

## **INFANT SECTION REVIEW OF THE YEAR 2015 - 2016**

The past year has been a most successful and productive period in which happy children have made great progress in a wide range of academic and extracurricular activities. Many children joined the school this year and they have all had a very successful year.

The school attaches great importance to the most impressionable and receptive early years of a child's life when foundations for academic, moral and physical development are laid down. By providing an intellectually stimulating child centered educational environment. Our pupils have made remarkable strides and achievements in the development of their foundation skills.

Holistic education with quality teaching and innovative technologies have helped to promote academic excellence at all levels of ability. The Infant school follows the early year's key stage 1 component of the UK national curriculum.

Classroom learning in the Infant school is unique. Our team of experienced, dedicated teachers utilize unlimited resources and skillfully guide our children to achieve success whilst providing them a memorable learning experience. Their endeavours are greatly appreciated.

The path to create unity in diversity is paved by organizing cultural and religious assemblies of all nationalities. Children from all communities and nationalities happily participated in Christmas, Vesak, Deepavali, Hadji, Independence day and Sinhala and Tamil New Year assemblies.

These were happy occasions where students, parents and teachers come together displaying the true international atmosphere in the school.

Classroom displays of children's work, Topic based activities and extra curricular activities develop children's interests, talents and skills in an informal environment. Children participate in a variety of after school clubs that cater to their interests.

This year has been yet another successful year with events and achievements.

In September the school celebrated its 33<sup>rd</sup> birthday. A variety of food and games stalls were organized in order to provide a fun filled afternoon for our children and their families.

A book is an adventure, a garden, a teddy bear and an air balloon. If a child's love for books is kindled his association with books grows into a lifelong experience.

At the Infant school great importance is given to encourage reading and improve fluency.

Indicators such as reading age show that our pupils make accelerated progress in their reading skills. In October a week was devoted to reading and library activities as well as assemblies. Children participated in Library week quizzers and variety of book themed activities. On the final day they were awarded certificates and prizes for their achievements.

Our students have made great strides in the field of sports this academic year. Our sports day was held on the 27<sup>th</sup> November 2015. The opening ceremony was a colourful drill display presented by our Year Twos. Every age group participated in their class track and relay events. Many excelled in their track events.

Our Infant section pupils performed extremely well in their respective events at the International Schools Athletic Competition (ISAC) held in March this year. Our Infant swimming squad has helped to improve swimming standards as well as enthusiasm for the sport. Congratulations to all our successful achievers in athletics and swimming this year.

In December Infant and Junior sections presented a special Christmas assembly on the 4<sup>th</sup> of December at the auditorium. Our Christmas Carol Service was held on the 9<sup>th</sup> of December 2015, with many children participating in the Carol service held at the Cathedral of Christ the Living Saviour. This was a special event where the Infant choir performed collectively along with the Junior and Secondary schools, harmonizing together in one voice. We are indeed proud of our music teachers for this achievement. 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.

Term two was quite bright and eventful with pupils excelling in their academic progress. Class assemblies have been of a very high standard developing self-confidence and public speaking skills.

In February children presented a beautiful assembly along with the Junior School to mark Sri Lanka's 68<sup>th</sup> Independence Day on the 4<sup>th</sup> of February.

Topic theme days were very special to every year group. Children were actively involved in their respective topic days with interesting educational topic based activities.

The Infant Art & Craft & Computer Art exhibition titled “Hands @ Work” displayed students creativity, skills and talents working with a range of medium and materials. Computer generated art work was created by using Microsoft paint application. The exhibition was a spectacle of colour.

Performing arts, Drama, Dance and Music are a valuable part of the extra curricular programme in the school. They provide students the opportunity to develop and enhance their skills in acting, dancing and singing as well as their self confidence. The highlights of the 3<sup>rd</sup> term were the Infant production ‘The WABAC’, and Variety concert ‘Pirates Vs Mermaids’ and ‘The Hungry Caterpillar’. The Wabac musical production is an original stage adaptation of the popular children’s animated movie Peabody and Sherman edited to suit our young performers. A cast of over 200 performers back tracked all the way to the Trojan war, ancient Egypt, the Renaissance and the French Revolution to bring alive this musical adaptation.

Our youngest pupils from the Pre Reception and Reception took the audience on an adventure across the seven seas as they battled it off in a delightful musical “Pirates vs. Mermaids”. A musical treasure chest by Gaynot Boddy and Rebecca Kincaid. Our little friends from Nursery ‘C’ presented a colourful presentation of the popular story by Eri Carl ‘The Very Hungry Caterpillar’. The collective effort and contribution by the entire cast and our dedicated teachers contributed to the great success of the productions.

Resources and facilities around the school are excellent as they are child centered. Class displays of children’s work by teachers are outstanding as they encourage and motivate our students to do better. All activities are planned to give students the opportunity to achieve and excel in their work as well as enjoy their school day.

Newsletters of the termly events and photos of termly events appear on our school website ([www.cis.lk](http://www.cis.lk)).

Teachers of the Infant School have worked hard with much dedication in order to maintain high standards in every field. On behalf of the school I would like to extend my gratitude to all of them for their invaluable contributions.

The Infant school is no doubt the foundations 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 31st of August for the new Academic year.

Mrs. I. Kenny

HEAD OF INFANTS