

THE CHACE CHRONICLE

CHACE COMMUNITY SCHOOL'S STUDENT MAGAZINE

6th edition - December 2021

OUR EARTH IN CRISIS?

everything you need to know about the climate crisis



It has become widely accepted that Earth is facing a climate crisis. The rising sea levels, increase in global warming and rise in natural disasters caused by extreme weather all point to a disruption of the usual balance of nature. Since the industrial revolution in the 1800s, more fossil fuels have been burnt due to the increased demand for energy, damaging our environment and accelerating climate change. In 2019 at a UN meeting it was stated that we had "only 11 years to prevent irreversible damage from climate change". It's not all bad news however, there have been signs of hope through the efforts of activists advocating for governments to take action against climate change. One young activist that has become a front figure for environmental activism is Greta Thunberg, her efforts have brought further attention, especially to young people, to the issue of climate change. Thunberg has presented many speeches at the UN, has had talks with world leaders and has organised global protests whilst only being 18 years old. Coupled with individual activists, groups such as 'Extinction Rebellion' and 'Greenpeace' have led to governments putting more effort into trying to solve climate change.

continues next page

What's Inside?

Summer Walker's
new album

Astroworld Tragedy

Texas Abortion Law

Cyber Abuse and
How Not to be Its
Victim

Important Current
Events You Should
Know

What's being done?

From the 31st October - 12 November 2021, the UN Climate Change Conference, 'COP26', was held in Glasgow as a global effort to tackle climate change. Previous conventions have achieved the signing of the Paris Agreement (COP21 in 2016), which set out global targets to overcome global warming. This convention focussed on keeping to targets and emphasised the importance of solving this issue; a very moving speech by Sir David Attenborough encouraged the leaders and everyone watching to "turn tragedy into triumph", instilling feelings of hope. However, many activists, including Thunberg, have called the convention a "failure".

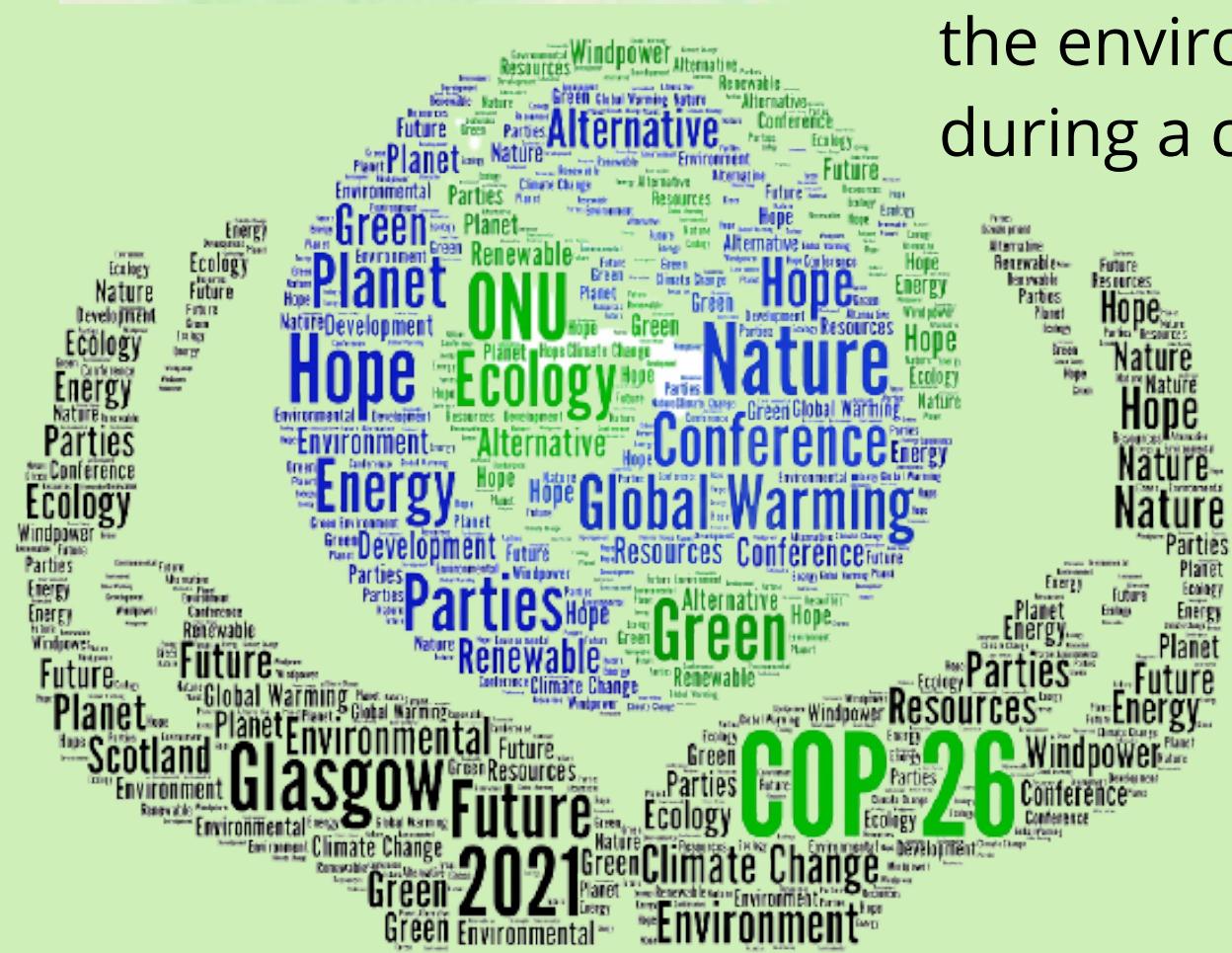
Extra reading

The Uninhabitable Earth by David Wallace-Wells

Loosing Earth by Nathaniel Rich

Inconspicuous Consumption: The Environmental Impact You Don't Know You Have by Tatiana Schlossberg

Watch :
Our Planet - Netflix
Kiss the Ground - Netflix



Why are people upset?

Environmental activists have said that the conference has not gone far enough if we want to solve climate change in time to save the planet. There is also the claim that big businesses are lobbying governments to keep policies in place that benefit the elites whilst perpetuating global warming. Thunberg said at a COP26 youth rally: "The people in power can continue to live in their bubble filled with their fantasies, like eternal growth on a finite planet and technological solutions that will suddenly appear seemingly out of nowhere and will erase all of these crises just like that. All this while the world is literally burning, on fire, and while the people living on the front lines are still bearing the brunt of the climate crisis".

People were also frustrated at the fact that China and Russia did not show up despite their land/population size and impact on the environment.

It has also become apparent that climate change unfairly affects developing countries, Vanessa Nakate has said: "Historically, Africa is responsible for only 3% of global emissions and yet Africans are suffering some of the most brutal impacts fuelled by the climate crisis."

Overall, it's clear that more needs to be done in order to save our planet, more pressure needs to be put on our politicians to put the environment as a top priority at all times, not just for show during a conference.





Living a more Sustainable and Climate-friendly life

Doing our part to save the planet from human-caused destruction is ultimately apart of our duty as inhabitants of Earth.

Living Sustainably

To live a more environment-friendly life means making daily choices that reduce our negative impact on the environment. For example, sort out your rubbish, reduce red meat intake and don't over consume (you don't need new clothes every week).

Go Zero Waste

The general idea is to reduce the amount of trash we produce. That means only consuming what is needed, refusing single-use plastics, reusing what can be reused, and recycling what can be recycled.

Support Local

Buying from local farmers, producers, and shops reduces our carbon footprint because less pollution is created during transport. It also helps the local economy grow and thrive.



Still Over It

~ a review of Summer Walker's newest album ~

Summer Walker's recent and soul churning album, sequel to the artist's second album 'Over It' - one that was well known for its modern RnB tone, is dedicated to all the single mothers out there with unfortunate baby fathers. Walker's hour-long piece of work will have you doing the summer slide down the wall (crying, throwing up, gripping your chest, etc etc) one minute - listen to '**Unloyal**' featuring other RnB female artist Ari Lennox, and then will have you dancing like you're at your own personal concert the next. Personal favourites of mine for that mood features Pharrel and The Neptunes, '**Dat Right There**' with that old school hip-hop beat and '**Ex For A Reason**' featuring City Girl's own, JT.



As you further listen to the album, it can be heard that Miss. Walker has written many iconic lyrics. For example, in her song '**4th Baby Mama**' that directly addresses her ex, London on da Track, she starts off the first verse with "**I wanna start with your mama, she should've whooped your a****" - a lyric I myself like to dedicate to my siblings quite often (ifykyk). The confidence to address somebody's mother in that manner is very respectable and arguably inspirational for all young modern feminists, demonstrating that Walker got to a point where she wants all the smoke. To contrast her obvious adoration for her baby daddy (watch the sarcasm), Walker gives her audience a more in depth understanding of how she has been emotionally affected by her experiences throughout her pregnancy in the eighth song on the album - '**Insane**'. Her chorus reads "**God bless me, God help me, I think I'm insane**" now these lyrics can be demonstrated as a way to categorise the artist in the 'crazy baby mama' stereotype who won't leave her baby father alone. But when you listen to the ballad, you will find that there is an emotional connection that all emotionally available people will react to - one of fear and loneliness.



Summer Walker has created a piece of art that will most definitely cause a roller coaster of emotions to its audience, but I think it's safe to say that the album's diversity and beautiful production will guarantee that it will be played at any sort of function (whether it be a birthday party or a heartbreak session - instruction to perfect the 'summer slide down the wall' can be found on all Walker's social media platforms) and to fit any mood. Lastly, I would like to say for all of Miss Walker's fans that '**In Summer We Trust - Walkalations (4:44)**'.

written by Sonay - Year 13

Astroworld: A Tragedy

Hundreds of victims; 10 of those who lost their lives. On the evening of the 5th of November, dozens of fans were rushed to hospitals after a crowd surge at Travis Scott's 'Astroworld' Festival.



What happened?

"The crowd began to compress towards the front of the stage, and that caused some panic and started causing some injuries...people began to fall out, become unconscious and it created additional panic" - Samuel Pena, the Houston Fire Department chief. The chief also claimed that over 300 people were treated at a field hospital at the festival.

The youngest victim, at just 9 years old, had also lost his life on November 14th, following the festival. Ezra Blount suffered from injuries due to the concert which was the cause of his death, making him the youngest to lose his life at the concert. Other victims ranged in age from 14 to 27 years old.

Travis Scott - Villain?

In 2018, Scott's album, "Astroworld" had sold more than four million copies in the U.S. Scott has a history of encouraging outrageous behaviour at shows. His response to this disaster was said to be "absolutely devastated" on his Twitter. Furthermore, his girlfriend, Kylie Jenner, who was also seen at the festival with their daughter Stormi, had claimed that, "Traivs and I are broken and devastated. My thoughts and prayers are with all who lost their lives, were injured or affected in any way by yesterday's events". Many people were left absolutely fuming with the artist as there were claims that he was well aware of everything that was going on, yet had done nothing about it. Kylie Jenner was quick to disregard these claims by saying that, "we weren't aware of any fatalities until the news came out after the show and in no world would have continued filming or performing".



Since the tragedy became very popular and trending on TikTok, there were various clips posted of Travis ignoring his fans' screams for help. To make up for his "mistake" Travis and Kylie offered to cover the costs of the funerals. It has recently been revealed that the family of the youngest victim, Ezra Blount, has rejected his offer.

May the lives of the innocent victims rest in peace.



OPINION: Texas Abortion Law.

A new law has been stated in Texas (known as the 'heart beat bill') informing women of Texas that they are prohibited to have an abortion at the 6-week mark, even though most women find out they are pregnant when the cardiac activity is detected which is around the 6-week mark.

This completely abolishes the previous law - Roe vs Wade, set in 1973 - when abortion was permitted constitutionally by the supreme court. The new Texas Abortion Law was voted for by all 82 republican representatives, an overwhelming amount of which are middle-class men, however the law will mostly effect lower-class women of Texas. By women, I really mean any female, for example a child who could become pregnant due to rape or incest.

It seems like the American government cares more about the life of a non-existent human being more than a child or a woman. There have been multiple cases of women dying due to pregnancy, for example the case of an 11-year-old girl who died during unsettling labour after being raped by her brother. The World Health Organisation states that complications during pregnancy and childbirth are the leading cause of death for girls aged 15-19 worldwide, therefore a law that completely prohibits abortion allows death, murder.

But since when was a child physically ready to enter another child into our atypical world? Is this what our world has come to? How could we be more sophisticated and fair during 1973 than in the modern year of 2021?

Why do men in power tend to feel as if they are superior to women, what have we ever done to prove that?

Dallas Morning News reported most of the perpetrators that have raped young girls have received little punishment. Why are women in these cases treated as burdens? The media tends to represent women as a vessel for sex and nothing more, a body without a brain, a soul without a proper sentiment.

There is also the point that a child or woman who is refused an abortion has to raise a baby in a poorly cared for environment, no food on the table, no clothes on their malnourished backs. A woman should not be forced to raise a child she cannot economically provide for as it diminishes both the baby and the mother's quality of life.

To conclude, I would like there to be more education around this subject and discussions around a woman's right to abortion.

"It's ridiculous because Texas cares more about a fetus than if the child is forced to give birth."

- Evie Smith Year 7

"It's unfair because everyone who needs an abortion has a unique situation and the people deciding have no idea what it feels like to carry a baby"

"I think the Texas abortion ban is stupid. Not everyone is ready to have a child so they shouldn't be forced to, even if people have protected sex it doesn't always lead to the thing it was used for."

- Isabella Aryes: Year 7

9:41

Cyber Abuse And How Not To Be Its Victim:

We all have a great appreciation for social media. It shows us how to live, which is through society's vision on how to look, or how to speak or eat or walk or talk. But how do we become its victim?

The normalization of overly edited realities has impacted mental health to an extent where internet abuse can cause serious psychological impacts such as panic attacks, stress, and lower self-confidence. Social construct, is an idea that has been widely accepted as true. Social media pushes the social construct of what beauty should be, which pressurises people into changing themselves to fit society's expectations.

Female exploitation is also a big issue due to the internet as many women have experienced pressure to send nude photos. A survey by StatusOnline revealed that 4 out of 10 women have felt "compelled" to send videos or images of themselves naked. However, this does not only happen to women, men are also pressured but may find it harder to talk about due to stereotypes surrounding masculinity.

Stereotypes are oversimplified ideas of a thing/person, stereotypes often swarm the internet and headlines, giving biased and false ideas to people. The use of stereotypes on the internet is seen in the representations of teenagers. The constant use of these representations influences teenagers to conform to the stereotypes, causing the public's views to be 'proved', creating a self-fulfilling prophecy.

Cyber Abuse is a real thing, and should be avoided. Young people are often vulnerable to cyber abuse, one way to avoid it is to know what it is and have an adult you can trust and talk to. Also, remember that representations seen on social media are not always true.

written by Simone Korallo-Foreman, Year 7

Current events you should know

There is a new variant of COVID-19 called 'Omicron', which appears to spread quicker than Delta - almost doubling everyday. There has been a push for people over 18 to get their boosters. Christmas plans have not been cancelled as "its too early to tell" if it poses a threat.

Mask wearing in shops and on public transport has become mandatory in response to the new variant - Omicron. Mask wearing has also returned to schools

Boris Johnson and other conservative politicians have been accused of breaking social distancing guidelines last Christmas whilst the country were under strict restrictions. Johnson was accused of having Christmas parties and has faced national criticism as a result.

New covid rules in England include working from home, mask wearing and vaccine passports for nightclubs and football matches

There has been an abundance of drug usage, specifically cocaine, within the House of Commons, found through an investigative inspection of the building's toilets. This has led to a wider investigation and crack-down on middle-class drug users in the UK

Current red listed countries and territories:
Angola, Botswana, Eswatini, Lesotho, Malawi, Mozambique, Namibia, Nigeria, South Africa, Zambia, Zimbabwe
*as of 7/12/2021



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