

INFANT SECTION REVIEW OF THE YEAR 2009 - 2010

The Colombo International School Infant Section is a stimulating environment, which is designed to provide a secure, happy and interesting world for all children. CIS is aware that for most children, the foundations laid in their formative years at School are the bedrock on which all future academic success is based.

Bearing this in mind the Infant Section aims to start each child's educational journey by providing a broad, balanced high quality curriculum which accommodates the individual needs of all pupils. This closely follows the Early Years and Key Stage 1 components of the U.K. National Curriculum.

The Infant School is fortunate to have a team of well qualified, experienced and dedicated teachers in every year group who skilfully guide our children to make remarkable strides and achievements utilising the resources provided to them. At the end of every academic year it makes us teachers marvel at the wonders of childhood as we observe the significant achievements our children have made academically and socially through out the year. The school continues to be amazingly successful and the varied talents of our pupils are quite outstanding.

Many new additions to resources were made during this year. The highlights being the colourful Play Group and Reception play area which is a safe environment designed to help children enjoy learning through play. A new classroom was constructed especially for Supportive Maths, English and Reading.

We are a multinational and multicultural school that celebrates all the significant religious and cultural events of various nationalities. Our assemblies project their multicultural image with children from various communities and nationalities happily participating in Wesak, Christmas, Deepavali, Haj and Independence Day Assemblies along with the Junior section of the school.

The extra curricular activities in the school help the children to develop their individual talents interests and skills in a more informal environment. Our four to seven year olds participate in a variety of after school clubs that cater to their needs and interests. Computing, Scrabble, French, Drama, Music, Modern Dancing, Art, Story and activity are some of the popular clubs amongst our pupils.

Many events have marked each term. This year the school celebrated its 27th Birthday. A variety of games and food stalls were organized by each year group to provide a fun experience for the children as well as their parents.

In October a week was devoted to reading and Library activities and Assemblies. Competitions and reading activities aimed at improving children's enthusiasm for reading were organized from Play Group to Year Two. The week ended with a colourful presentation Assembly held in the school Auditorium. The children also got the opportunity to dress up as their favourite story book characters. Every child and Teacher received a certificate of Participation for this week.

Our annual Sports day in December was a fun filled event for our young children, parents and teachers. The opening ceremony was a colourful dance formation presented by our Year twos. After the break our Year ones presented a P.Band item. The children excelled their athletic skills in the track events and class relays. Every child received a participation gift as well as a participation certificate.

Our Christmas carol service was held on the 15th of December. Many of our little friends from years one and two participated in the singing and reading of the 7th lesson at the Church of Christ the Living Saviour. On the last day of term all age groups enjoyed class parties as well as a visit from Santa.

The 2nd term was bright and eventful. In the field of sport some of our Year 1s and 2s participated in the Inter-International Athletic Meet held at the Sugathadasa Stadium. Our young participants reported for training regularly around 6.00am prior to the event. I wish to congratulate all our participants for their achievements. In swimming our Year ones and twos participated in the Junior Swimming Meet.

In February Sri Lanka celebrated its 62nd Independence Day on the 4th of February 2010. To mark this event our little friends presented a special assembly on the 3rd of February along with the Juniors.

Working around a Topic theme is considered an important aspect of our curriculum. In February children had Topic theme days organised by their year group teachers for every year group. Children from all year groups participated in Topic oriented activities during this week.

We at C.I.S. celebrated the Sinhala and Tamil New Year on Monday 22nd March with children participating in traditional Avurudu Games and activities on this day.

Another important event in the 2nd term was the Art Exhibition titled "Artrageous" The children worked with a range of medium and materials as well as developed their creativity skills and talents to present this exhibition. Students of Years one and two used microsoft paint applications to present colourful computer art creations.

The highlights of the final term were the Infant production, "Out of this World " and our special assemblies presented by our Reception and Play Group pupils in the school Auditorium.

The Infant School was delighted to present "Out of this World" staged by our Year one and two pupils with a cast of around 150 children. This is a production every child dreams of being a part of. The main focus was to give the children an opportunity to act out their favourite Disney characters. The production along with the beautiful dance sequences was a remarkable achievement and a memorable one.

The special assemblies presented by our Reception and Play Group children on the 18th and 19th of June gave all our young friends an opportunity to perform on stage in the presence of a large audience as well as develop their self confidence. Every Friday we have a Certificate Assembly to recognise all our achievers for the week. News letters and photos of termly events appear on our web site

All activities are planned and aimed at giving our children the opportunity to achieve and rise to heights that they possibly can. Their achievements are a clear indication that they enjoy their day in school.

Our pupils in every age group have worked hard and achieved much academically and socially. I wish to congratulate all of them for their achievements. Our year 2s enter a new phase in their life when they move to the Junior School. We are confident that we have helped them to be responsible and persevering and most of all live by the values we have lovingly instilled in them. We trust that they will build upon the solid foundations they have received in their formative years in the Infant School.

Mrs. I. Kenny
HEAD OF INFANTS