

# **BISHOP'S COLLEGE PARENT - TEACHER ASSOCIATION**

## **SECRETARY'S ANNUAL REPORT 2024**

### **ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING**

- The 72<sup>nd</sup> Annual General Meeting of The Bishop's College Parent-Teacher Association was held on **Thursday 08<sup>th</sup> November 2023** at 4.00pm at the School Auditorium. On this day, we bade farewell to two executive committee members and welcomed a teacher and a parent as new members.
- The appointment of Office Bearers to the Executive Committee for the year 2024 were confirmed. The Executive Committee for the year 2024 is as follows;

Mrs. Chemali Goonetilleke Herath	- President
Ms. Chrishnika Galbadage	- Vice President (teachers)
Mrs. Shanika Wimalabandu	- Vice President (parents)
Mrs. Shianthi Jayasinghe	- Rep. to the Board of Governors
Mrs. Srinika Gunawardena Linden	- Secretary
Mr. Rajiv Wanniarachchi	- Treasurer
Mrs. Suhasini Sendooran	- Assistant Treasurer

#### **Teachers**

Mrs. Virginia Thalpavila  
Mrs. Shehani Raddalgoda  
Mrs. Rajitha Kulasekera  
Mrs. Michelle Jayatilleke

#### **Parents**

Mr. Sujith Silva  
Mrs. Sameeha Thabreez  
Dr. Sanjaani Chandrasekera  
Mr. Dasun Karunathilake  
Mr. Shehan Kumar

- Audited Accounts for 2022/2023 were duly adopted as in order.
- Hulugalle Wickremanayake & Company was reconfirmed as Auditors for the Association.

### **ORDINARY GENERAL MEETING**

- This year we had one Ordinary General Meeting on Thursday 6<sup>th</sup> June 2024. The Guest Speaker was Mr. Dayan D L Fernando, Principal of Wycherley International School, Colombo & Coordinating Principal of CEG Schools, who spoke on the subject "Parenting the Modern Child" which was very well received by the parents and teachers present.
- The following teachers were acknowledged and felicitated for having completed 25 years of service to school.
  1. Mrs. Sumudu Hewawickrama
  2. Mrs. Sanjeewani De Silva
  3. Mrs. Gomi Siriwardena
  4. Mrs. Sagarika Premaratne
  5. Mrs. Rasika Jayawardena

## **EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETINGS**

- During the period under review, we had three executive committee meetings and fifteen project committee meetings.

## **ENVIRONMENTAL SUB-COMMITTEE**

- The Committee has continued to conduct inspections every five (5) days to monitor the mosquito population and the effectiveness of the control measures used.
- The fogging of the school premises was carried out on separate occasions by the Colombo Municipal Council and the National Dengue Control Unit, in response to the request made by school as a preventive measure against the potential spread of dengue fever to safeguard the health of students and staff members.
- Prior to the re-opening of school after the holiday break, all buildings were treated with citronella. Additionally, all classrooms and washrooms used during public examinations are sprayed each morning to provide a protective barrier against mosquitoes.
- To further prevent mosquito breeding, Mosquito Dunks and Larvicide Tablets have been placed around the school premises by the Committee. These measures aim to target stagnant water sources, reducing potential breeding sites.
- Entomologists attached to Suren Cooke Agencies were brought to school on Saturday 27th April 2024 for a thorough inspection of the school premises and they observed that there was no visible evidence of Mosquito breeding points. Their recommendations were duly noted by the Principal and the Environmental sub-committee and the Maintenance department was instructed to act on them immediately.
- On Tuesday 25<sup>th</sup>, June, Dr. Jagath Amarasekera from the National Dengue Control Unit conducted an informative presentation on Dengue Awareness and Prevention for the middle school students organized by the Health and Environmental Society.
- In addition to the educational session, proactive measures were taken to address the rising mosquito population and the increase of Dengue within the Colombo City Limits, due to the unpredictable weather conditions.
- My heartfelt thanks go out to each and every member of the Environmental Sub-Committee for their dedicated and committed service towards keeping the school premises clean and dengue free to the best of their abilities.

## **PROJECTS**

- Rs. 2,500,000/= (Two million five hundred thousand) out of the profits generated by Amazing Purple Race held last year was used to fund the renovation of the Swimming Pool Washrooms.
- We are pleased to inform that the renovated washrooms with contributions from the PTA, School and Past pupil & Parent Azma Azmi was handed back to the school on Monday 4th March 2024.

## **FUNDRAISERS**

- The fundraiser for the year was the Sing-Along, held for the second consecutive time. This year, it was titled “Break Free Volume 2” and took place on Saturday, June 29th, at the Waters Edge Main Ballroom, featuring the group “Black”.
- Parents, teachers, and well-wishers alike had an amazing time grooving to wonderful music, singing along with the provided songbook, participating in competitions, winning prizes, and enjoying delectable food and drinks. It was truly a night of merriment.
- Once it was concluded, everyone left the ballroom feeling happy, carrying bags full of gifts, while a fortunate few walked away with prizes and surprises.
- My heartfelt gratitude to all parents who came forward to help us with sponsorships, e-adverts, donations of gift items and prizes.
- I would like to extend special thanks to two parents: Mr. Dharshan Weragala of Tharanjee Printers for generously printing the entrance tickets free of charge, and Dr. Vibash Wijeratne, Director and CEO of Ninewells Hospital, for sponsoring the songbook for the event.
- We made a profit of Rs. 2,153,377/= (Two million one hundred and fifty-three thousand three hundred and seventy-seven) out of which Rs. 2,000,000/= (Two Million) will be allocated to fund the development of sports facilities provided for the students once the 150<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Celebrations are completed.

## **ACTIVITY**

- An Activity Day was organized to coincide with the Children’s Day Celebrations on Monday 30<sup>th</sup> September.
- Four movies were screened free of charge in the KG Hall using a large LED screen for optimal viewing experience. The screening times for each movie were scheduled appropriately to accommodate all students. The four movies were;
  1. Barney – For Play Group and Nursery
  2. Paddington 2 – For Grades 1 to 3
  3. Kung Fu Panda 4 – For Grades 4 and 5
  4. Inside Out 2 – For Grade 6 and upwards

- All students were provided with Popcorn and Milo from school, allowing the students to feel like they were at a movie theater.
- The Past Pupils Association provided the primary students with Candy Floss.
- The KG Hall provided a cozy environment, and the large LED screen creating an immersive viewing experience, that was well received by students across all grades.
- The school also arranged bouncers to be set up on the grounds, allowing children to let loose and have fun, creating a memorable experience for all students.
- A Disco at a nominal entrance fee of Rs. 200/= was organized in the Main Hall, which proved to be a highlight of the day for students from Grade 6 and above.
- Two DJs were hired to provide music throughout the day, playing a variety of tracks that kept the students engaged and entertained.
- Students were divided into groups and assigned specific time slots to ensure effective crowd management, providing each group with ample space and time to enjoy the disco.
- To help cover some of the event costs, four corporate stalls were set up, each offering a variety of products and refreshments.
- Some clubs and societies too set up stalls to enhance the overall experience of the day.

## **CONTRIBUTIONS**

- The Executive Committee contributed Rs.250,000/= (Two Hundred and Fifty Thousand) towards the staff Guild Christmas party 2023.
- The Annual Prize Giving Contribution of Rs.10,000/= (Ten thousand) towards the Sinhala Kavi and Tamil Kavi prizes was made.
- The Executive Committee requested for an additional prize donation and hence forth the International Advance Level Best Results Prize will be awarded by the Parent Teacher Association. This amounts to Rs.15,000/= (Fifteen thousand).
- The Executive Committee also contributed Rs. 57,195/= (Fifty-seven thousand one hundred and ninety-five) toward the **Sinhala and Tamil Aluth Avurudhu Malla** given to the Maintenance staff.
- The maintenance and replacement cost of Rs. 218, 311/= (Two hundred and eighteen thousand three hundred and eleven) was paid towards the two UV filtered water purifying units installed in school.
- Through our ongoing scholarship program, we sponsor the Advanced Level education of a deserving student until she sits for her final examination, which typically lasts about two and a half years. This year, we covered the second-year fees of Rs. 239,000/= (Two Hundred and thirty-nine Thousand).

- We also acknowledge with gratitude the Principal for providing the Executive Committee a small room within school premises to call our own to attend to PTA work and to keep all PTA related documents and files.

### **PTA MEMBERSHIP CARDS**

- We continue to provide PTA membership cards to new parents free of charge, and we also replace cards for parents who have lost or misplaced theirs at a cost of Rs. 2,500/=. This card serves as a gate pass for parents to enter school for any purpose.
- The School Registrar is responsible for issuing these cards. Parents are encouraged to contact her at the office during school hours for any queries regarding the same.

### **APPRECIATION**

- I take this opportunity to sincerely thank all members of the tutorial, office and IT Department staff, for their assistance and fullest co-operation at all time.
- Our heartfelt thanks go out to all members of the Maintenance staff, who are always willing to assist us with our many requests, even on short notice.
- I would like to express my gratitude for the continuous guidance and support provided by our Principal, Mrs. Chemali Goonetilleke Herath, and our Vice Principal, Ms. Chrishnika Galbadage.
- Many thanks to our membership for their presence and contributions at all activities of the Association.
- Finally, a heartfelt thank you to my fellow Executive Committee Members for the valuable time and effort they all put in to every activity of our committee.

**Mrs. Srinika Gunawardena Linden**  
**Secretary**