



## ELIZABETH MOIR SCHOOL

# UNDER-13 BOYS WIN INTER-INTERNATIONAL SCHOOLS' BASKETBALL



This has been our Basketball teams' most successful year ever. The Under-17 and Under-19 Boys' teams both finished 3rd in their Inter-International Schools tournaments, while the Under-15 Boys and Girls both reached the semi-finals of their competitions in October. To cap this off, in the Under-13 tournament in May, the Girls reached the semi-final and the Boys won the championship, after defeating Gateway College, Colombo in a nail-biting final.

The Girls qualified for the semi-final after comfortable wins over CIS, Kandy and Lyceum, Ratnapura in the group stage. Their best match was a competitive game against Lyceum, Nugegoda, which they lost to a 'golden goal' after the scores were level after extra time.

After reaching the final in 2023 and losing by just one point to the eventual finalists last year, our Boys' team were one of the tournament favourites. After defeating Horizon College and Burhani Serendib by a combined score of 87-9, they faced a key match against the British School: a comfortable 40-21 win meant they qualified top of their group for the knock-out matches. Victories over Asian International School and Lyceum, Wattala took them through to the final.

The real challenge awaited: reigning champions, Gateway, looking for a clean sweep of all the Boys' titles this year. A strong start left the scores level at 7-7 at the end of the first quarter but Gateway's greater size began to tell and they led 18-10 at half-time. The game seemed headed in only one direction. Our Boys were not, however, overawed by their opponents or the occasion. In a real team effort, they began to fight back in the 3rd quarter, with two baskets in close succession by Kai John helping to level the score at 18-18. With tension mounting and every basket closely contested, the match ended 26-26. In overtime, Gateway had a one-point lead with 15 seconds on the clock. A pre-planned move gave Captain Aarish Hirdaramani space to shoot, the ultimate clutch shot. Despite the pressure and the odds being against him, he buried the shot to seal a famous victory, and pandemonium ensued in a packed crowd.

The victory was a true team effort: six players contributed points in the final. The Head of Sports of the host school, CIS, said after the game that the Boys had won as they played as a team, while their opponents had relied on a couple of tall players. Congratulations to Tien Malalasekera, who was named Best Defensive Player, and Aarish, who was chosen as the Most Valuable Player.

### BOYS' UNDER-13 INTER-INTERNATIONAL SCHOOLS' BASKETBALL

Horizon College International	Won	54-4
Burhani Serendib International School	Won	33-5
British School in Colombo	Won	40-21
Asian International School	Won	26-22
Lyceum International School, Wattala	Won	28-13
Gateway College, Colombo	Won	29-28



**PLACES AT STANFORD, CORNELL, UPENN & BROWN IN US**

In the current political climate, it is becoming increasingly difficult for international students to obtain financial aid from US universities. Despite this, three students were offered places at Ivy League colleges this year. Captain of School Justin Won was accepted by the University of Pennsylvania, currently ranked 11th in the world, after turning down Johns Hopkins, Berkeley and Northwestern. Head Prefect Keanu Herft accepted generous aid from Brown University in Rhode Island. Keanu chose Brown as it has the oldest, and one of the top ranked, Applied Maths courses in the US and he is a brilliant mathematician, who scored the Highest Mark in Sri Lanka in IGCSE Maths. Senumi Mohottige will be going to Cornell, following in the footsteps of her brother, Sanithu, who is in his first year there. There will be Moir alumni studying undergraduate courses at six of the eight Ivy League colleges next year.

Having led Team Sri Lanka to Gold medals in last year's FIRST Global Robotics Olympiad, Maleeka Raddygala won a place at Stanford, currently ranked 3rd in the world, where he will join three other Moir alumni on undergraduate courses. He plans to major in Computer Science and emulate the Stanford alumni who founded Google, Nvidia, YouTube, Netflix, PayPal, Instagram and Snapchat.

Liberal Arts colleges remain popular. Chanduli Rubasinghe was offered \$80,000 a year in financial aid to study Architecture and Theatre at Swarthmore College, the 3rd highest ranked Liberal Arts college. Amaya Wijayawardana was offered a 90% Merit Scholarship at nearby Bryn Mawr College to read Financial Mathematics. Louisa Deemer will go to Wesleyan University, another top-ranked college.

Janek Ameresekere was offered places at universities from USC in Los Angeles to Edinburgh but chose New York University. Dhanushi Ruparatne will be going to Penn State, Aneeqa Mushin was given a scholarship at NYUAD, while Chanithu Perera was offered a full scholarship at Hong Kong University of Science and Technology.



Raveen Akuretiyagama  
University of Oxford  
1st in World



Malith Gunwardena  
University of Cambridge  
4th in World



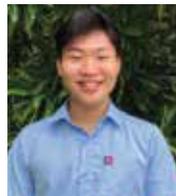
Savaira Sammoon  
University of Cambridge  
4th in World



Sulaari Stuart  
University of Cambridge  
4th in World



Maleeka Raddygala  
Stanford University  
3rd in World



Tae Hyun Won  
University of Pennsylvania  
Ivy League



Keanu Herft  
Brown University  
Ivy League



Senumi Mohottige  
Cornell University  
Ivy League



Yuyao Gao  
Imperial College London  
2nd in World



Navendra Marcelline  
Imperial College London  
2nd in World



Hiveen Ramachandra  
Imperial College London  
2nd in World



Muyan Zou  
Imperial College London  
2nd in World



Maya Dias  
University College London  
9th in World



Vinuri Gunaratne  
University College London  
9th in World



Minara Nanayakkara  
University of Cambridge  
9th in World



Amaya Perera  
University College London  
9th in World



Harish Sivagananathan  
University College London  
9th in World



Mengchen Wang  
University College London  
9th in World



Zhaoxian Wang  
University College London  
9th in World



Savith Wijesundara  
University College London  
9th in World



Chanithu Perera  
HKUST (Hong Kong)  
Scholarship



Aneeqah Mushin  
NYU, Abu Dhabi  
Scholarship



Chanduli Rubasinghe  
Swarthmore College  
Scholarship



Amaya Wijayawardana  
Bryn Mawr College  
Scholarship



Louisa Deemer  
Wesleyan University  
3rd Liberal Arts College



Janek Ameresekere  
New York University  
27th in World



Tayeb Marikar  
University of Toronto  
21st in World



Rahelle Rajaratnam  
University of Toronto  
21st in World

**17 STUDENTS OFFERED PLACES AT OXBRIDGE, IMPERIAL AND UCL IN THE UK – ALL IN WORLD TOP 10**

The UK has four universities currently ranked in the top ten in the world: Oxford, Cambridge, Imperial and UCL. 17 students have accepted offers from one of these universities, including a record five at Oxford and Cambridge and four at Imperial. This is in addition to 3 students with places at Durham, ranked 5th in the UK, two at Bristol, two at Edinburgh, and others at Cardiff, Sheffield and Manchester. Harish Sivagananathan and Minara Nanayakkara were both offered places to read Law at UCL, and Sadeeka Kapugamage at Durham. Other courses include Engineering, Economics, PPE, Architecture, History and Literature.

Raveen Akuretiyagama was offered places by Oxford, Imperial and UCL, accepting a place to read Engineering at St. Peter's College, Oxford. Malith Gunwardena received offers from UCL and LSE but accepted a place on Cambridge's famous Economics course. Sulaari Stuart rejected an offer from UCL in order to go to Cambridge, where she will join Savaira Sammoon on the History course. Last year's Captain of School, Rishika Senevirathne, rejected an offer from UCL to study Education at Durham. Amaya Perera turned down the London School of Economics to read Geography at UCL. Mindy Zou was offered a place at UCL but accepted an offer from Imperial to read Biomedical Technology Ventures. Navendra Marcelline will study Chemistry at Imperial, having also been offered a place at UCL.



## SAVANI WINS ZONTA YOUNG WOMAN IN PUBLIC AFFAIRS AWARD

Congratulations to Savani Danangoda-Gamage in the Lower 6th on winning this year's Zonta Young Woman in Public Affairs Award, along with \$5,000 prize money. She will now be considered for the international award. The award is given to girls who have displayed an active commitment to voluntarism, displayed leadership and shown support for Zonta's mission to build a better world for women and girls. Savani follows in the footsteps of other Moir students who have won the award, including Yumna Zaheed two years ago and former Captain of School, Zara Mathew.



## JUNIOR SCHOOL ART EXHIBITION



## SIMPLY THE BEST



*A collection of the year's best Assemblies, in which every child in the Junior School takes part.*



## MOIR 1ST & 2ND IN ROBOGAMES AT UNIVERSITY OF MORATUWA

Robogames is one of the main Robotics tournaments in Sri Lanka, organised by the Institution of Engineers in collaboration with the University of Moratuwa. A team comprising Tharul Senanayake, Maleeka Raddygala and Kavindu Pathirage won this year's School Challenge and a prize of Rs. 100,000, with Seong Chan Kim winning Rs. 75,000 for coming second. A team from Royal College won 3rd place.



## CHECKING IN



For our second-ever Middle School production, students from Forms 1-3 performed *Checking In* by Tracy Wells, a lively and heartfelt romantic comedy. Directed by Chanduli Rubasinghe, the show played to packed audiences at the Kamatha New Theatre in BMICH and received glowing praise for its charm, energy and sincerity.

Set in the bustling Regency Arms Hotel, the play follows bellhop Bernard and housekeeper Natasha as they handle a whirlwind of quirky guests and surprises—from unexpected romance to tech-obsessed teens and a surprise birth. Kyle Wijetunge shone as the kind-hearted Bernard, while Zaynah Zeshan Mahir delivered a delightful portrayal of Natasha. Their performances anchored a lively ensemble of 34 students who brought humour and heart to the stage.

Chanduli Rubasinghe, who graduated last year, was the first-ever student to direct a Senior School production. Celebrating this milestone, Miss Anushka Senanayake shared: "We are incredibly proud of Chanduli on her directorial debut. Her work on this production was outstanding. She brought a thoughtful creative vision, steady leadership and keen attention to detail, all while making rehearsals a fun and supportive space for the young cast. Her contribution as director unquestionably elevated the entire show, and we are excited to see her continue to grow as an artist in College and beyond."

Beyond the spotlight, the production offered students a chance to develop characterisation, comic timing and teamwork. We are proud of the vibrant, polished and memorable show they created.



## AVURUDU



The Junior School held a vibrant Avurudu celebration that brought students, teachers and parents together in a joyful atmosphere. The day began with a meaningful Assembly highlighting the cultural importance of the festival. Students and teachers took part in traditional songs, dances and games that celebrated the season of harvest and thanksgiving. The activities fostered cultural awareness and appreciation, making it a fun,

educational and memorable day for everyone involved. The Prefects organised celebrations at the Senior School too, with students enjoying eating traditional food and playing games like Kana Mutti and Kotta Pora. Highlights included the crowning of the Avurudu Kumaraya and Kumariya and a shock victory for Form 4 in the tug of war.