Sustainable Sentiments

Mr. Srinivas Swamy writes about the practicality of sustainability during School events.

Following up on what Vivaan emphasised in his article, “A Cooler World” published in the previous issue of the Weekly, it should be our collective responsibility to contribute to the successful implementation of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) listed in Agenda 2030.

Agenda 2030 was adopted by the United Nations on September 25, 2015 to tackle global challenges such as poverty and to heal and secure the planet. This Agenda was proposed by the Department of Economics and Social Affairs under the banner of Sustainable Development. The 17 SDGs and 169 targets are the key aspects of the Agenda whose sole focus is on “People, Planet, and Prosperity”.

Taking sustainable development forward in the spirit of Agenda 2030 is not simply a task for the world bodies, organisations, or individual countries; it is a task for every individual, if we are to achieve the goals.

The School, in this regard, takes pride in striking a balance between infrastructural development and protecting the environment as much as possible to achieve those goals. However, there are several other aspects of School which need to be scrutinised to check whether they are sustainable or not. These are events and functions ranging from Founders to House Feasts to pizza dinners. Most of these events involve a venue, decorations, food, gifting, travel, etc. If the venue is the Auditorium, then the amount of energy used to keep it at a comfortable temperature is enormous. The amount of food that is being wasted, the number of water bottles and tetra packs used, and the amount of waste generated for decorations and other arrangements do not seem to go well with sustainability.

Similarly, the waste generated (mostly of construction materials or furniture from classrooms and houses) is something the School intends to reuse as a part of its sustainable approach, but ends up adding to the already surmounting heap of waste that creates further visual pollution.

The focus here is not to determine whether our functions, events, or celebrations are sustainable or not, but rather to find alternatives to make them more sustainable, so that in the end, we should feel proud that we are doing our bit towards sustainable living. To make

(Continued on Page 3)
**Readers Checklist**

Soumik Agarwalla: *Build* by Tony Fidell.


ABE: *Atomic Habits* by James Clear.

Neel Sahai: *Relentless* by Tim Grover.

SPB: *The Return of the Native* by Thomas Hardy.

Krishiv Jaiswal: *India after Gandhi* by Ramachandra Guha.

**Unquotable Quotes**

The entire race of women.  
Rohhan Soni, confused feminist.

Niggam felled over there.  
Divit Fatehpuria, falling over his words.

I don’t fail in classes, the teachers failed me every day.  
Atharv Jain, failure is not an option.

It doesn’t has the poisonous.  
Prabhav Jain, toxic grammar.

Can I go my do my toilet.  
Syeon Bajaj, eager.

The truth is not clear as water, it is milk.  
Krtin Goel, dairy queen.

**This Week in History**

1945 C.E: English author George Orwell releases ‘Animal Farm’, a dystopian and allegorical novella.

1947 C.E: After almost 200 years of British domination, India gains independence from its colonial status.

2003 C.E: Ugandan military officer Idi Amin, known for his brutality, dies in Saudi Arabia.

2008 C.E: At the Beijing Olympics, Michael Phelps wins a medal in the relay event, and breaks the record for most number of medals won by an athlete (eight) in a single Olympic Games.

**UNQUOTEABLE QUOTES**

Bombs and pistols don’t make a revolution.  
The sword of revolution is sharpened on the whetting stone of ideas.

—— Bhagat Singh

**THE WHO?**

Who is Amritpal Singh Dhillon?

Vansavardhana Jhunjhunwala: A writer

Jaiveer Saran: A musician

Vihan Ranka: A politician

Aayan Gupta: A artist

Amritpal Singh Dhillon is a Canadian singer, songwriter and record producer associated with Punjabi music. Five of his singles have peaked on the Official Charts Company UK Asian and Punjabi charts, while *Majhail* and *Brown Munde* have topped the charts.

**READERS CHECKLIST**

What members of the School community have been reading this week:

Soumik Agarwalla: *Build* by Tony Fidell.


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**Around the World in 80 Words**

US President Joe Biden signed a $700bn bill that aims to fight climate change and healthcare costs. German leaders expressed outrage after the Palestinian president accused Israel of committing holocaust against Palestinians. Israel announced full restoration of diplomatic ties with Turkey. Meanwhile, India’s Home Minister declared that Rohingyas will not be given apartments in the capital. NASA’s Artemis 1 rocket was prepped on the launch pad ahead of its moon mission. Brentford beat Manchester United 4-0 in the Premier League.
any event or celebration in School sustainable or close to sustainable, we must focus on the following: energy conservation, water conservation, reduction of food wastage, and reduction of waste of other kinds. To reduce water wastage and to reduce the number of water bottles being used, the School must emphasise BYOB or bring your own bottle concept for all the participants attending the event. In the recently-concluded staff workshop, it was mandated that water bottles be carried by all staff members.

To a large extent, the School's way of conducting these events is sustainable since the venue, energy consumption (except when the venue is the Auditorium), water consumption, etc. are minimal. The only area of concern is the way Doscos lead their lives in School. The amount of food they waste (be it during a function or in the CDH), the forgetfulness that leads to leaving t-shirts, shoes, and bottles behind and then procuring a new one from the G-Store or getting one couriered by their parents is a cause of concern. This certainly is a big contributor to unsustainable living. We somehow need to be disciplined to tackle such issues. This cannot be forced; it will only be possible when one is intrinsically motivated.

Finally, it is time to objectively assess all of our celebrations in terms of their sustainability. It should include quantitative measures, such as how much carbon dioxide we emitted, as well as a qualitative assessment of the event. In the end, the balance sheet and brief documentation of the resources being saved should be shared with the community. This evaluation should help and motivate the community to work tirelessly to make the celebrations sustainable.

(Continued from Page 1)
Artistic Exchanges

The Doon School Weekly interviewed Mr. Abhishek Poddar, an old boy and art collector.

The Doon School Weekly (DSW): How do you plan to democratise art and art collection as a whole through your current project?  
Mr. Abhishek Poddar (APD): Firstly, through building world-class museums, and secondly, by making them accessible, easily and freely for everyone. I think that the Pandemic showed how we could do much more than what we had thought earlier. Our understanding was strictly limited to the physical space, but because we have launched it digitally now, all of you would be able to access the museum.

Generally, a year’s subscription to the digital museum is around two thousand rupees but it’s for several different things and one can visit as many times as they want. It’s not that the museums are very expensive in India but the experience is often underwhelming. You would find inadequate information or find timings that don’t suit you. You would find very little information about it and very few outreach programs. Essentially, that’s what we’re trying to change.

DSW: There are many collectors of art and many families who collect art, as you said, for example, the Rothschilds and for example, you, who decided to eventually donate their collections or put them on public display. But then there are many people who decide against that and want to keep it private for themselves or their own families. Do you think that is devoiding the public of the experience of that art?

APD: You know, it’s a personal choice. For me, the public did not force me to do this, there was no compulsion to do this. It was my personal choice to do it. It was my journey. I can’t say whether what I am doing is right or wrong and whether what they are doing is right or wrong. If somebody wants to keep the art for themselves or give it to their kids, there is nothing wrong with that.

Some people are more attached to things and some people are less attached, that’s the only difference. Ultimately, whether you give it away or not, you get separated from your collection, I just decided that I’ve derived so much joy from it and why should it give joy to only my two kids? My objective is to share the joy with as many people as possible.

DSW: Sir, do you think that artistic events in School should be held in the form of competitions or exhibitions?

APD: You might call an M.F. Hussain, who knows even more than Arnab but their taste may be totally different. Some things that Arnab likes, Hussain may not like at all and vice-versa. It’s the same thing with language, it’s the same thing with music, and it’s the same thing with film. In maths or accountancy, there is a clear right or wrong. Everything comes with a grey area.

APD: That’s true but how else do you do it, we’re not saying that the person who’s judging it is God. The person who’s judging it comes with his own biases but they probably come with a little more experience and a little more exposure, and hence, they are possibly in a better position to do it. I mean you have Arnab (ARM) here who’s a great artist, who knows the subject more. You might call an M.F. Hussain, who knows even more than Arnab but their taste may be totally different.

DSW: Many say art is subjective and each has their own taste so when an art competition is held, say in School, what are the criteria for it to be judged? I think that one of the reasons why it actually stopped in School because it’s not really possible for one person to judge who’s better at art and who’s not because one person’s type could be contemporary and the other’s could be abstract.

APD: Yes, if I see a young artist who I think has potential, I might say a few words of encouragement and buy their work to motivate them further. However, I do not claim to make an artist out of someone. I can refer someone and help an upcoming artist network and secure the right connections. However, the essential question still remains - How do I ascertain the merit of an artistic piece? I believe that when you have been doing something for long enough, you become better at it. A doctor while doing his first or tenth surgery is a lot more shaky and apprehensive than his thousandth surgery. With years of artistic appreciation, you do develop an eye for it. Experience doesn’t make you flawless but sharpens your instinct and guides you to look and perceive art and it’s often more informative/educational. So they truly have different roles.

DSW: Sir, do you think that in this hypercompetitive world sometimes we forgo skills and quality for the sake of winning a competition or an exhibition?

APD: Look at it like this, I took up art because I enjoyed it and I thought I’d be an artist. However, I was the worst bloody artist on this planet but that didn’t stop me from being involved in art. I just took it in another direction, so it is not only about winning but about figuring out what works for you.

DSW: How do you plan to make art democratic and accessible to the masses? For example, you showed how you transformed your collection to democratise it.

APD: I think that the Pandemic showed how we could do much more than what we had thought earlier. Our understanding was strictly limited to the physical space, but because we have launched it digitally now, all of you would be able to access the museum.

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make better and more confident choices.

DSW: How do you cut through the clutter? How do you stand out? There might be very prominent Indian names but the general media, as well as the internet, has just gravitated towards talking about western artists. How do you cut through the clutter and actually get to meet different kinds of artists?

APD: Just expose yourself more and more. The more you study something, the better informed you'll be and the more you will be able to tell the difference between good and bad. Experience, and it’s not just about experience, it’s about spending time with it. When it comes to music, how do you guys get your favourites? It’s because of the amount of time you spend listening to it. Spend that same amount of time looking at art, and you’ll know who you like and who you don’t.

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**Roving Eye**

**Socials Pt. 1**

The cologne-soaked Sc Form took a trip in unexplored territory with the *Socials* that took place on the 15th. The build up to this awkward fiasco was unexpectedly subdued, perhaps the reason being that everyone knew the strength of the visiting cohort: less than half the Sc Form batch size. In turn, this four-is-to-two sham of a *Social* was rather uneventful. Nonetheless, the Eye still has a few exploits, rogues and thugs to report on. Disclaimer: the pickings are rather slim.

The night began rather peculiarly, as soon as the girls entered the “Magnificent” Auditorium and saw their old pal, Mr. Bhatt. The *Oohs* and *Aahs* that followed aroused pangs of jealousy in the minds of our beloved Doscos who felt betrayed by the idea that the girls ran to meet a master over their fine selves.

Later, the hordes of Scs awkwardly approached the duos sitting at their respective tables and introduced themselves with the ever-so-friendly shake of the hand. Thus followed the customary and awkward small talk about academics, other hobbies, and college applications.

The self-appointed Assistant-Housemaster of Kashmir House made commendable strides during this early phase, small talk is his speciality after all… This Hockey fanatic was lauded by all for the early goal. However, the Eye must spill the beans: his significant other for the night is ‘committed’ and engaged otherwise. Mr. Lok Sabha also carried forwards his work from last year’s DSMUN conference as bonds were given and meshed: both groups mingled in either. Eventually, the floor made do with what they had been spoiled. The Doscos could hold off no longer, and the Jam Session commenced. It started off rather House Feast-esque with all Doscos on one side and the Jam Session a tad bit later, but by the time he arrived, the group a bit too.

**Goofy Brother**

Goofy Brother was also not to be left behind. He started the night off with a bang, and just rode the wave till the end.

The Nizam was supposedly preoccupied and joined the group a tad bit later, but by the time he arrived, the efforts of both batches to embarrass their friends had gone awry. The Doscos could hold on no longer, and the Jam Session commenced. It started off rather House Feast-esque with all Doscos on one side and the ladies on the other.

The DJ’s poor song choice did not help the vibe either. Eventually, the floor made do with what they were given and meshed: both groups mingled in attempts to entice the other with their moves, but to what avail? In the end although, the real villain of the night was a certain Computer Science Master who put a stop to things just as the mood began to get better and was met with simultaneous war cries going “BT yaar!”

The Eye sadly does not have much more to report on, but we cannot wait for the 27th when the Dosco cavalry would be going into the wilderness of Dalarwala in hopes for a much better time.
The Week
Gone By

Shreyan Mittal

Though it always feels like every week is more packed than the last, I don’t think it would be an understatement to say that this past week in particular had all of us on our heels as we juggled multiple events at once.

It started with a holiday thanks to Independence Day celebrations consisting of the traditional flag hoisting ceremony and Special Assembly. However, these festivities were overshadowed by another event taking place on the same day: the return of socials for the Sc Formers. Though many were put off by the 2:1 ratio, that did not dampen their hopes as boys were seen putting on their finest perfumes and flashiest kurtas for the long-awaited event. With a series of awkward conversations, short-lived dance sessions and frequent trips to the washrooms, it is safe to chalk up this event as a “spectacular flop”.

The week also saw the 15th edition of the DSMUN conference, and even though the fact that it was on a virtual platform certainly drenched our spirits, the excused schools were certainly appreciated by all students involved. The House Feast also took place this week, with many Doscos being fascinated at the sight of outside catering, something we thought we were never going to see again.

The views expressed in articles printed are their authors’ own and do not necessarily reflect those of the Weekly or its editorial policy.

Source: https://worksheets.theteacherscorner.net/make-your-own/wordsearch/#top

The authors of the Indian Constitution

1. This political leader is widely known as the ‘Godfather of India’.
2. Children’s Day is celebrated in India to commemorate this former Indian Prime Minister.
3. He was the first speaker of the Lok Sabha after India turned into a republic.
4. Popularly known as the Iron Man of India, he served as the first Deputy Prime Minister and Home Minister of the nation.
5. This Indian statesman and independence activist is also known by his nickname, ‘Mango of Salem’.
6. She played a huge role in India’s struggle for independence, and her poetic work earned her the title–‘the Nightingale of India’.
7. He is known as the ‘architect of Panchayati Raj’ due to his contributions towards democratic decentralisation in India.
8. He was the first President of The Republic of India, and was imprisoned by the British during the Quit India movement.

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THE DOON SCHOOL WEEKLY

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