

THE EAGLES' BULLETIN

Indus International School Hyderabad | Issue #19, January 2023



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EDITOR'S NOTE**THE TEAM:**

Dear Readers,

We at the Eagle's Bulletin are thrilled to present the next edition of the newsletter. Firstly, we want to express our heartfelt gratitude for your ongoing support and loyalty. Your commitment to reading each month's issue is what drives us to regularly deliver high quality news and analysis.

In this edition, we are proud to introduce several new additions to our team of staff writers and designers from Grade 9 and 10. Please welcome Akshay Aribindi, Avaneesh Gondyala, Dhanya Chowdary Arimilli, Ishanvi Tupili, Neeraj Kona, Nitya Kashyap, Rohan Gullapalli, Sahanya Reddy, Sathvik Gaddam, Sharanya Reddy, Srivalli Konakanchi and Tejas Mandke to the team. I am pleased that students have been showcasing an interest in contributing to the Eagle's Bulletin. This month, we have received several interesting articles on a wide variety of topics - ranging from analytical pieces about the growing importance of AI in the field of business and economics to nuanced discussions about complex issues such as bioprinting organs.

This issue also features a report about ClimSci - a student-led NGO founded by our very own Grade 11 students. ClimSci has been monumental in spreading awareness about the dire situation of climate change and environmental degradation in an interesting and engaging manner.

I hope you enjoy reading this month's issue as much as the team and I have enjoyed writing, editing and designing it.

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FEATURE ARTICLE

VICE Debate About Feminism Sparks Controversy

~ Anisha Sulthana , Grade 11

Feminism is the belief in the social, political, and economic equality of the sexes. This ideology includes a wide range of beliefs and practices. At its core it is the belief that women should have the same rights and opportunities as men. This includes the right to vote, the right to education, the right to work, and the right to be free from violence and discrimination. Feminism is controversial because it challenges the traditional power dynamics and societal norms that have historically favored men over women. Some people may see feminism as a threat to their privilege and resist efforts to promote gender equality.

The media often portrays a controversial image of feminism which may not be an accurate or fair representation of feminist ideas. Additionally, there are different interpretations of what feminism is and what it aims to accomplish, which can lead to disagreements among people who identify as feminists. Some may argue that certain forms of feminism do not go far enough in addressing intersectional issues, while others may argue that certain forms of feminism are too radical. Overall, feminism can be controversial because it can be perceived as questioning the status quo and asking for significant societal changes.



VICE, a media company, recently invited women from all ends of the political spectrum to voice their opinion on the necessity of third-wave feminism, "Anti and Pro Feminists". They debated various topics such as abortion, trans rights and the #MeToo movement. The debate sparked controversy after many claimed the 'radical feminists' were being too harsh on the conservative women in the discussion. The conservative women in question are Pearl Davis and Sydney Watson, popular red-pill commentators on YouTube.

Among the many topics discussed during the panel were the barriers that modern women currently face and whether those barriers were relevant to feminism. Some people believe that feminism consists of intersectionality and takes into account one's race, economic status and sexuality. In contrast, others believe the debate regarding 'feminism' should be restricted to gender only. Many of the issues discussed in the video did not pertain strictly to 'men versus women' but other societal issues such as transgender rights, racial inequality, sexuality and the importance of attractiveness in today's society.

Whether we agree or disagree with the ideologies feminism promotes, we must separate feminism from other societal issues and address these issues through a holistic lens. Today, one cannot take a stance on something without being deemed as 'far-right' or 'far-left'. The aim of the debate was to create a middle ground, a level-playing field where individuals from all walks of life put forth their opinions and is a sort of understanding we should strive to achieve in real life.



SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY

Has the Smartphone peaked?

~ Avaneesh Gondyala, Grade 9

Smartphones. They're absolutely everywhere in this day and age. Though they've only been around for 15 years, today's society practically revolves around these slabs of glass. While the early years of smartphones have shown exponential progress in this young market, the recent annual trend of incremental upgrades begs the question: Have smartphones finally reached their peak?

The infancy years of smartphones saw exponential growth within the capabilities of the device year after year. A year after the creation of the modern smartphone (With the iPhone in 2007), Apple released the iPhone 3G. With this second iteration, they doubled the speed of the processor, debuted the App Store, cut the price of the device from \$500 to \$200, and doubled the speed of the cellular connection with 3G in less than a year.

Fast-forward to today, and virtually every smartphone looks the same. While the modern iPhones (Already on their 16th generation) feature an extremely sharp display with blazing fast chips, the same can be said about the model released 3 years ago. Meanwhile on the Android side, things don't look too different with virtually every phone featuring a hole-punch cutout with an ever-expanding array of cameras on the back side.

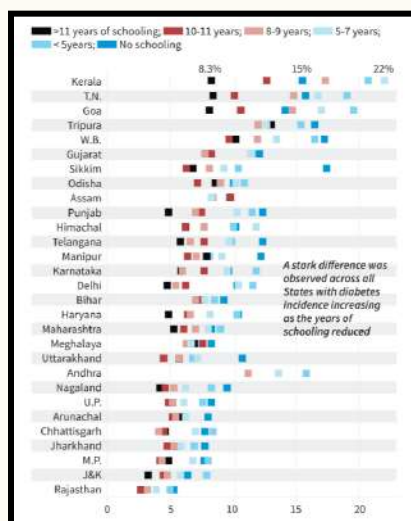


While the capabilities of smartphones have pretty much stayed constant since 2018, new takes on the general formula help provide an alternate route for progress. While Samsung has helped shake up the industry with their foldable phones, these devices are simply too expensive for the general public. For now, we must endure this trend of similar smartphones until another revolution hits these beloved products.

Is Diabetes A Rich Man's Disease?

~ Katya Surapuraju, Grade 11

Diabetes is one of the most prevalent health conditions faced by Indians. In fact, every 1 in 11 Indians are affected with this condition. This is usually due to physical inactivity and the consumption of a high fat/high sugar diet. This is exactly why diabetes is known to be "a rich man's disease". However statistics have shown that those with higher awareness about diabetes have a better chance of avoiding it regardless of their economic class.



According to a study, only 43.2% of the Indian population are aware of diabetes. Urban residents had higher awareness rates (58.4%) while rural residents had significantly lower awareness rates (36.8%). Originally, statistics were collected based on one variable, that being

the economic class of diabetics which showed that generally better off people had a slightly higher percentage of diabetics compared to the lower economic class of people. However, a new variable, that being education and awareness has shown that those who are more educated and aware of diabetes were able to lead healthier lives. This shows that with better awareness and education, people will have a better chance of evading the disease or leading healthy lives despite being diagnosed with the condition.

700,000 Indians have died due to diabetes and other complications that have been caused due to diabetes. Education on risk factors, complications, proper nutrition management, physical exercise, regular checkups, and screening will go a long way toward improving diabetes control and hence lowering the burden caused by diabetic complications.

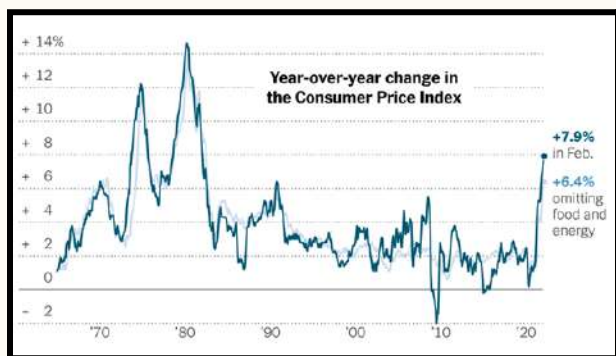
ECONOMICS & BUSINESS

2022: The Year Of Brutal Inflation

~ Srivalli Konakanchi, Grade 10

In the last 18 months, the world has seen various catastrophes. However, one result that every economist sensationalizes is the astounding surge in inflation. In 2022, the worldwide rate of inflation was anticipated to be at 9%. Inflationary factors include rising gasoline and food prices. Because of the residual effects of Covid-19 on supply chains, prices for numerous consumer items were already trading up at the start of 2022. Russia's invasion of Ukraine in February spurred inflation to unprecedented levels.

Oil prices rose by one-third when Western countries imposed sanctions on Russia. Food prices have also risen as a result of rising fertilizer and transportation expenses, as well as Russia's blockade on grain shipments from Ukraine—a key wheat producer. This is a classic supply shock in economic terms. Since Europe has long relied on Russian gas, millions of people have struggled to afford heating this winter. Many nations experienced extremely tight labor markets due to a wave of early retirements during covid.

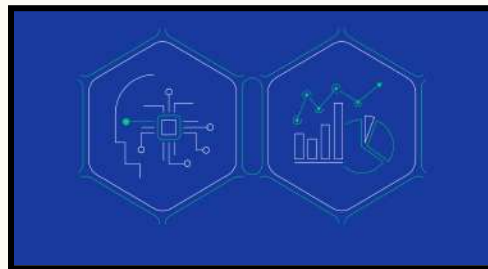


However, several of the causes that drove inflation in early 2022 have begun to wane. Consumer goods prices have decreased as supply networks have returned to normal. Oil prices have returned to where they were a year ago. The Federal Reserve was the most aggressive, hiking interest rates from zero in March to more than 4% today. Central banks all around the world, from Stockholm to Sydney, followed suit.

Business and Economy in the Age of AI

~ Pranav Morisetty, Grade 10

The rise in popularity of ChatGPT has sparked interest in artificial intelligence (AI) by demonstrating



its ability to understand and generate human-like language, making the technology more relatable and exciting to learn about. AI has become a powerful tool for businesses to improve efficiency and drive growth.

Through machine learning algorithms, automation allows businesses to automate repetitive tasks such as data entry and analysis, allowing employees to focus on high-value activities. This not only improves efficiency and productivity but also frees employees to take on more challenging roles, leading to increased job satisfaction and employee retention.

The adoption of AI technologies also drives economic growth by increasing productivity and efficiency, resulting in increased profitability and expansion. Additionally, the development and deployment of AI technologies create new employment opportunities and industries, further fueling economic growth.

However, there are potential downsides to the increasing use of AI. There is a risk of job displacement, particularly in industries where automation is prevalent. Additionally, the use of AI in decision-making raises ethical concerns, such as potential biases in the data and algorithms used.

In conclusion, AI is shaping business and the economy in significant ways. The benefits of AI in terms of increased efficiency, productivity, and economic growth outweigh the potential downsides, making it clear that this technology will continue to play a crucial role in shaping the future of business and the economy.

POLITICS



Turkey Continue To Be Viewed As A Loyal NATO Member?

~ Sathwik Gaddam, Grade 10

Until recently, Turkey has remained a tenuous member of the North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO). Turkey's subjective loyalty to NATO's pledges rises from its commitment to maintain both NATO member's policies and international relations with aggressive countries. Turkey has created alliances with countries, such as Russia, whom NATO is unwilling to cooperate with.



Turkey has formed alliances by trading military equipment with Russia. Turkey has purchased Russia's S-400 drones. The purchase of these

drones not only showed lack of loyalty to NATO's policies, but also posed a risk that NATO's military technology may be leaked to hostile political parties.

Turkey's position in NATO has also led to escalated tensions in NATO operations. Turkey's underlying tensions with Greece led to further issues regarding gas reserves and ownership. This has created issues with NATO's military operation, Sea Guardian.

Even though Turkey has pursued methods that fall against NATO lines, they have still shown their commitment to support NATO. Not only have they provided NATO with financial contributions, they have also immensely assisted Ukraine in their fight against Russia.

This proves that Turkey values its membership in NATO over an alliance with Russia. Turkey's position in a geopolitical map is also a prime area to resolve conflicts that can occur in the Middle East. Considering the detriments and benefits Turkey has provided for NATO, should Turkey still remain a member of NATO?

Misuse of Classified Documents: President Biden's Problem Just Intensified

~ Akshay Aribindi, Grade 9

Over the past year, there has been a significant surge in the illegal mishandling of what are known as classified documents, which contain classified material that a government body deems to be sensitive. Ever since former President Donald Trump left office in 2021, roughly 300 documents, including some at the top-secret level, have been recovered from his Mar-a-Lago resort.



Similarly, President Biden has entangled himself in a similar situation and is struggling to maneuver around it. On November 2,

2022, Biden's attorneys discovered their first set of documents in a locked closet at the Penn Biden Center that was turned over to the National Archives. After the incident, the president didn't face charges or any sort of legal issues. However, Joe Biden faces a deepening political crisis after an announcement Saturday, Jan. 14, that even more classified documents were uncovered at his Delaware home.

According to a Quinnipiac University poll released Wednesday, a majority of the university students believe President Biden acted inappropriately in retaining classified records after leaving the Obama Administration, and about a third believe he can potentially face criminal charges. After being given a conspicuous warning since his first batch of documents was discovered, President Biden chose to act inappropriately by concealing the fact that he possessed more of these documents illegally.

In the end, the Biden administration has done itself no favor by its delayed disclosure of the problem, creating unnecessary suspicion and political turmoil.



OPINIONS

The Case for Accessibility - The Repatriation Of Colonial Artifacts.

~ Manasvini Naren, Grade 11



The repatriation of artifacts and native art back to their home countries from foreign museums has been a highly contested topic in the last few years.

Many argue that it is morally correct to return them to their rightful owners; the objects “stolen” in museums were obtained under a colonial regime and the artifacts are usually housed in museums in the west. Arguments have been made against it as well: by returning artifacts to their home countries, they will be denied the sufficient facilities for maintenance and certain artifacts are highly contented on whom they should be returned to.

Both sides of the argument are to be considered but this debate about a specific type of artwork reflects a broader trend in art becoming more and more inaccessible. Nearly every type of art—performing arts, literature, classical arts, and more—are becoming more and more exclusionary as they are also being commodified for the goal of profit maximization rather than for human pleasure.

This has led to the denunciation of genres and categories of art that have often been seen as luxuries reserved for the upper-class (one such example being the opera) and ignores the grassroots in middle and working classes that sustain the industry.

From the debate about museums returning their artwork to native countries, what we should be taking away is that artifacts and artwork housed anywhere in the world must be reflective and respectful of its origins. The location of the artwork can be deemed by how accessible it is to people as be see

The Veganism Schism: Why Veganism Is Not The Answer:

~ Ishanvi Tupili, Grade 9

Veganism can be defined as the act of consuming food that is not derived from animals and typically avoiding the use of animal products. This practice has been on the rise over the past decade as a result of the idea that it will lead to weight management, animal welfare, and have a positive impact on the planet. However, I believe that although veganism may seem like the solution it is crucial to consider the disadvantages.

Veganism has been glorified as a diet and lifestyle that achieves a perfect balance. Yet, this diet is not suitable for everyone and may result in a number of health concerns, including hypothyroidism, anemia and high cholesterol, and blood pressure. Individuals who have achieved positive results from veganism are mainly restricted to influencers and economically prosperous populations. Unlike most people, they are able to afford personalized meal plans and attain the highest quality of products to maintain their lifestyle.



In addition to this, the environmental challenges that veganism causes are countless. Numerous vegan products such as meat alternatives require the use of significant energy and inefficient use of water. Fruits and vegetables essential to the vegan diet can only be grown in specific seasons and locations. Hence, areas that do not have suitable environments to grow particular crops will be forced to transport them from other areas. This

adds to the carbon footprint and can become impractical over time. Drawbacks like these minimize the benefits that these products aim to provide the environment.

To conclude a dramatic switch to a completely vegan diet would be impractical and costly for consumers as well as the environment.

ENTERTAINMENT & POP CULTURE

Hollywood: The United States Government's tool of diplomacy

~ Shreeka Prabhuram, Grade 10

Hollywood, the American entertainment industry located in Los Angeles, California, has had a significant impact on international relations. The movies and television shows produced in Hollywood are widely distributed and consumed around the world, and have the power to shape global perceptions and attitudes.



One way in which Hollywood has influenced international relations is through the portrayal of foreign

countries and cultures. For example, Hollywood productions have been criticized for their portrayal of Middle Eastern countries and people as violent and barbaric. This can lead to the reinforcement of harmful stereotypes and a lack of understanding and empathy for these cultures. Similarly, Hollywood has also been criticized for its depiction of Asian cultures and characters in stereotypical and offensive ways.

Hollywood has also been used as a tool of diplomacy by the United States government. For instance, the US State Department has partnered with Hollywood to produce movies and TV shows that promote American values and ideals and counter anti-American propaganda. For example, the film "Argo" which depicts a CIA mission to rescue American hostages in Iran during the 1979 revolution was produced with the consultation of the US Government and was seen as a positive portrayal of American heroism and diplomacy.

In conclusion, Hollywood has had a significant impact on international relations through its portrayal of foreign cultures and countries, promotion of American values and ideals, and use as a tool of diplomacy.

The Age of ChatGPT, Creativity and College Essays

~ Avantika Rajan, Grade 11

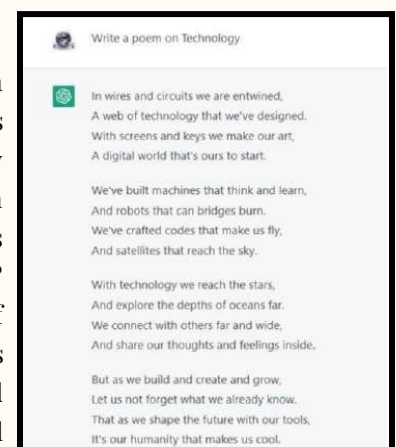
ChatGPT is an advanced AI- powered chatbot that is widely celebrated by the tech world. It can fulfill a number of tasks for its user, from typing out a text response to coming up with an entire dissertation on any subject. It was introduced by artificial intelligence company OpenAI which has received a \$10 billion investment from Microsoft since the launch of ChatGPT.

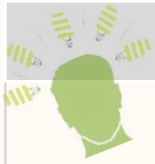
Although an AI tool like this will change the world in many ways by making writing and storytelling easier, it may also make people's careers redundant. This technology has the potential to change the thing that humans revere the most - original thought and creativity.

Over the years technology has changed many things for us. However, it has not affected aspects like literature and creative writing. Now, with ChatGPT no one will have to redefine plagiarism or what is considered original thought or what has actually been written by a human being even, considering this platform produces exceptional pieces of writing.

For highschool students, a platform like ChatGPT has the potential to drastically change the application process. Will college essays even be relevant anymore? The whole purpose of college essays is specifically to understand an individual's original perspective; if that can be

created through machine learning then it too will have to be discarded. This image to the left is a poem generated by ChatGPT with the prompt "write a poem on technology"





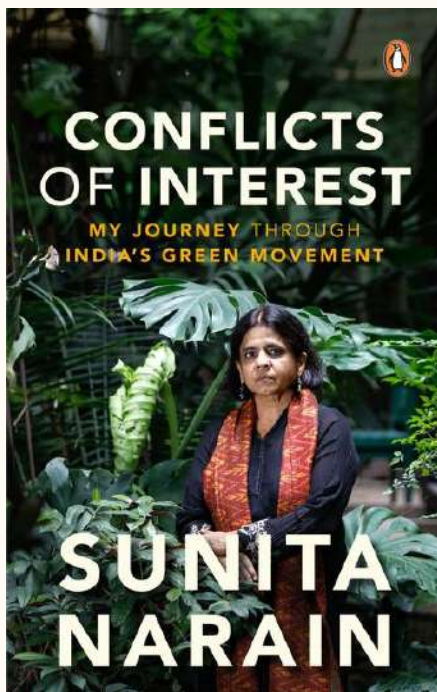
SERVICE & LEADERSHIP

Nature's Superhero - Climate Change Activist Sunita Narain

~ Saanvi Manduva , Grade 10

"Be the change you want to see", a famous quote and one a renowned environmental activist Sunita Narain stands by. Sunita Narain is the director of a prominent NGO known as the Centre for Science and Environment (CSE). The organization aims to bring light to sustainable and equitable development. Being an Indian citizen and native of New Delhi, Narain understands the precariousness of air pollution, even going to the extent of displaying an advertisement with the quote "Roll down the window of your bullet-proof car, Mr. Prime Minister. The security threat is not the gun, it is the air of Delhi."

As the climate crisis continues to grow, the amount of greenhouse gasses produced has resulted in India becoming the world's third-largest emitter. Sunita Narain shows a great array of leadership qualities taking up globally



scaled issues and spreading awareness about topics such as the effect on the lower class citizens due to environmental destruction with the quote "The poorest people are in the worst position to address emissions that contribute to climate change, as they are the most vulnerable to its effects." Narain's outspoken nature is nothing less of a requirement on account of estimated statistics. Studies in 2015 state that a whopping 65 percent of adults in India have not heard of the term "climate change."

Sunita Narain has also authored the book "Conflict of Interest" which discusses her journey at the forefront of India's Green Movement. The book discusses how she took on large corporations and lobbyists with vested political interests against addressing India's environmental challenges. She offers an inside perspective of widely reported controversies caused by her research at the Center For Science and Environment. This includes a report about the alarming concentrations of pesticides in colas and a study of air pollution in Delhi. Finally, her book also discusses the steps India must take to combat the climate crisis and deal with the sobering issue of environmental degradation.

As Sunita Narain stated herself, there was no distinct event in her life that brought about her activist self but rather a need for change. From a young age, she was involved in campaigns such as Kalpavriksh to prevent the cutting down of trees, later joining the CSE. She has truly proven that climate awareness is not restricted to a certain age group and has changed the world as we know it.



SERVICE & LEADERSHIP

ClimSci: An Introduction

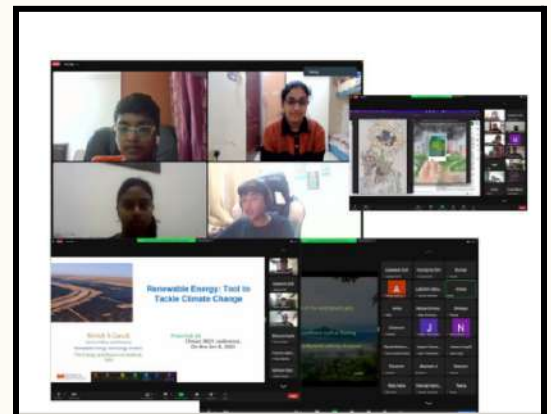
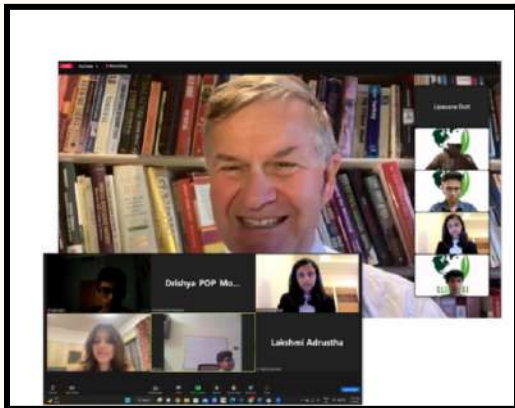
~ The ClimSci Team

A strong desire for change, an ambitious vision and a team of passionate students, that's ClimSci in a nutshell. Having been immersed in the field of climate action ever since their middle school, they believe in empowering and sensitizing the youth on climate science in order to help solve it.

ClimSci consists of a founding team of 3 members: Aditya Srinivasan, the founder and Chief executive officer; Diya Madhusoodan, the Chief product officer; and Shreyas Reddy, the Chief Operating Officer. Supported by the core team and 20 crew members, the team believed that the importance of climate science in the overall mitigation of climate change was not recognised, and thus decided to start ClimSci with a vision to educate the youth on climate science. It is an initiative by the youth for the youth.



ClimSci recently conducted their first climate youth conference on the 7th and 8th of January 2023 with the objective of sensitizing the youth on climate education, with over 250+ registrations across the globe, esteemed international speakers and engaging activities. The conference hosted some of the prominent speakers in the field of climate science, such as Mr. Erik Solheim, the former director of the United Nations Environmental Program(UNEP), Dr Ash Pachuri the senior mentor of the POP movement, Mr. Shirish S Gaurd : the director of renewable energy at The Energy Resource Institute (TERI) and Dr. Norma, an honorary mentor at the POP movement & professor at the Instituto Politecnico Nacional, Mexico.



ClimSci is supported by the POP movement and the ERVIS foundation which aims to develop a climate curriculum as the long term prospect of the organization. Through the curriculum they seek to develop a scientific consensus towards climate change by involving every child in the scientific development of climate science as well as inculcating sustainable habits and climate mindfulness from a young age. The conference hosted 3 rounds of debates, 17 ideathon presentations, art and photography competitions all revolving under the central theme of climate science education. All categories of competitions brought out fantastic discussions and perspectives on topics such as renewable energy, cryptocurrency, Geoengineering and cultural implications of climate change.

FOR MORE INFORMATION :

Website : (www.climsci.in)

Email :contact@climsci.in

Linkedin :<https://www.linkedin.com/company/clim-sci/>

Instagram :<https://instagram.com/climsci?igshid=YmMyMTA2M2Y=>

HEALTH & LIFESTYLE

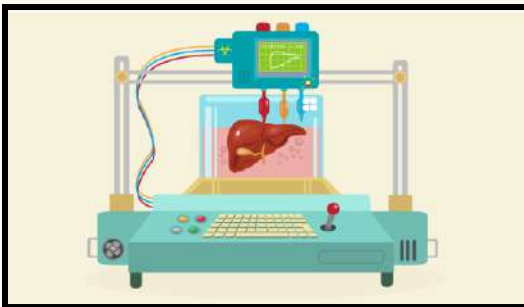
Bio-Printing: The Future Of Organ Transplants?

~ Vrinda Agarwal, Grade 9

What if doctors could just create a kidney from a patient's own cells, rather than needing to find a donor match and hope that the patient's body won't reject the transplanted kidney?

According to Jennifer Lewis, a professor at Harvard University's Wyss Institute for Biologically Inspired Engineering, the earliest that may occur is in ten years. Organ bioprinting involves layer-by-layer assembling of various cell types, growth factors, and biomaterials using 3D printing technology to create bioartificial organs that mimic their real-life counterparts.

As reported by the UNOS (United Network for Organ Sharing), there are presently over 15,000



patients in the US waiting for organ transplants. Patients have no choice but to wait as the number of registered donors continues to vastly outweigh the ongoing demand for organ transplants. Future developments in bioprinting technology seek to 3D print a full working organ for transplant patients, reducing the mortality rate among waitlist candidates

While it is an amazing prospect, we must be careful not to overestimate the capabilities of this technology. The human body is extraordinarily complicated, and replicating the various things it performs is tough and time-consuming.

Pilates: A Celebrity Lifestyle Transformation

~ Sharanya Reddy, Grade 10



Pilates is a system of exercises designed to improve physical strength, flexibility, and posture. It was developed by Joseph Pilates in the early 20th century and has

become increasingly popular in recent years. Pilates focuses on building core strength and improving overall well-being through a series of controlled movements.

Kate Hudson is an actress known for her roles in films such as *Almost Famous* and *How to Lose a Guy in 10 Days*. She is also an avid Pilates enthusiast, crediting the practice with helping her stay in shape and maintain a healthy lifestyle.

Since starting Pilates, Hudson has become a vocal advocate for the practice, stating that "it makes me feel my strongest". She has spoken out about its benefits and has also used social media to share her own Pilates journey with her followers.

Pilates is an exercise system created to enhance strength and suppleness. Hudson is an enthusiastic Pilates devotee, crediting the practice and aiding her to remain in shape and maintain a healthy state of mind. Pilates has been recognized for improving equilibrium, reducing stress, and increasing overall physical fitness.

Pilates has also been credited for improving mental health. Research has revealed that the practice can decrease tension and anxiety, as well as improve disposition and general prosperity. For many, Pilates has become an essential part of their way of life.

SCHOOL HIGHLIGHTS

Indus's Midday Meal Program

~ Neeraj Kona , Grade 10

Charitable groups that assist underprivileged children with their educational, nutritional, and healthcare needs depend on donations of cash, time, and goods. Children can gain from these causes, such as through the Midday Meal Program at Indus, which was started by the Innovation Council Members (Grade 11).



Every day, 200 Anganwadi and migrant children are served by this programme. The school's wholesome meals were appreciated by these kids prior to the Covid-19 pandemic. The school will provide lunch for the kids at the migrant and Anganwadi programmes on January 16. The school hosts a "Day of Giving" each month where students volunteer to give ingredients for cooking as a way to promote this programme. Different duties are given to students in different classes, like bringing gas, rice, or vegetables, oil, moong daal, and tur dal.

The Midday Meal Program is divided into two phases: Phase 1, in which students take turns preparing the meals, and Phase 2, in which students engage in organic vegetable gardening and growing to supply the Midday Meal Program.

For a number of reasons, helping disadvantaged kids in Anganwadi facilities is crucial. By offering low-income kids a safe and nurturing atmosphere, these facilities free up their parents' time to work or pursue their education without worrying about their kids' welfare. Moreover, the early childhood education programs offered at Anganwadi facilities are necessary for young children's general development. Additionally, Anganwadi institutions provide children with essential medical care such as vaccinations and nutritional support.

Republic Day Celebrations At Indus

~ Sahanya Reddy, Grade 10

The Republic Day is the day which celebrates the mark of when the Constitution of India came into effect for the first time on January 26th, 1950, and when India declared itself as a Republic. This year, we celebrated our 74th Republic Day.

Indus International School, Hyderabad had hosted a special assembly one day prior to celebrate Republic Day. The celebrations took place on 25th January, 2023 and put on a display of various performances by the students. This show included numerous presentations of entertainment as well as education regarding our country and its history. To celebrate Republic Day, the students were required to come to school dressed wearing traditional clothes in the colors of the Indian Flag.

The celebrations began with the principal of our school, Ms. Farida Fraz addressing the crowd with a speech about Republic Day, and its significance. Following this, there was a compilation of programs conducted by the students. The children dressed up as freedom fighters and acted out their stories in order to portray their significance to our country. Aside from this, the students played violin, danced to Indian music, and ended the special assembly by singing a song.

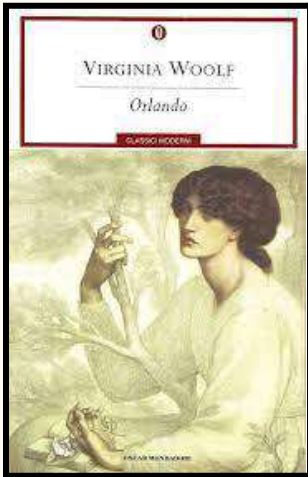


After the assembly, Republic Day and patriotism was still given importance throughout the day. For lunch, the food was in the colors of the Indian flag as a show of pride in our country and to celebrate one of the most important days in our country's history.

Reviews

Book Review: Orlando

~Anika Bhupatiraju, Grade 7



"Society is the most powerful concoction in the world, yet it has no existence whatsoever". This quote captures much of what is to be loved about Virginia Woolf's 1928 novel, 'Orlando; A Biography'. This novel established abstract themes such as gender, time, and liberty, which were first outrightly written about by Woolf.

The narrative itself focuses on Orlando, a young poet from a privileged, aristocratic family. The protagonist starts the book as a man, but ends it as a woman. On top of this, Orlando's life seems to never meet its end; the book progresses over three centuries, throughout which Orlando doesn't seem to age at all.

Orlando often exposes the persistent vise-grip of patriarchy even on a character blessed with the privileges of wealth, beauty, and close-to-eternal youth. Woolf invites us to imagine what it would feel like to escape, and yet, over and over again, reminds us that we are trapped. When we talk today about the tantalizing potential of a gender-agnostic society and explore such possibilities in fiction and fantasy, we do so in Orlando's shadow.

Today, 'Orlando' is considered a key text in literary modernism & gender studies. It remains relevant to millions of readers worldwide, is considered one of Woolf's best works by her fans, and will no doubt continue to be as provocative and bold as it was 100 years ago.

Movie Review: Qala

~Palak Sinha, Grade 11

It seems Netflix is on a roll with the new Hindi movies coming out such as *Monica*, *O My Darling*, *Doctor G* and *Darlings*, *Qala* seems to be another fresh movie that lives up to the hype. Starring Tripti Dimri, a dynamic actress starring in hits such as the horror movie *Bulbul*, *Qala* is a movie set in the 1940s which explores the turbulent relationship between a mother and a daughter while diving into the declining mental health of the heroine.



Set in 1940s Calcutta, *Qala* is about the tumultuous relationship between an aspiring singer and her domineering mother. The movie begins with Qala Manjushree (Dimri), an up-and-coming singer who has just won the "Golden Vinyl". Despite her talent and success, Qala is haunted by her past. Through flashbacks, the audience learns more about Qala's childhood and her jealousy towards her talented half brother. In the present, Qala's feelings about her past catch up with her as her mental health takes a turn for the worse.

Qala pulls on your heartstrings. The movie is perfectly executed: with the cinematography, soundtracks, and performance perfectly conveying Qala's downward spiral. I was an emotional wreck after the movie, so I do recommend you to have tissues with you just in case!



SPORTS

Cricket - India's Pride And Honor

~ Nitya Kashyap , Grade 9

Though our country's national sport may be Hockey, Cricket holds a special place in every citizen's heart. From whether you support RCB to SRH in the Indian Premier League, ultimately cricket connects people regardless of their background, ethnicity and even lifestyle.



Indians stood proud when they witnessed the third and final ODI of the series between India and Sri Lanka where the "Men In Blue" won by a

huge margin of 317 runs to create a clean sweep of the visitors. This set their game apart and earned them a world record altogether. Virat Kohli's unbroken 166 and Shubman Gill's 116 allowed the Indian team to be all over their opponents since winning the toss. Such moments in history only further the importance of cricket and show the true impact that sports can have on our communities and how much these events can bring us together too.

Starting in February, the Women's T20 World Cup is set to be held in South Africa in three iconic venues (Boland's Park, St. George's Park and Newlands Cricket Ground) to play in; hosting about 23 fixtures, where 10 teams are going to be participating. As women's sports are beginning to gain more attention from not only the general public but also from promoters, this event is extremely important to get India on the map for women's cricket.

Novak Djokovic Returns In The Australian Open To Claim Another Grand Slam

~ Varunika Davluri, Grade 11

Novak Djokovic, the world's 5th ranked male tennis player, has made his return to the Australian Open Finals in 2023. The tournament, set to take place in Melbourne from January 9th to January 29th, marks Djokovic's 17th appearance at the event. He is the most successful male player in the tournament's history, having won the title nine times in the past.

Djokovic has also won Grand Slams from Wimbledon, U.S. Open, as well as the French Open, playing in the finals matches of 32 Grand Slams, winning 21 of them. Previously ranked 3rd in terms of grand slams won, Djokovic's consecutive victories during the 2021 and 2022 Wimbledon tournaments has placed him second in the world: one grand slam more than Roger Federer and one less than Rafael Nadal.

It seems that Djokovic is on the verge of yet another grand slam title. Since January 9th, Djokovic has quickly advanced his way through the 1st, 2nd, and 3rd rounds, as well as the quarter-finals and semi-finals of the tournament.



Matched up with Stefanos Tsitsipas for the final match of the tournament, Djokovic will play for the grand slam title on the 29th of January.



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