

INFANT SECTION REVIEW OF THE YEAR 2018/19

The Infant school strives to generate a warm and caring atmosphere in which all children can flourish and achieve their full potential. Foundations are firmly established, successful study strategies as well as a positive attitude to school are developed from Nursery to Year Two. Our ultimate aim is to give our young students the confidence and enthusiasm to become life-long learners.

In every year group students have sustained high academic standards as a result of the upgraded schemes of work followed in all areas of the curriculum. Indicators such as Reading Age are indicative of the accelerated progress made by our students.

Science and Topic based activities and extra- curricular activities enable students 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 interests. Computing, Scrabble, French, Music, Dance, Choir, Needle work, Art & Craft and Tennis are popular clubs.

The path to creating unity and diversity is paved by presenting assemblies that denote cultural and religious festivals of all nationalities. Students from all communities happily participated in the Christmas, Deepavali, Haji, Independence Day and Sinhala and Tamil New Year assemblies. These were enriching experiences for our students.

This year has been a remarkably successful year with events and achievements. In September C.I.S. celebrated its 36th Birthday. A variety of games and food stalls were organized to provide an enjoyable afternoon for our students.

In October our students participated in Library Week activities, assemblies and competitions aimed at developing and improving children's literacy, role play and reading skills. Every child and class received a certificate for their participation and achievement at a colourful presentation assembly in the school's auditorium.

Sport plays an integral part in a child's education as it fosters team spirit and friendship. Our enthusiastic students made impressive achievements in the field of sports this year. In October our Annual Sports Day saw our students, staff and parents display enthusiasm and fill the MCA grounds with colour and activity. The opening ceremony was a colourful drill display by the Year Two students. Every year group participated in their class relays and track events. Every child received a gift and certificate for their participation.

Our Infant Swimming squad every Wednesday and Athletic squad every Thursday have helped to improve swimming and athletic standards as well as enthusiasm for the sport. Congratulations to all our achievers.

In December students enjoyed celebrating Christmas doing lots of craft work as well as making very creative displays that adorned the Infant school.

The Christmas Carol Service was held in December at the Cathedral of Christ the Living Saviour. At this special event the Infant Choir performed with the Junior and Secondary Choirs harmonizing together in one voice. On the final day of the term all year groups enjoyed their class parties as well as a visit from Santa with a gift for every child.

Our Infant Choir is growing in popularity and consists of over 50 students from different nationalities harmonizing together and participating in special assemblies and events throughout the year. Every performance is highly commendable. Congratulations to all the students and staff involved in the Choir.

Term two was eventful with students excelling academically and socially.

Topic theme days were well planned and prepared. Students were involved in project work as well as interesting activities, learning cross curricular links between Science, Geography and Literacy. Every year group benefitted from their participation in topic oriented activities. The highlights of the term were the Infant Art & Craft & Computer Art Exhibition titled "Fusion of Colour". Our young students worked with a range of medium and materials. They were encouraged to use their creative talents and skills. The outstanding computer generated art work was created using Microsoft paint application. The Art & Craft Exhibition was a splendid display of talent.

Performing Arts, Music and Dance are an important part of the extra-curricular programme in school. They provide students the opportunity to develop and enhance their skills and talents as well as their self-confidence.

This year our Year One and Two students were preparing for their annual production 'Peter and the Piper' – a musical adaptation based on the well-known story of the Pied Piper of Hamelin. It was a fun filled and productive term of practice and preparation. The respective casts were involved in practicing for these productions with great enthusiasm. The choristers were thorough with their songs, main speaking characters projected themselves with utmost confidence and dance choreography was diverse in formations and style.

The Variety Concert show was designed to enable our young students to synchronize and showcase their talents on stage. The items to be performed at this show were as follows-

Nursery C – Sri Lankan Fiesta

Nursery I – Mexican Fiesta

Pre Reception C- a Fairytale Ball

Pre Reception I – A Twisted Fairytale

Reception CIS – Beyond the Waves

However, unfortunately due to unexpected circumstances these productions' had to be renounced for this academic year.

Our collective effort over the past year has resulted in success and achievement in our endeavors to make the children the centre of our life.

Many new additions to resources were made this year. The highlight being the extension of the Infant Library which can be used for multiple purposes as a classroom with an interactive white board. This benefitted students as they read online stories as well as for Audio Visual French lessons and other subjects.

Class displays and children's work are outstanding and motivating. All activities are planned to enable children achieve and excel in all subjects as well as enjoy their school day.

It is the holistic approach to education which ensures that our students are happy well- rounded individuals who have confidence in their own abilities.

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

Our 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 which made 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 Mrs. Sarah Philipps for her efforts to support the Infant Section throughout the academic year. Her 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 wish 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 23rd of August for the new Academic year.

Mrs. I. Kenny
HEAD OF INFANTS