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The Doon School WEEKLY

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

Does the School think they help fight climate change?

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A satirical depiction of MUNs.

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A humorous account of the events of the past week.

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A Cooler World

Vivaan Sood *speaks about the uninformed nature of people towards climate change.*

If there ever was anything wrong, you could blame it on the climate—"There's a drought," or "It's not raining in August," or "I lost my water bottle." Damned climate change.

Yet, with a world on fire, we still continue to burn things. We choose to believe that our own actions will be insignificant and that by simply turning off those lights every now and then, or by not driving and instead taking public transportation occasionally, we will effectively only remove a drop from the ocean that is climate change. Even if we do try our best to help fight climate change, we are incognizant of the enormity of the implications of climate change, and would instead live a life in which we delude ourselves that by simply reusing a water bottle, we can stop a polar bear from falling over.

However, we have to recognise that, despite our ignorance, there is some merit to trying to fight climate change. Then why don't we?

Over the last decade, our minds have been inundated with facts and figures from conspiring scientists, numbing us to the severity of climate change. Climate change is a threat that is sometimes too distant for us to care about. It's not often that we find our room flooded with water that we then decide to lead the charge against climate change. How do you act when you don't

feel any sense of urgency? Most of us are privileged enough to not feel any of the worst effects of climate change. Any actions that we could take would beget improvements that we would not necessarily feel. Therefore, we feel like there is no need to solve it.

Of course, that's not giving us enough credit. We're not pathologically lazy. We're just planning our next moves.

We are also victims of ourselves, and often fall prey to cognitive dissonance, wherein we're more than happy to recycle a soda can, yet hasten ourselves to get on that plane to Goa. You may think that your actions are conducive to helping fight climate change, and yet you simultaneously blame a batchmate for accomplishing social work that fights climate change for not thinking of it first.

Then again, there is also the apathetic approach to climate change. Largely perpetrated by middle-aged adults, it involves dismissing any solution whatsoever to climate change as 'too expensive' and typically involves the phrase 'It's climate change, what are you going to do about it?' whenever it gets slightly hot.

The real situation, however, is far more dire. In our need to beat the heat, the use of ACs often contributes more to global warming than it cools us. ACs often use refrigerants, such as Freon,

that if leaked, act as powerful greenhouse gases, and have effects exponentially worse than conventional greenhouse gases such as carbon dioxide. They also consume lots of energy, furthering their effects on the climate.

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Of course, this is all rather common knowledge, so what are the real implications? In India alone, five years of life could be gained if the Particulate Matter (PM) standard set by the WHO was met. In Delhi, that number jumps to 13 years. In Uttarakhand, the PM concentration is more than seven times higher than the recommended WHO standard.

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FEARLESS FRONTMEN

A team comprising Aryavardhan Agarwal, Katyayan Kanodia and Aadi Jain represented the School in the **Miss Linell Memorial Inter-School Hindi Debates** held from **August 5-6**. They were adjudged the **Winners** of the competition.

Aryavardhan Agarwal was adjudged the **Second Best Interlocutor in the Preliminary Round**.

Katyayan Kanodia was awarded **Second Best Speaker in the Finals**.

Aadi Jain was awarded **Best Speaker in the Finals**.

Congratulations!

LISTENERS' CHECKLIST

What members of the School community have been listening to this week:

- Jaiveer Saran:** *Why Georgia* by John Mayer
- Aryan Bhandari:** *Magnolia* by Playboi Carti
- Kanhav Modi:** *Jimmy Cooks* by Drake
- Rohan Kailath:** *Family Ties* by Baby Keem and Kendrick Lamar
- Devansh Jitu:** *Could you be loved* by Bob Marley and The Wailers

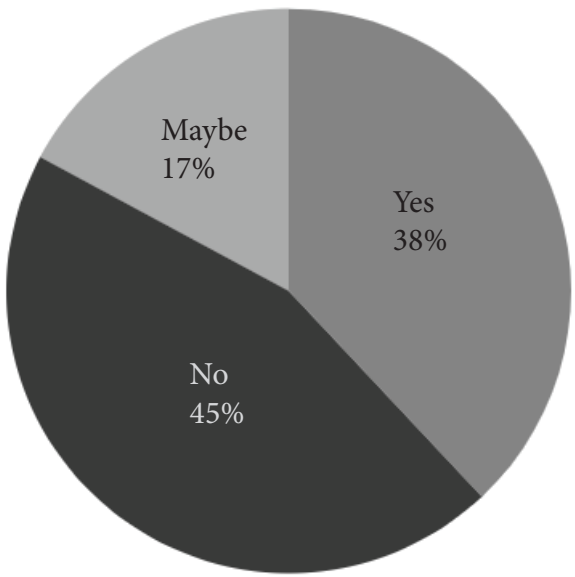
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If you realise that all things change, there is nothing you will try to hold on to.

—
Lao Tzu

VOX POPULI

The School Community was asked if they believe that they have contributed significantly to counter the effects of climate change.



321 members of the School community were polled.

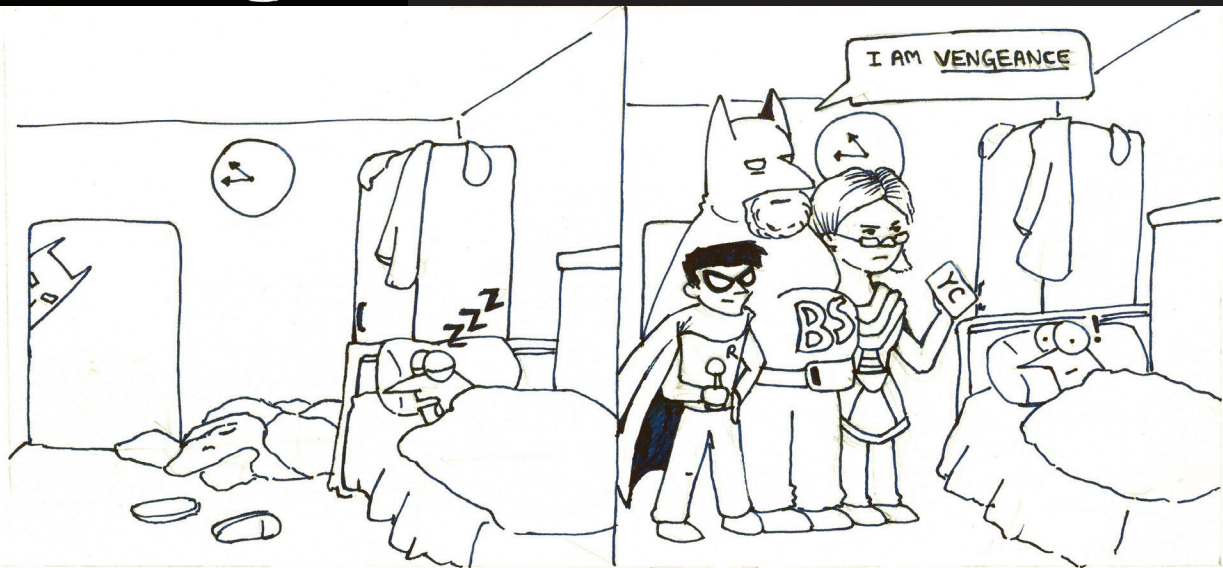
Around the World in 80 Words

The FBI raided former U.S. President Donald Trump’s home in Florida. Thirty-five people were infected by a new ‘Langya’ virus in China. General Elections were conducted in Kenya. Nitish Kumar was sworn in as Bihar Chief Minister days after ending an alliance with the BJP. Dominos closed all its stores permanently in Italy after the firm operating its branches in the area went bankrupt. The Indian Team won a total of 61 medals at the Commonwealth Games held in Birmingham.

Dosco Doodle

The Rise of the Bat-Surd

Roban Taneja



(Continued from Page 1)

This is where I plead the case for individual action to ~~create ideas~~ ~~for initiatives~~ help fight climate change. There are a number of ethical questions that can be raised here, such as whether it is okay to fly given the emissions emitted. However, there are a number of specific activities that we can each individually undertake that would help in the fight. Firstly, you could phase out meat, given that 60% of agriculture’s greenhouse gas emissions come from meat

and dairy, and takes up 83% of farmland, but delivers just 18% of calories and 37% of protein. We would substantially feed more people if plant-based diets were more widespread.

Furthermore, while it seems obvious, planting more trees and plants help. Not simply for their ability to convert carbon dioxide, but trees provide shade and can help cool cities, helping us cut down on the energy costs of heating in buildings. Even choosing not to fly when you could drive would help

greatly.

Of course, if there are no extreme enough measures, and you believe you could do more to fight climate change, might I suggest the following: live in perpetual darkness (lights take up too much energy), give up afternoon water-drinking (water conservation is important), and give up carbohydrates (have to do your part to solve the global food crisis).

So, cheers to a cooler world!

A Delegate’s Guide to MUNs

Udathveer Pasricha

If there was ever a place that represented the ideals of diplomacy, I might just have found it. I had the privilege of witnessing representatives from different countries courteously discussing issues they feel so strongly about.

MUNs are one of the most prestigious activities that a student can take part in their School life. It is indeed an incredible opportunity to participate in it, however, this activity is unfortunately not offered everywhere. The students make the most of it, creating friendships with other delegates they somehow know so well, to forming bonds and networking with a wide range of people just because their portfolio demands so. The MUN effectively gives a platform for the students to understand firsthand as to how to handle the spotlight while making sure that you reach out and socialise.

An MUN is an event designed after the model of the actual United Nations, specifically the rules of procedure. Iraq, Afghanistan, and Sri Lanka, which are otherwise considered peaceful, are somewhat slaughtered in committee, while the ‘big daddy’, who questions every other country is in fact the one that handles all the fights, acting as the all-powerful a self-proclaimed moderator. This country has never actually brought others to the brink of fighting. It has always looked out for the world, the Russia-Ukraine conflict is a testament to this fact. And yet in every session, someone or the other always blames this country; either for no reason or very rightly so.

MUNs are a medium through which one challenges themselves to great lengths, because even though one may have North Korea as their portfolio, they still embark on a mission to prove it is the best country in the world, irrespective of their own ideals. Sacrifice of one’s scruples is a key prerequisite to MUN success. MUNs also represent a means to get yourself heard and provides a platform for an incredible amount

of research and organization. Evidently, MUNs are one of the most sought-after activities that a student wants to take part in the School nowadays. To navigate in this often complex virtual-real landscape of the modern world, we need creative solutions, conflict resolution skills, and negotiation tactics - all of which are brought to the forefront for a student when they are in an MUN. Taking part in an MUN really equips you with so much!

Whilst in session, chits are passed around the committee to let delegates indulge in discussions vital to both committee and social proceedings. These discussions bear fruit both inside the committee and on Instagram; recently concluded MUNs would tell you a very similar story. However, the highlight of each MUN is when the heroes return from their journeys with stories of their accomplishments and ‘honourable mentions’. Whilst one may feel that the list of people applying as delegates would be long, and the list of people who want to organise it is even longer. Arguably, the most hardworking people during MUN season, these skilled individuals are the ones selected through multiple rounds. These are the people who work long hours and actually manage to pull off those all-nighters without the awfully familiar sight of dark circles the following morning, something that every Dosco strives to achieve.

The truth is that MUNs are not social events, do not let the detractors tell you differently. In fact, they are highly intelligent ones that require a great deal of strategy and diplomatic skill. To my fellow delegates: success starts with conversation, and an extra dose of sycophancy, so make the most of this fine opportunity as the connections and networking will definitely pay off in the long run.

The Week Gone By

Vihan Ranka

Life at Chandbagh is truly bizarre, as it took next to no time for things to revert to what they were before the summer vacations. The turn of the week brought with it a plethora of changes to School.

With the integration of “study schools” into our not-so-studious timetable, the students finally got what they wanted since the dawn of time: more time to “study”. Through the week, security guards were seen rushing towards the Houses during class time with newfound fervour and

unprecedented passion (enough to give the guards in Alcatraz a run for their money), armed with a piece of paper noting every sinning child’s name and number.

The Sc Form seems to have made their mark in our friendly neighbourhood and in lands far beyond the walls of Chandbagh, as Doon’s diplomats came back victorious. The reintroduction of PT into the daily schedule seemed to be the untimely nail in the coffin for every Dosco, as they sluggishly made their way on to the Main Field at unusually early hours. Fighting against the sands of time, several Late Marks were handed out to fellow batchmates and Juniors alike following the reintroduction of PT. To those recipients of Late Marks, I offer my condolences.

As we make our way through the term, we must pull up our socks. With the looming threat of the Founder’s Exhibition, paired with the upcoming Trials, and the ongoing Football Season, only God can save us Doscos. It’s fair to say that the Sc Form has been compensated dearly for their constant turmoil, as they finally get the opportunity to step out of School, and legally so, to have themselves a good time. To top that off, my brethren have been rewarded with something Juniors can only dream of: Socials, that too twice in the same month!

Keeping that in mind, my only word of advice would be to enjoy the little free time you get. The term ahead of us is busy, to say the least, so fasten your seatbelts!

Sudoku

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

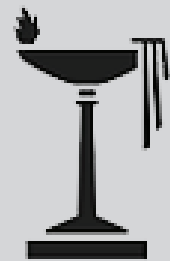
Source: <https://worksheets.theteacherscorner.net/make-your-own/sudoku/>

Key:

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

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