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The Doon School WEEKLY



"I sketch your world exactly as it goes." -Arthur Foot
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REGULARS

Recognising the achievements of
Doscors in various fields.

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week's events.

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Out of the Shadows

Lorcan Conlon *sheds light on an obscure scandal and its contemporary implications.*

My whole life, I have been taught that climate change is undeniably real, and wholly attributed to mankind's lack of regard for the environment.

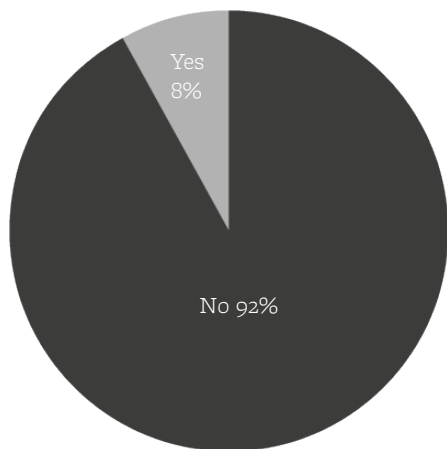
This statement holds true for almost every high school and university student today. You will then understand why, upon stumbling across an article in an obscure conservative blog, I was so astonished. The subject of the article was of monumental importance, as it made me question one of the most central concepts of my education - that climate change was inherently and unquestionably man-made. I treated the article with skepticism. How was it that I had never come across these revolutionary findings before? A few quick google searches of the word "climategate" quickly turned up more results. It would seem that ten years ago, a group of hackers had targeted the group Climatic Research Unit, gaining access to and disseminating thousands of emails and reports from the leading members of the organization. The content of these emails rocked the scientific community, suggesting that the CRU scientists deliberately falsified data, using the results of falsification to obtain additional research funding, as well as attempting to muzzle their critics and cover up flaws in their data.

Does this mean that all claims of climate change are unfounded? No, not completely. However, it certainly raises hard questions about whether the scientists who link climate change to human behavior are trying to squelch a back-and-forth that is central to the scientific method. Is the science of global warming messier than to what they have admitted?

But all this aside, there is an even bigger issue at hand. The subsequent media coverage, or lack thereof, shows just how liberal politics has been allowed to creep into mainstream news outlets and control what the public is allowed to see. The fact that almost none of us have heard of climategate shows how this has become one of the biggest cover-ups in history. News outlets such as The Guardian, BBC and Wikipedia quickly jumped to portraying Climategate as an illegal "incident" and the work of computer hackers stealing data, while ignoring the main issue at hand.

I must admit — when I first read the reports, I felt mostly angry. I wasn't angry at the scientists who had falsified the data. Instead, I felt deprived by the media, the government, and the education system. Because in every Global Perspectives, Geography or Biology class I have ever attended, never once had I been informed about one of the greatest scandals in climate history. We are told by our teachers and politicians that they want us to form our own opinions, and yet they decide to withhold the kind of information that is essential for achieving that very goal. When our education says that it wants us to be individual thinkers, it seems to me that what it really wants is a generation of individual thinkers which conforms to the system's narrative. By giving us only half the story, we really cannot really have our own evidence-based opinions. Our education system cannot hide one of the biggest political events of climate change history from us and at the same time claim to be creating free-thinking individuals. What

Are you aware of the Climategate incident?



397 members of the student community were polled.

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IN THE FAST LANE

Athletics Half Colours were awarded to Arijit Sannamanda, Pradyut Narain and Udbhav Tomar. **Full Colours** were awarded to Ajaypratap Grewal and Harsh Sethi.

Kudos!

ABOVE AND BEYOND

The School was represented by Arav Dixit, Arnav Agarwal, Arnav Choudhary Aryan Agarwal, Keshav Singhal, Mayank Agarwal, Soham Agarwal, Sparsh Gandhi, Varyam Gupta, Yash Sarin and Yuvraj Sarada in the **National Space Settlement Design Competition**. The team finished as the **Runner Up** of the competition.

Well done!

PICTURE PERFECT

Aarnav Sethy and Aryaman Khosla have been appointed the **Editors-in-Chief** of the **Yearbook** for the year **2019-20**.

We wish them a fruitful tenure!

BLAZING BLUE

Arijit Sannamanda, Aryaman Khosla and Vansh Gupta have been awarded the **Games' Blazer**.

Well done!

“

Science knows no country, because knowledge belongs to humanity, and is the torch which illuminates the world.

—
Louis Pasteur

APPOINTMENTS

Following are the appointments for various activities for the year **2019-20**:

Trophy Squad: Namit Nargrath

NEST Society: Arnav Agarwal

Photography: Gautam Singhal

Aeromodelling: Harshvardhan Maskara

Film Society: Nand Singh Dahiya

Quiz Society: Kabir Subbiah

Alpha: Sudhir Chowdhry

Debating

Secretary: Adit Chatterjee

Boy-in-Charge: Nirvair Singh

Music

School Music Captain: Sparsh Garg

School Dance Captain: Vansh Gupta

Orchestra Leaders: Sriman Goel and Vedant Gattani

Choir Leader: Rushil Choudhary

Percussion Leader: Harveer Kochar

Popular Band Leaders: Rishav Misra and Viraj Gulati

Congratulations!

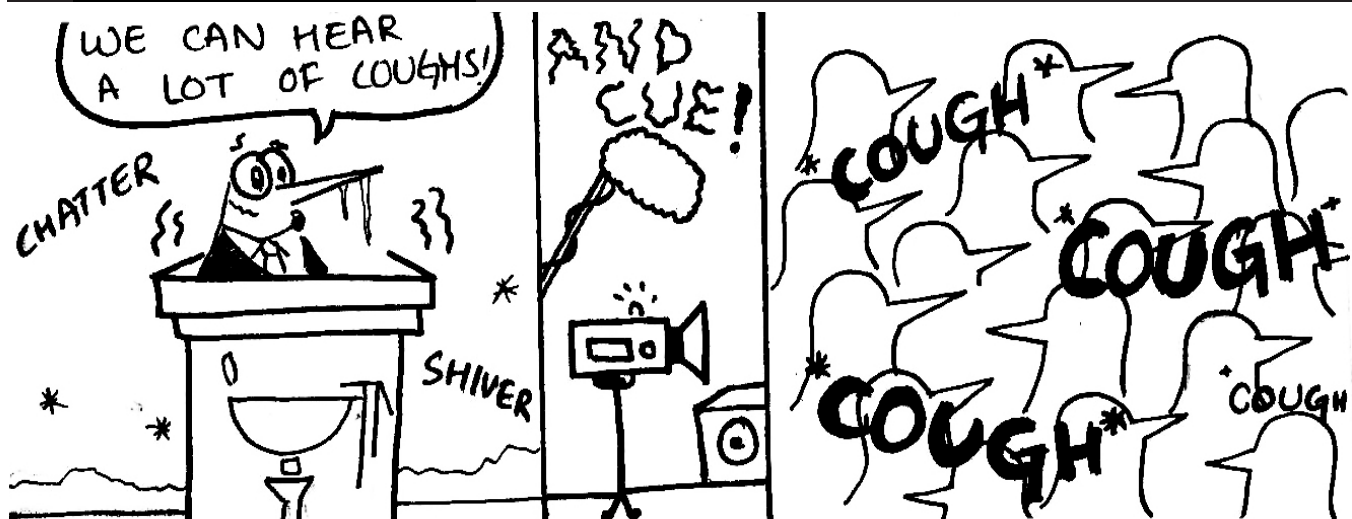
Around the World in 80 Words

The US agreed to complete a naval weapons deal with India, estimated to be worth one billion USD. Bougainville, an island in Papua New Guinea, agreed to have a vote of independence in order to become a separate country. Bushfires in Australia led to many of the cities being densely covered in smoke. Sri Lanka's war-time defense minister, Gotabhaya Rajprasaka, was appointed as its President. Jose Mourinho was appointed as the new manager of English Football club Tottenham Hotspurs FC.

Dosco Doodle

Lights, Camera, Action!

Saatvik Anand



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worries me is the fact that this may, in fact, only be the tip of the iceberg. Therefore, why should we trust that we have been given the full story in other areas, especially in areas where evidence is open to interpretation by the middle-men of this information chain?

The primary defense cited by the media for their part in playing down this particular incident was based on the “setbacks” that they believed it would cause in the battle against climate change. However, this does not justify stifling scientific debate and discourse, decades of which have brought us where we are today. In a world where such incidents are deliberately downplayed and hidden away from public view, rationalised as being part of the “greater good” of climate change, there is little difference from an Orwellian dystopia. The fact is that no matter how immensely scientists and the media may believe in the cause, there is simply no excuse for selectively disregarding the information that we have.

Yes, it may raise more questions of skepticism about climate change and necessitate more debate before we take action, but this process of questioning is essential to establish the truth.

Today, a phrase cropping up more and more frequently is an “echochamber” - a metaphorical place in which you are exposed to no dissenting opinions other than that of your own and popular opinion. It is in instances such as this where I often wonder if we’re living in one ourselves, as it is the nature of such a thing to delude those who dwell in them.

While climate change may be a real and pressing cause, we cannot compromise on an unbiased conclusion in the name of efficiency and fast action. This kind of premise constructs the basis for dictatorships and totalitarianism. Only when we consider every point of view and share them with the people of our world, can we really call ourselves a democracy.

The *Weekly* asked some D Formers on what they thought about when they were voting for a School Captain.

I don't think of the person's achievements or their social status, I instead think of whether the responsibility, power and position will affect them for the better or worse. They say that power changes you, makes you different, but I don't think that within this type of community it will happen. What goes through my mind before voting for the School Captain is the personality he has. Now being in D-Form, I will obviously not know him very well, so I rely on what my seniors tell me about the person.

-Zubin Dhar

There was a talk held on the night before the elections called 'I-Vote' which advised us to vote wisely. After the talk, most of us were confused about whom to vote for. What should be the ideal and the perfect set of attributes which decide the candidate we vote for? I personally think that the School Captain should be an exemplary role model and a just, decisive and responsible leader. He should be respectful and caring towards others at the same time. He should also possess a strong school spirit. At last, the person you choose to vote should reflect your own qualities.

-Hridyansh Kothari

I patiently waited for the third school on Friday, to try my hand at Dosco voting. As this was my first time, I was naturally ecstatic. Although I had a good idea of who the candidates were, I didn't know the nature of any of the candidates, therefore my vote was based on what my seniors told about each of them. Later I was contemplating whether I ticked the right name, but for now, I take responsibility for my vote.

-Vivaan Sood

The only time the concept of hierarchy is not followed is during the school captain election. Here, each vote counts, therefore it is really important to look at the factors which determine whom should I vote for. According to me, the School Captain is a person most of the school idolises, therefore he should be well mannered and should have gratitude. He should be really approachable too. A person is mostly judged by the tie or the blazer he wears, but people don't understand that simply winning a gold medal does not make someone worthy of being a captain. A school captain represents the whole school and should be polite to those who do not disturb the decorum. What I look for in a School Captain is not only the respect he is given, but also the respect he gives to others, and that is what is important.

-Divit Fatehpuria

The Week Gone By

Aditya Jain

It has been a week since those amongst us who are writing their examinations began diligently exercising their brain — especially our SC S Form, due to a change in the School Policy regarding Predicted Grades. As the B Form and the S Form experience writing for their respective boards for the first time, the S Form IB batch have barely managed to complete and submit their IAs on time because of the ‘excess burden’. The AF A Form, meanwhile, is being repeatedly warned to not go off track by their respective subject teachers, as they all anticipate the

coming of their selected trials. However, due to the fever of a certain online game that has taken over them, one half of the batch is not even aware of the seriousness of these exams. This will only lead to a downward ‘slope’ in their grades.

While some have been ‘sticking’ to their books, others are still seen playing sports on a daily basis. On the Main Field, one can see that the ‘pre-’ hockey season has already begun, in spite of constantly receiving heavy criticism. Meanwhile, on Skinners, one can see a bunch of A Formers and some S Formers playing Football with great enthusiasm.

Coming to appointments, we see the two new Editors-in-Chief of the Yearbook ready to take on the reins from the outgoing School Captain and his fellow mate, while

there is interesting gossip hovering around the School community about our next Secretary General for DSMUN.

The topic of Assemblies brings back memories of the rather intriguing one taken by our HM in which he reminded us (or rather informed us) as to how it has become ‘cold’ because he could ‘feel cold’. This was pretty humorous for a lot, but it also raised a few eyebrows when almost the whole School erupted into fake (?) coughing.

As the SC Form is busy filling their college applications and the rest of the School busy giving examinations (all trying their best to not get burnt out by the rigour of this lengthy term), let us sit tight and hope that this term does not end a ‘week too late.’

Sudoku

				5				
8		5	7			4	2	
6			9			1		
3			5	2				
	1		4		9		5	
				6	3			7
		8			7			2
	7	4			2	6		3
				4				

1	8	7	5	4	6	3	2	9
3	6	9	2	8	1	4	7	5
2	4	5	7	9	3	8	6	1
7	1	2	3	9	8	5	9	4
8	5	3	9	4	7	6	1	2
4	6	9	1	2	5	7	8	3
5	7	1	8	3	6	2	4	9
9	2	4	6	1	7	5	3	8
6	3	8	4	2	5	1	9	7

Key

Source: <https://worksheets.theteacher-corner.net/make-your-own/sudoku/>

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