

Lyceum Newsletter

MARCH 2016



LN - 242

Nugegoda

MESSAGE FROM OUR FOUNDER MR. MOHAN LAL GRERO

An 18-year-old student was struggling to pay his fees. He was an orphan, and not knowing where to turn for money, he came up with a bright idea. A friend and he decided to host a musical concert on campus to raise money for their education. They reached out to the great pianist Ignacy J. Paderewski. His manager demanded a guaranteed fee of US\$2000 for the piano recital. A deal was struck and the boys began to work to make the concert a success.

The big day arrived. Paderewski performed. But unfortunately, they had not managed to sell enough tickets. The total collection was only \$1600. Disappointed, they went to Paderewski and explained their plight. They gave him the entire \$1600, plus a cheque for the balance \$400. They promised to honour the cheque at the soonest possible.



“No,” said Paderewski. “This is not acceptable.” He tore up the cheque, returned the \$1600 and told the two boys: “Please deduct whatever expenses you have incurred. Keep the money you need for your fees and just give me whatever is left”. The boys were surprised, and thanked him profusely. It was a small act of kindness. But it clearly marked out Paderewski as a great human being.

We all come across situations like these in our lives. And most of us only think, “If I help them, what would happen to me?” The truly great people think, “If I don’t help them, what will happen to them?” They don’t do it expecting something in return. They do it because they feel it’s the right thing to do.

Paderewski later went on to become the Prime Minister of Poland. He was a great leader, but unfortunately when the World War began, Poland was ravaged. There were more than 1.5 million people starving in his country, and no money to feed them. Paderewski did not know where to turn for help. He reached out to the US Food and Relief Administration for help.

The man in charge was Herbert Hoover — who later went on to become the US President. Hoover agreed to help and quickly shipped tons of food to feed the starving Polish people. A calamity was averted. Paderewski was relieved. He decided to go across to meet Hoover and personally thank him. When Paderewski began to thank Hoover for his noble gesture, Hoover quickly interjected and said, “You shouldn’t be thanking me, Mr. Prime Minister. You may not remember this, but several years ago, you helped two young students go through college in the U. S. I was one of them.” What goes around comes around. Choose your words carefully. Give cheerfully. Act lovingly.

AN APPEAL TO THE PARENTS

Parents are kindly requested to check the child's timetable daily and send only the relevant books for the day to avoid children carrying unnecessary weight in their bags. Carrying weight in excess increases physical stress, which eventually produces lethargy, fatigue and inability to concentrate in class.

BIRTH CERTIFICATES

If the Sports Department requests the original birth certificate for sports activities, please submit a certified original from the AGA's office and not give the original.

GRADE 5 BUDDHISM TEXT BOOK

Please note that there is a correction in the Grade 5 Buddhism Text Book, page no. 30. It should be corrected as "He died on April 29th 1933 in India".



Memos to Parents & Guardians



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SCIENCE WORKSHOP FOR GRADE 6 PARENTS CONDUCTED BY DR. NONIS

Thank you for attending the Workshop. We hope that you found the workshop informative and worthwhile. Our primary goal was to increase your understanding of new teaching methodology and to introduce and provide resources that will support your child in the classroom. You were a great group and your enthusiasm and positive spirit helped the facilitator to be productive and fun. Thank you for your comments and suggestions. We assure you that each will be given consideration so that future workshops will be even more successful.

Please note that any mobile phone found in school will be confiscated. The Dialog Suraksha device (not the Suraksha watch) can be brought to school and used after school hours under certain terms and conditions. (Please refer January 2016 newsletters).

GRADE 3 CLASSES IN KOHUWALA PREMISES

There will be 3 Grade 3 classes in Lyceum Kohuwala premises for September 2016, due to the limited space in Lyceum Nugegoda branch. Parents who wish to have their children in **those three classes only** can do so by sending a request letter to the Registrar. Please handover your request letters to the reception at main school before 29th April 2016.

Requests for classes in Nugegoda premises will not be accommodated due to limited space.

GOOD SWIMMERS...

Grades 1 & 2

Please meet Mr. Nishantha at the swimming pool and attend extra training sessions so that you can participate at the next Inter International Schools Swimming Meet. Tel. no. 2829744. Ext no. 113.

Many students are receiving red stars which is very good. Due to the time taken at assembly to give out the red star certificates, only certificates for 16 red stars will be given out at assembly and 4, 8 and 12 red star certificates will be given out by the class teacher in class.

We observed that children at primary level find it difficult to recite Buddhist Gathas properly. They are unable to pronounce Pali words in a correct manner when reciting Gathas. Parents are kindly requested to purchase a CD that contains Pirith Desana and play it in the morning for your kids to listen. You need to assure that children listen to Deshana when it is playing. Once the children get used to his habit, they will learn correct pronunciation and gain many other merits.

PROCEEDING TO A/L

Please note that students should get a minimum of 5 'C' passes at the O/L Examination of which three 'C' grades should be for the subjects applied for at the A/L.

DONATION OF GYM APPARATUS FOR A NEEDY CAUSE

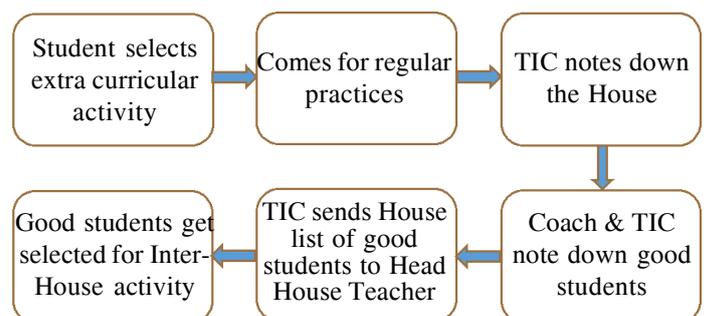
Dear parents, please be kind enough to donate any of the following equipment that you may have and may not be using.

- * Bench (Incline & flat bench) * Home Gym Machine
- * Sit up bench * Mirror * Normal Bench & ladies bench
- * Squat Rack

THREATENING STAFF MEMBERS OR STUDENTS

Please note that if any parent threatens a staff member or a student, the Management will be compelled to lodge an entry with the police.

SELECTION FOR HOUSE ACTIVITY



If your child does not attend practices but excels in that activity, please send a letter to the Principal giving details and requesting that the child be allowed to participate.



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TFC

"We make a living by what we get, we make a life by what we give". How many of us are willing to go the extra mile, take the extra step in order to make the difference? Lyceum Nugegoda's very own "Teens for Change" have gone that extra mile by empowering children and helping them to unlock their creative potential. TFC is a group of ordinary children doing extraordinary things, as TIC Ms. Jinali puts it. TFC is truly more than a charity organization and previous projects include visits to Victoria Home, orphanages and St. Mary's college. The latest project is the Marine conservation awareness program.

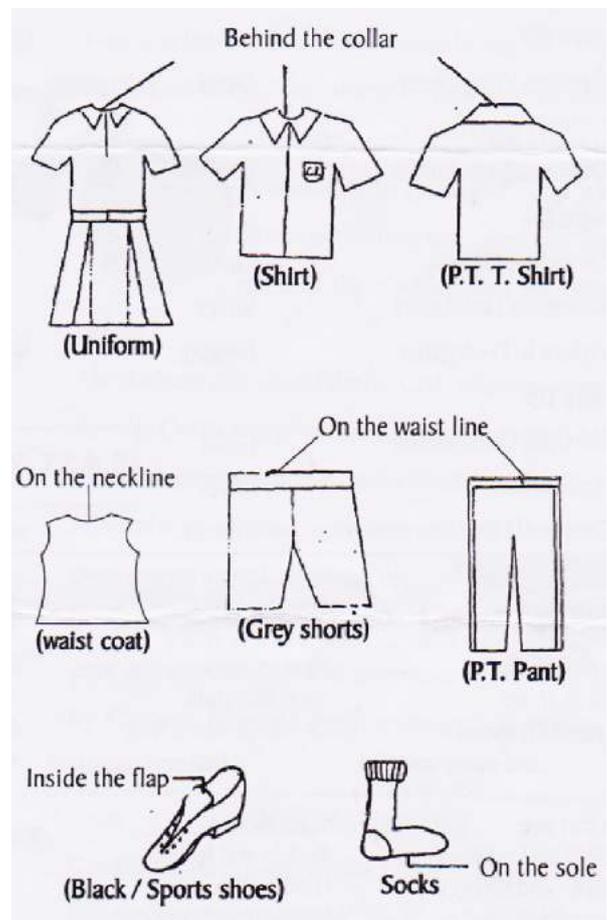
Sri Lanka, being a tropical island, is endowed with miles of golden beaches. These form an important part of the tourist industry, providing an important recreational resource for tourists and local residents. It also provides jobs to the local community. Despite its commercial purposes, it also provides us with air to breathe, food to eat, water to drink, new medicines and a suitable climate. It also serves as a habitat and nesting ground for an array of marine species.

However, due to adverse human impact, marine conservation has become necessary in ensuring the survival of our oceans and its resources. Some of the prevailing threats include overfishing, deterioration of coral reefs, shark finning, pollution, acidification and sedimentation. Many aquatic ecosystems have been severely degraded, and not taking corrective measures will lead to further losses in marine biodiversity.

The TFC have taken to the challenge of marine conservation through creating awareness amongst locals, starting with our very own Lyceumers. Poster competitions will be organised for the primary grades, quizzes for the more senior students, banners being posted around the school and the use of social media to inform the public. Although it has been the dedication and commitment of our members that enabled this, all our hard work would be in vain if not for the cooperation and support of the students, parents and the management. So lets "Go Blue" and sustain our oceans for the future generations.

UNIFORMS

Please write your child's name and grade on uniforms in the places indicated below (using a permanent marker on the inside of the uniform). Also write the name and grade on the towel and underwear, as it will be easy to sort their clothes specially when they go for swimming.



IF YOUR CHILD GETS ANGRY QUICKLY, THE REASON MIGHT BE YOU HAVE NOT PRAISED THEM ENOUGH. THEY ONLY GET ATTENTION BY MISBEHAVING.





Memos to Parents & Guardians

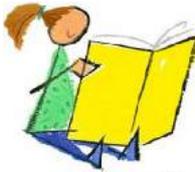


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TIPS TO PARENTS-HOMEWORK THAT REALLY WORKS!

If you have children in secondary school, do you ever feel their evenings and weekends disappear under an avalanche of paper?



Homework is important for children to learn how to use research materials and solve problems for themselves, but there are things parents can do to help them stay on top of it without burning themselves out before they are 18:

- * Make a cosy homework room or corner that is well-lit and has a comfortable desk and chair. Encourage kids to eat and drink before starting work.
- * Remind them that going to bed at a reasonable time is better than an extra hour of work when they are too tired.
- * Make a wall chart so they can note what homework is due and when.
- * Liaise with the school if you have any concerns.
- * Don't add to the tension by nagging about the state of their bedroom etc.
- * Allow them space to do nothing at all from time to time.

GRADE 10 & 12 STUDENTS

Grade 10 & 12 students are exempted from taking part in any sporting activity due to the exams. Therefore, P.T. marks will be multiplied by two for the semester exam. However, if they do take part in a physical activity the higher mark of the two will be selected. Please refer page 41 of the SHB 1.

LOOK SMART IN YOUR SCHOOL UNIFORM

If your child's uniform is shabby, please get him/her a new uniform. Please note that shabby uniforms bring disrepute to the school.

SCHOOL FEES

A surcharge will be levied at the end of every month if school fees are not paid before the due date. Therefore, please settle the outstanding fees on or before 31st March 2016. In case you have misplaced or not received your paying in voucher, please collect it from the Accounts Department.

ABRAHAM LINCOLN'S LETTER TO HIS SON'S HEAD MASTER

He, my son, will have to learn, I know that all the men are not just, all men are not true. But teach him also that for every scoundrel there is a hero, that for every selfish politician, there is a dedicated leader. Teach him, for every enemy, there is a friend. It will take time. I know, but teach him if you can, that a dollar earned is of far more value than five found. Teach him to learn to lose and also to enjoy winning. Steer him away from envy. If you can, teach him the secret of quiet laughter. Teach him, if you can, the wonder of books but also give him quiet time to ponder the eternal mystery of birds in the sky, bees in the sun and flowers on a green hillside. In the school teach him that it is far more honourable to fail than to cheat. Teach him to have faith in his own ideas, even if everyone tells him it is wrong. Teach him to be gentle with gentle people and tough with the tough. Try to give my son the strength not to follow the crowd when everyone is getting in the bandwagon. Teach him to listen to all men but teach him also to filter all he hears on a screen of truth and take only the good that comes through. Teach him, if you can, how to laugh when he is sad. Teach him that there is no shame in tears. Teach him to scoff at cynics and to beware of too much sweetness. Teach him to sell his brawn and brain to the highest bidders, but never to put a price tag on his heart and soul. Teach him to close his ears to a howling mob, and to stand and fight if he thinks he is right. Treat him gently but do not cuddle him, because then he will always have sublime faith in mankind. This is a big order, see what you can do. He is such a fine little fellow, my son.

IMPORTANT!

Please note that there are important notices in every newsletter. Therefore, it is compulsory for every parent and student to read the newsletter.