

INFANT SECTION REVIEW OF THE YEAR 2017/2018

The Infant section of the Colombo International School recognizes that the formative years are the foundation on which successful students, adults, cultures and nations are built. We strive to develop our pupil's skills and talents by providing an emergent comprehensive, integrated educational curriculum that enables children to develop their full potential.

We promote choice, diversity and academic excellence at all levels of ability. Expectations of parents, staff and pupils are high and through effort and determination pleasing progress has been achieved by every year group. The Infant school follows the Early Years Key Stage 1 components of the UK national curriculum.

The classroom learning experience of our pupils is enhanced by an experienced well qualified teaching staff that pays attention to individual learners, use suitable teaching methods and plan lessons methodically. Their dedication and commitment are greatly appreciated.

This year has been another successful year with events and achievements. As a result of the success, achievements and popularity of our Nursery year group we commenced our 2nd Nursery class in September 2017. Many 2 -1/2 year olds joined our Nursery group and happily settled into the colourful Nursery environment.

The path to create unity and diversity is paved by presenting assemblies that denote culture and religious festivals of all nationalities. Pupils from all communities and nationalities happily participated in Christmas, Vesak, Deepavali, Hadji, Independence Day and Sinhala & Tamil New year assemblies. These were enriching experiences for both parents and students alike.

Classroom displays, Topic based activities and extra – curricular activities enable children to develop their interests, talents and skills in an informal environment. Our four to seven year olds participated in a variety of after school clubs that cater to their interest. Computing, Scrabble, French, Music, Dance, Drama, Choir, Needle work, Art & Craft and Tennis are popular clubs.

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In September CIS celebrated its 35th Birthday. A variety of food and games stalls were organized in order to provide a fun packed afternoon for both students and their families. The proceeds from this event were donated to various charitable organizations.

Book week is another very important event in our calendar. In October students participated in book week activities, assemblies and competitions which were aimed at developing and improving children's literacy, role play and reading skills. Every child and class received a certificate for their achievements and participation in all activities.

Sports play an important role in our curriculum. In October our Annual Sports day saw pupils, staff and parents fill the MCA grounds with colour and activity. Many excelled in their track events and class relays. Our Year One's and Two's who participated in the Junior Swimming Squad and Athletic squads have helped to improve swimming and athletic standards as well as enthusiasm for the sport. Congratulations to all our achievers!

In December children enjoyed celebrating Christmas with lots of hands on activities and displays around the school.

Our Christmas Carol Service was held in December at the Cathedral of the Living Savior. At this special event the Infant choir performed collectively with the Junior and Secondary choirs harmonizing together in one voice. On the final day of the term all age groups enjoyed their class parties as well as a visit from Santa with a gift for every child.

I wish to commend our Infant choir which consists of over 60 pupils from different nationalities harmonizing together they participate in all special assemblies and events.

Term two was eventful with students excelling academically and socially. Class assemblies have been of a very high standard developing self- confidence and public speaking skills.

Topic is an enjoying and enlightening subject which pupils follow with much interest and enthusiasm learning cross curricular links between Science, Geography and Literacy. Topic theme days were special to every year group. Pupils were actively involved in interesting activities during their well-planned topic days.

Art is one of the many ways children express themselves as well as communicate their feelings thus developing their fine motor skills.

The Infant Art & Craft & Computer Art Exhibition titled "Creative Hands" displayed student's creativity and skills. Computer generated art work was created by using Microsoft paint applications. All exhibits were of a very high standard. A remarkable achievement by our students.

Performing Arts, Music, Drama and Dance are an important part of early childhood education. They promote development social interaction, communication and self-confidence in the early years. The highlights of the 3rd term were the Infant Productions.

"Porridge" was staged on the 7th and 8th of June by the Year One and Two students. A brand new musical version of the most popular tale "Goldilocks and the Three Bears" with familiar fairytale folks brought to life. Porridge had all the ingredients of a wonderful production.

The Bee Musical was staged by the Reception C, 1 & 5 year group pupils on the 18th of May. A fabulous script and terrific songs got the young pupils buzzing with enthusiasm.

"There is A Sun Flower in My Supper" by Gayrn Boddy and Rebecca Kincaid an enjoyable musical with loveable characters and catchy songs was staged by our four year old Pre Reception students on the 17th of May.

"The Ants and the Grasshopper" by our Nursery C and the fairytale musical by Nursery 1 were commendable performances by 2-1/2 to 3-1/2 year olds. Our little friends delighted the audience with their show of talent.

The productions provided our youngest pupils with opportunities to demonstrate their skills and talents in Dance, Drama and Music.

Resources and facilities for teachers and pupils in the Library, Computer room and around the school are excellent as they are child centered. Class displays of children's work are outstanding and motivating. All activities are planned to give students the opportunity to achieve and excel in their work as well as enjoy their day in school.

Newsletters of the termly events and photos of termly events appear on our school website (www.cis.lk).

Our dedicated group of Class teachers, Assistant teachers, Supportive teachers and all Subject teachers have attended to their academic responsibilities meticulously throughout this academic year. On behalf of the school I would like to extend my gratitude to them all for their invaluable contributions in order to make this year a success.

The Infant school is no doubt the foundation of CIS where students work to achieve high standards academically and socially. I wish to congratulate them all for their success and achievements. I take this opportunity to wish our Year Two pupils every success in the Junior School. We trust they will continue to build upon the solid foundations they have received in the Infant School.

I wish to extend my sincere thanks to Mrs. Shamali Chu our Deputy Head of Infants for her commitment and support in numerous ways. Thank you Shamali.

I also take this opportunity to thank our Principal Mr. David Sanders for his efforts to support the Infant Section throughout the academic year. His personal interest in the children has been a source of motivation and encouragement.

My sincere thanks and appreciation to our Chairman and Head of CIS Mr. Armyne Wirasinha for his invaluable support at all times.

I would also like to thank our Executive Deputy Chairman Mr. D.P.C. Lawrence for the support rendered throughout this academic year.

I would like to express my sincere thanks to all our parents who have supported the school in numerous ways. Your confidence and cooperation are greatly appreciated.

We wish to extend a warm welcome to all our pupils joining us in the next academic year.

To all our little friends from Nursery to Year Two "Congratulations" and Happy Summer Holidays!

Looking forward to seeing you all on the 24th of August for the new Academic year.

Mrs. I. Kenny

HEAD OF INFANTS