nation is under the age 25. Unless you have their participation in national and state assemblies, you will always have a disoriented form of governance. There are certain steps in politics which inhibit young people from coming in. However, we see this changing in politics these days. This is because political parties have seen the need to inculcate youth leadership and capture the imagination of young voters.

DSW: What is your opinion on the efficacy of the National Register of Citizens that came out in Assam recently?

KSH: India is one of the few countries that doesn’t have any refugee rehabilitation policy. Way back in 1971, when the war against East Pakistan took place, there was an influx of refugees who settled in parts of Kolkata, Assam and other parts of North-Eastern India. Countries like India, who want to play a dominant role in South-East Asia, world politics and regional politics etc. have to evolve above their right-wing xenophobia and provide space to those asylum-seekers who are in urgent need of refuge. The National Citizen of Registry belies that particular philosophy, however, because of the massive unrest in 70s and 80s in Assam. Rajiv Gandhi had signed a peace accord where he had agreed as Prime Minister of India to the National Citizens for Registry. The Courts and the Government are simply following an earlier agreement. The question is, how efficiently is it done? Whether it is done in a manner that is justified where illegal settlers are being contained and identified? The second question is what are we going to do with these people. Are we going to throw them in the middle of the night, in the middle of the sea? We are talking about millions of people, are we going to leave them in a boat in the middle of the sea? Obviously not any of that. Can we deny them food, water and housing or can we leave them in the middle of the street. I think this entire thing is ill-conceived and the push by the BJP Government particularly for the political windfall will lead for a larger crisis for India. India isn’t well structured to deal with any of this kind of situation.

DSW: As an investment banker who has worked for Enron, is there anything that you regret about being in a position that pays the least, despite being the most satisfying?

KSH: I come from a background of a private sector, where I worked initially as an investment banker and then went on to energy projects. It was really exciting when I got into it. The smallest of steps you make have a huge impact on others. Every decision you make, be it on the developmental roles or on the legislative level, in parliament or assemblies, has a major impact on others’ lives. No matter how big a corporation you run, nothing has a bigger impact. I think when you have to move through things quickly and you have to go through the bureaucracies and all the governance procedures, it can be very frustrating. You would think that everybody in one party share the same goals and vision. It is not like that. Everybody has their own political interest, their own agenda and their goal. To be successful in that, to ride over these hurdles of governance, bureaucracies etc., I think one must quickly proceed, how to push their agendas and policies so as to carry the Indian bureaucracy as well as their own interest.

DSW: Considering that you have been a part of Chandbagh debates and other school events, and generally been involved in the DSOBS, how important do you think it is to maintain a connection with your alma mater?

KSH: For me it is extremely important. As a Dosco, as a son of a Dosco, and with my brothers having studied here, The Doon School is a home for me. I have had a privilege of debating here on the 75th year, in the Chandbagh debates along with being involved in Ted Talks, Summer School and various other functions. Every time I come here, I am asked whether I debated in School which I never did, apart from the memories and nostalgic instances, it is also something for me that I want to contribute and give back to. I may not have the time to spend days here working on projects with DSOBS. But I do hope that I see my son grow up in this school.
The Week Gone By

Aayush Chowdhry

Blue was the colour of this week as the blue banners came off from the MPH and Main Building with subsequent DSMUN blues experienced by all. From the flames of these blues, boys made a dive right into the blue waters of the inter-house swimming events. As many showed fervent support for their respective houses from the stands, a certain blue house was seen in intense practice to quench their thirst for the Grand Slam. Our football representatives in the blue, also, had an intense week as they lost in a well-fought semi-final in the Sellaqui Football Tournament.

On the social end, the SC form had an evening with our neighbours in the blue uniform with interesting lighting of the same colour.

As the School community returned back to reality, the daunting shadow of Trials loomed over us. However, almost analogous to Thor’s entrance in the Infinity War, was the arrival of the new DHA the mix of the upper administration.

With a record long study council meeting and existential questioning of the Dosco Cup, he has many excited for what’s to come further. Almost opposite to this, a lot of criticism also went around for the School Council meeting as boys felt that such a committee must discuss more pertinent things than floaters, umbrellas, and honour boards. The very next day, the adult and student leadership also jointly met to discuss the vision of School but rumour has it that there were absence issues, and surprisingly not against the Headmaster.

Meet this weekend and Eid on Wednesday, praying was another thing our boys jointly indulged in.

To answer the prayers pertaining to the upcoming examinations, Toye was made sacrosanct much to grousing of the boys who hoped that praying without working would be enough to get them through. However, with packed weeks ahead, let’s not forget that we are primarily students, especially the SC formers for whom these exams may (literally) be life changing!

Crossword | Famous Cities and Monuments

Across
3. The Tomatina festival in Spain is held in this city with a population of only 2000.
6. Nicknamed the ‘antechamber of the guillotine’, this French prison is now used as a court of law and is considered an architectural landmark.
7. The city of ______ in Germany is famous for the Oktoberfest festival.
9. This city is famously called the museum city of the world and is home to the Rockbund Museum.
10. Located in Japan, this city is the food capital of the world and is famous for dishes such as sushi and ramen. It is also the most populated city in the world.

Down
1. This American city is known as “The Birthplace of Jazz” and is the location of the Mardi Gras festival.
2. A city in India that is known for its famous dish ‘Vada Pav’ and is India’s financial centre.
4. ______ is a stone structure in England which has no known origin and has left archaeologists baffled. There are rumours that the structure was used for astronomy.
5. The city of ______ in Greece is the home of the Parthenon, a famous Greek monument. It is named after the Greek goddess of wisdom.
6. This city in Egypt is where the pyramids of Giza can be found, bordering the river Nile.

Note: All answers to this crossword are the full names of the festivals/cities

Source: http://worksheets.theteacherscorner.net/make-your-own/crossword/

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