



Parent Teacher Association

The 65th Annual General Meeting of the Parent-Teacher Association was held in November 2015 and no changes were made to the existing Executive Committee. The present members of the Exco are as under:-

Ms. Sharmila Gunatilleke – President, Mrs. Chemali Herath & Dr. Fathima Imtiaz – Vice Presidents, Mrs. Simone Botejue & Mrs. Vyomie Kulatunga – Joint Secretaries, Mrs. Yogeshary Ganeshaligam- Treasurer, Mrs. Ruchika Bandara – Assistant Treasurer, Mrs. Diloka Kamalgoda – PTA Representative to the Board of Governors. Mrs. Asha Pulukkody, Mrs. Thevatharshani Premanathan, Mr. Leonard Thangarajah, Mr. Devinda Amarasuriya, Mr. Migara Perera, Mr. Dhakshitha Seresundera, Mrs. Kumudini Kariyawasan and Mr. Nirupan Wijeyanathan –

Mrs. Kumudini Kariyawasan tendered her resignation during the course of the year due to personal commitments.

The Executive Committee has met regularly during the year under review while various sub-committees of various projects have been meeting regularly too.

ORDINARY GENERAL MEETINGS

Two Ordinary General Meetings have been held this year. The First OGM was on the 18th of March 2015. The Guest Speaker at this meeting was none other than our very own Head Mistress of the Primary School, Mrs. Rochelle Tisaarachchy who spoke to the parents on “What the teachers and Bishop’s College expects from you”.

The OGM for the second term was held on the 22nd of July 2015, where we organized a Panel Discussion which was moderated by Mrs. Shermila Perera. At this discussion, 5 teachers talking both in English and in Sinhalese gave their ideas on the “Pros and cons of Homework” justified their reasons for giving the children homework and were able to answer various questions raised by the parents.

ENVIRONMENTAL SUB-COMMITTEE

Our 10 member Environmental Sub Committee continues to carry out their weekly inspections in and around the school premises and its surroundings every 7-10 days in keeping with the breeding cycle of the mosquito, primarily for the purpose of eradicating possible dengue breeding sites around the school as well as the auditorium area including air-conditioning and refrigerator trays, overhead tanks, gutters, drains etc.. The boarding

and the sick room have also been subject to regular checks and regular fumigation and pest control is also carried out.

The visiting Government Authorities have checked all areas of the school and have shown satisfaction with their inspections. Further, this committee is also responsible for carrying out regular sick room checks and ensuring that all medicine stored therein are current and not out dated.

TEACHER TRAINING

Many of our Teachers have been following various courses to obtain professional certificates and diplomas from the inception of this initiative taken by the PTA. We have taken a decision that Teacher Training should be an ongoing programme and as such have decided to continue with our commitment of contributing 50% of any surplus funds from our funds towards this worthy cause. This year, we have contributed 50% of the surplus amount on the KG Facelift Project to this worthy cause.

PTA SCHOLARSHIP

The Executive Committee had taken a decision to grant a permanent scholarship to a senior student doing the A/Levels and as such this year, a scholarship worth Rs. 275,000/- was granted to a student doing her A/Levels, who was identified as a worthy recipient by the Principal and the Senior Sectional Head. This scholarship will be in force for the whole 2 ½ years until this student completes her A/Level exam. We hope to continue this process with a new student thereafter.

PTA PROJECTS

(1) We had begun work on the re-furbishment of the Senior Staff Room last year and we have been able to see the successful completion of this project this year after having tied up all loose ends and attending to the finer details. We sincerely hope that all the teachers are now happy in their new and improved surroundings. Our thanks once again goes out to Mrs. Pavithra Subasinghe, the Architect of this project and to all you parents for your generous donations in cash and also for the donations of the refrigerator, the microwave and the computers towards this project.

(2) For the year 2016 the PTA committee decided that our main focus should be the Air-Conditioning of the Main Hall. Even though the hall had been re-furbished and improved a couple of years ago, we felt that the air-conditioning of the hall of tremendous importance particularly due to the change of weather patterns and the extreme heat we have been facing in recent times. Preliminary discussions and planning have already got underway. To maintain transparency and utmost clarity of purpose, a tender procedure is to be followed to ascertain the most suited party to award the work to. There will be some civil work also involved and we hope to complete all this with making little or no changes to the present structure of the main hall. The estimated cost for this project is approximately Rs. 12 million. The PTA together with the school will bear the cost of the project. We sincerely thank all the enthusiastic parents who have contacted us and offered their voluntary contributions. It is indeed heartening to note that parents are so supportive and willing to help out with these worthy projects. Special mention should be made here of Mr. Waruna Gomis, Mr. Manjula Nishantha and Mr. Janak Dassanayake who have all volunteered their Professional Assistance as the Architect, the Mechanical Engineer and the Quantity Surveyor of this project respectively. We are indeed grateful to them all for their valuable advice, time, effort

and commitment towards this project. We hope to begin work on this project as soon as school closes for the December vacations, working around the O/Level exams and look forward to a successful completion as soon as possible.

(3) We were sorry to hear that there were members of our staff who had suffered a great deal of damage and loss due to the recent flooding in and around their homes and the PTA gained satisfaction in being able to help certain members by purchasing a few essential items for them thereby helping them get back on their feet.

FUND RAISERS

BAND HEROES 2016

Band Heroes 2016 was held on the 5th of March 2016 at the school grounds which was a great success. The performances of the invited schools were of a very high standard. It was a very enjoyable evening with a carnival atmosphere and there were many food stalls with a variety of food items for sale. We are happy to mention that our final surplus on this event was Rs. 1,141,533/-. And the entire amount has been credited to the Main Hall Project account.

The Principal and the Exco of the PTA have decided not to go ahead with any other fund raising events this year as we felt that this would be an unnecessary taxing of the parents. Instead we have decided to concentrate on our main project and also other areas of the school which need attention and repair.

In conclusion, we would like to thank our Principal Ms. Sharmila Gunatilleke and Vice Principal Mrs. Chemali Herath for their availability at all times to discuss matters, their valuable advice and un-ending support and encouragement with everything we take on. Many thanks also to the tutorial, office and ancillary staff for all the assistance rendered to us at all times. To the members of the Exco, our thanks and appreciation for your dedication and commitment as always.

Simone Botejue & Vyomie Kulatunga – Joint Secretaries/PTA.