



COLOMBO INTERNATIONAL SCHOOL

40
Years Of
Nurturing
Excellence
Colombo International School

Senior Section Newsletter - October 2022

The beginning of our first term has been charged with an electric excitement and a mood of celebration as, after a hiatus of two long years, we are finally returning to what feels like normal school life, once again enjoying all the events that have traditionally shaped our community.



This year is a particularly special one as we celebrate 40 years of excellence. The anniversary will be marked with a range of activities taking place throughout the year to commemorate this significant milestone.

Celebrations began with the School Anniversary Fair on Saturday 24th September. Students and staff were delighted to once again participate in this special event and to raise money for charity, while partaking in delicious food and

a range of entertaining activities. The opening ceremony united the three sections of the school, and voices were raised proudly in a harmonious rendition of the School Anthem. An energetic Drumming number and a beautiful dance by the Sixth Form girls followed. After the Principal's rousing speech, the cake was cut and the event commenced.



Class groups in grades 7-11 along with a number of Clubs and Societies ran stalls. The most popular, as always, was the Prefects' Horror House, the screams from which could be heard across the Basketball Court! We were thrilled to see so many of our students past and present, along with their families – it truly was a fitting testament to forty wonderful years and we were thrilled that we were able to raise an incredible 2,489,700 LKR for charity. Thank you so much to all our parents for the generous donations and support that made this significant achievement possible - the general consensus was that this was the most successful anniversary yet!



Meanwhile, on the same day, while we enjoyed lots of sweet treats and drinks at the Anniversary celebration, our cricketers were engaged in a heated battle, vying against rivals Wycherley International at the Annual Big Match played on the MCA ground. Despite the hot weather, both teams fought courageously but the grit and determination of the CIS team proved too much for the Wycherley team as captain Mahith Panagoda was able

to lead CIS to victory by an impressive 203 runs.

In addition to starting the year with sporting successes, we are also still basking in the glow of the wonderful results achieved this summer at both IGCSE and IAL which once again placed CIS at the forefront of leadership in international education in Sri Lanka. We are now eagerly looking forward to the Edexcel Higher Achievers Awards ceremony on 24th November, at which we are confident our students will achieve well-deserved recognition.

Our current Year 13 students are now assiduously preparing for the next stage of their education, working with our experienced team of University Coordinators who are guiding them through the application process. The specialised coordinators for each region (UK / Australia, New Zealand and Malaysia / USA and Canada / Global), give students the targeted support and advice they need. In addition, students also benefit from a selection of Enrichment courses focused on this next stage, including workshops on writing personal statements and interview coaching.

Years 11, 12 and 13 were also inspired following a visit from past student and newly awarded Rhodes Scholar, Raveen Kariyawasam. Raveen is the first Sri Lankan in 54 years to secure a Rhodes Scholarship to study at the University of Oxford and he spoke inspiringly to our students about his journey to reach this pinnacle of academic achievement, giving them meaningful advice that we know they will take very seriously.



Although we are only in the second month of the academic year, there have already been a significant number of very enjoyable extra-curricular activities held. On 16th September, the Prefect's Guild hosted a movie night on the school premises. For Years 7-11 this was a screening of 'Croods: A New Age' in the auditorium, while Years 12 and 13 enjoyed 'Uncharted' on the basketball court. Both movies were accompanied with a delicious range of snacks which seemed

to create even more excitement than the films themselves!

On 1st October, we were also able to once again hold the school's much-loved annual Road Race. Despite the 5:30am start, attendance from both students and staff was excellent, with over 600 runners taking to the streets to compete. It was thrilling to see a number of students arrive in fancy dress and manage to run in their very creative attire! Special thanks go to the Social Services Society for their refreshment stall and the very kind parents and students who brought treats along for the runners. We all enjoyed the morning immensely and the Principal even



organised a treat for every student to commemorate Children's Day. Huge congratulations to all participants and most particularly our top ten runners in each category (pictured). The House results for this event were as follows: First Place – Yellow; Second Place- Red; Third Place – Blue and

Fourth Place – Green. House competition is already heated and we know our students will continue to battle for glory as the year progresses!

It has certainly been a busy start to the new academic year for the Senior Section but we are all enjoying the challenges and rewards that normal school life brings and eagerly look forward to the rest of the term continuing in the same vein.



Teachers' Day was on 5th October 2022 and our students, led by the Prefects' Guild, went to so much effort to thank our staff for their dedication and hard work. The day began with a beautiful assembly coordinated by the Head of School which included a number of gratifying student speeches. The students then gave all the teaching staff memento with a personalised card and a beautifully embossed lunch bag in appreciation of the teachers'

support. Huge thanks to the Batch of 2023 for making us feel so special with this warm and friendly approach!

