



SRI LANKA UNITES

Having previously held their annual Future Leaders Conference in Kandy, Jaffna and Galle, this year Sri Lanka Unites travelled to the Eastern Province, to Akkaraipattu in Ampara. Six of our students attended the conference: Sashini Jinasena, Sanush Nukshan, Parami Peiris, Madusha Perera, Vinu Samarasekera and Mathanki Sreeskand. They participated in a wide range of leadership and teamwork building games as well listening to a series

of talks. As ever, the highlight for our students was the opportunity to meet and interact with other teenagers from very different backgrounds to them, who had come from 22 of the 25 districts in Sri Lanka. Elizabeth Moir School continues to play a very active role within Sri Lanka Unites. This year, one of our former students, Avishka Mendis, was one of the main organisers of the event, in charge of all the food for the hundreds of people who came to the conference.

RECORD SIXTEEN COMMONWEALTH ESSAY PRIZES

The 131st Commonwealth Essay Competition received over 9,500 entries from across the Commonwealth this year. Despite this tough competition, a record number of our students were awarded prizes, which is testimony to the very high standard of writing throughout the school.



Junior (Under 14 years)

Bronze Awards

Kanishtaa Ariyaratne
Eleanora Deemer
Anishka Fernandopulle
Senuka Jayasekera
Maelle Liyanage
Tara Mylvaganam
Anjalie Perera

Silver Awards

Anuk Dissanayake
Leonid Mylvaganam
Hashr Saeed

Gold Awards

Rachel Hayward
Umaama Hussain

Senior (14-18 years)

Silver Awards

Sharanja De Zoysa
Methin Lokumannage
Mitheshi Rambukwella
Anirudh Sathian



SEPTEMBER 2014

ELIZABETH MOIR SCHOOL

RECORD NUMBER OF A* GRADES AT A LEVEL

Another year of outstanding results saw our students again achieve record grades. At A Level, sixteen students earned at least one A* grade, making 24 in total, comfortably beating our previous record. 18% of all papers were graded A*, which is more than twice as good as the UK average of 8.2%. The A* grade is designed to identify the very top students and is a passport to top universities around the world: for almost half the class to have earned an A* is outstanding. In addition, two students – Gwang Hoon Lee and Khyla Muzni – scored 100% in Maths.

This brilliant achievement will jointly earn them the World Prize from Edexcel.

At IGCSE, over 45% of papers were graded A*, compared to the UK average of 7% at GCSE. For the second year in a row, this is better than in 2012, when our results were identified as the 3rd best of any international school in the world. Among many high achievers, Nidula Athulathmudali scored 96% in English Language and Urshella Hisham 97% in Maths.



At A Level, a record fourteen students gained 3 or more A grades, all including at least one A*. Gwang Hoon Lee and Khyla Muzni both gained 3A* grades with an overall average of over 95% across their four subjects.

Gwang Hoon Lee	3 A* 1 A
Khyla Muzni	3 A* 1 A
Zainab Adamaly	2 A* 2 A
Elangecran Rasalingam	2 A* 2 A
Naomali Gunaratne	2 A* 1 A
Sarah Haputantri	2 A* 1 A
Lishan Manawadu	1 A* 3 A
Amjad Azmeer	1 A* 2 A
Sagara Bogoda	1 A* 2 A
Ji Young Choi	1 A* 2 A
Amber Nomani	1 A* 2 A
Hana Rajap	1 A* 2 A
Vinu Samarasekera	1 A* 2 A
Ahmed Zayan Shahid	1 A* 2 A

At IGCSE, fifteen students gained 7 or more A grades, which is another record. Six of these achieved 8 or more A* grades, equalling the record set last year. This will earn them all Edexcel Awards.

Ines Anuncibay	10 A*
Urshella Hisham	9 A* 1 A
Nidula Athulathmudali	8 A* 2 A
Ashfath Ifham	8 A* 2 A
Ahmed Nomani	8 A* 1 A
Nicholas Manuelpillai	8 A*
Mira Gunawansa	6 A* 3 A
Takaharu Higuchi	6 A* 2 A
Lu u Lua Mohamed	6 A* 2 A
Tripti Mathews	5 A* 3 A
Alya Ali Rasheed	5 A* 3 A
Nicola Wijeyarathna	5 A* 3 A
Anyu Law	5 A* 2 A
Sandul Aponso	4 A* 6 A
Andrea Tulara	4 A* 3 A

FOUNDERS' DAY

Elizabeth Moir School's 18th Founders' Day Prize Giving was held at the newly renovated BMICH Main Conference Hall. This year's ceremony was especially memorable as it featured a celebration of Mrs. Moir's career and achievements in recognition of the recent announcement that she had been awarded an MBE by Her Majesty The Queen. A further highlight was an inspiring, moving and beautifully delivered speech by outgoing Captain of School, Zainab Adamaly. The evening began with a brilliant routine by the Junior Choir, which showed how far the students had progressed musically over the year. The Senior School Choir brought proceedings to a close with a stunning rendition of Handel's *Lascia ch'io pianga* which was possibly one of their best ever performances.



Congratulations to the new Head Prefects appointed for 2014-2015:

Captain of School	Steffan Paul
Senior School Head Prefects	Sanush Nukshan Kathleen Renker
Junior School Head Prefect	Arshana Welivita
Junior School Deputy Head Prefect	Marinos Sebastiampillai

TRIP TO PARIS

Soon after the end of the Summer Term, seventeen students from Forms 2 to 5, accompanied by two teachers, travelled to France to spend one week in Paris, the school's first ever trip to Europe. The students were able to practise speaking in French, visit all the places they had read about in class, and learn more about French society and culture. In June, the French Ambassador to Sri Lanka, His Excellency MM. Jean Paul Monchau, had come to the school to speak to the students in advance of their visit. He encouraged them to make the most of the visit, which would allow them to hear French being spoken as an everyday language rather than just seeing it as words in a textbook.

Some of the many highlights were seeing the Mona Lisa in Le Louvre, climbing to the top of L'Arc de Triomphe to see the twelve avenues radiating out from it, travelling down La Seine in a Bateau Mouche, and going to the top of La Tour Eiffel, before walking all 666 steps down. The students also travelled out of Paris to the Château de Versailles and Disneyland. On July 14th, the holiday celebrating the Storming of the Bastille in the French Revolution, VIP seats had been arranged for the students to watch the military parade on the Champs-Élysées, before the students watched the famous nighttime firework display over La Tour Eiffel. The students also enjoyed sampling France's famous food, even trying escargot – snails. Overall, it was the trip of a lifetime for all the students lucky enough to go. One said: 'I shall never forget our walks through the city. Each street had its own character and there was always something around the corner. It was truly an amazing experience'. We now hope to make regular trips, every two or three years, for students learning French.



SINGAPORE TRIP



The Science Camps organised by the National University of Singapore are a wonderful opportunity for our A Level Science students to gain exposure to the latest research in their field and practise using new equipment in some of the most modern laboratories in the world. In June, ten students attended this year's Summer Camp, the third time we have taken a group of students.

The programme included lectures by NUS Professors on topics ranging from nanotechnology to probability and gambling as well as workshops on molecular gastronomy and using DNA in forensic science. The students also went on a tour of Singapore, visited the Singapore Science Centre and had a taste of what university life will be like by staying in the university hostel.

CAMBRIDGE PRE-U PIONEER

Cambridge Examinations have recently approved Elizabeth Moir School's application to become one of the first international schools in the world to introduce the Cambridge Pre-U examination. The qualification will be piloted in History in next year's Lower 6th class and, if successful, may be extended to more subjects in future years.

two highest grades – Distinction 1 and 2 - both have a higher UCAS rating than an A* at A Level. Initially restricted to schools in the UK, Hillcrest International School in Kenya was the first international school to be allowed to offer Pre-U in 2012.

Pre-U was developed in 2008 by some of the leading private schools in England – such as Westminster, Winchester and Charterhouse – as a more challenging alternative to A Level. These schools wanted an examination that would help bright students stand out when they applied to top universities. The

At Elizabeth Moir School, we take the top private schools in the UK as our benchmark rather than the British National Curriculum or other international schools. The decision to pilot Pre-U reflects our commitment to maintaining the highest possible academic standards and setting trends for other schools to emulate.

MOIR'S 70TH NATIONALITY

When Đáo Thành Công joined the school at the start of this term from Vietnam, it meant the school has now had students from 70 different countries. From El Salvador to Papua New Guinea, from Iraq to Ivory Coast, this includes countries from every continent, and almost every country in both Asia and Western Europe. At any time, our students have friends in school from more countries than they are likely to visit in their lifetime. Công, the son of the Vietnamese Ambassador to Sri Lanka, has joined Form 3 and expects to stay at least until he has taken his IGCSE examinations.

