

PRINCIPAL'S REPORT

Your Excellency The Ambassador of Sri Lanka to the Sultanate of Oman

Distinguished invitees

Chairman and members of Board of Directors

Deputy Principal and the staff

Chief Representative and members of the Parents' Committee

Dear parents and students

We have gathered here today to celebrate the academic performance of the high achievers of Sri Lankan School Muscat in the Year of Glory as the academic year 2012/2013 was declared. We are also celebrating our Silver Jubilee Year.

I am pleased to state that the school has achieved great heights in the 25 years of its existence. Particularly we have been able to achieve some of the targets that we set out for ourselves in the sphere of academics.

EXAMINATION RESULTS

As the curriculum leader of the school, I am happy to announce the achievements made in the public examinations conducted in May/June 2013.

INTERNATIONAL GCSE

We are proud to mention the students have achieved excellent results at International GCSE Examination conducted by Edexcel International. Our students achieved a total of 114 A* grades and 98 A Grades at this examination. The percentage of grades from C to A* stands at 85%.

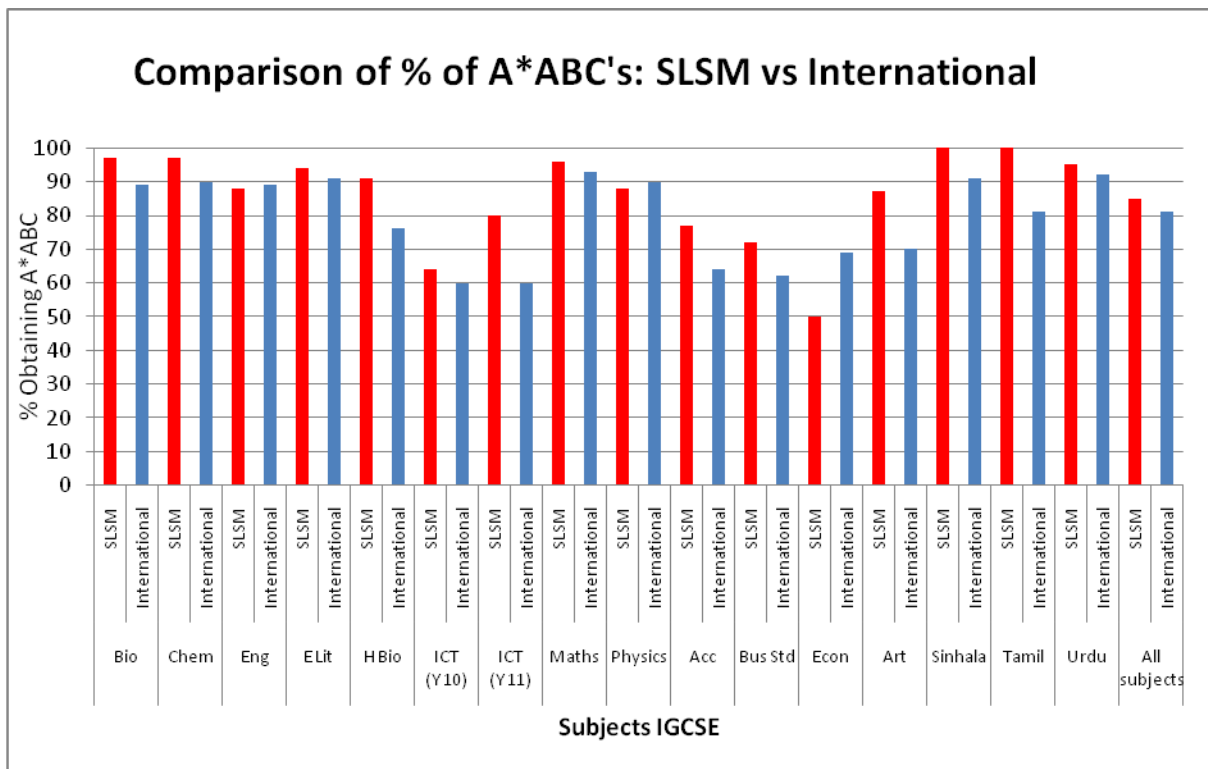
The breakdown is as follows:

Edexcel International GCSE Examination - May / June 2013 Results Summary

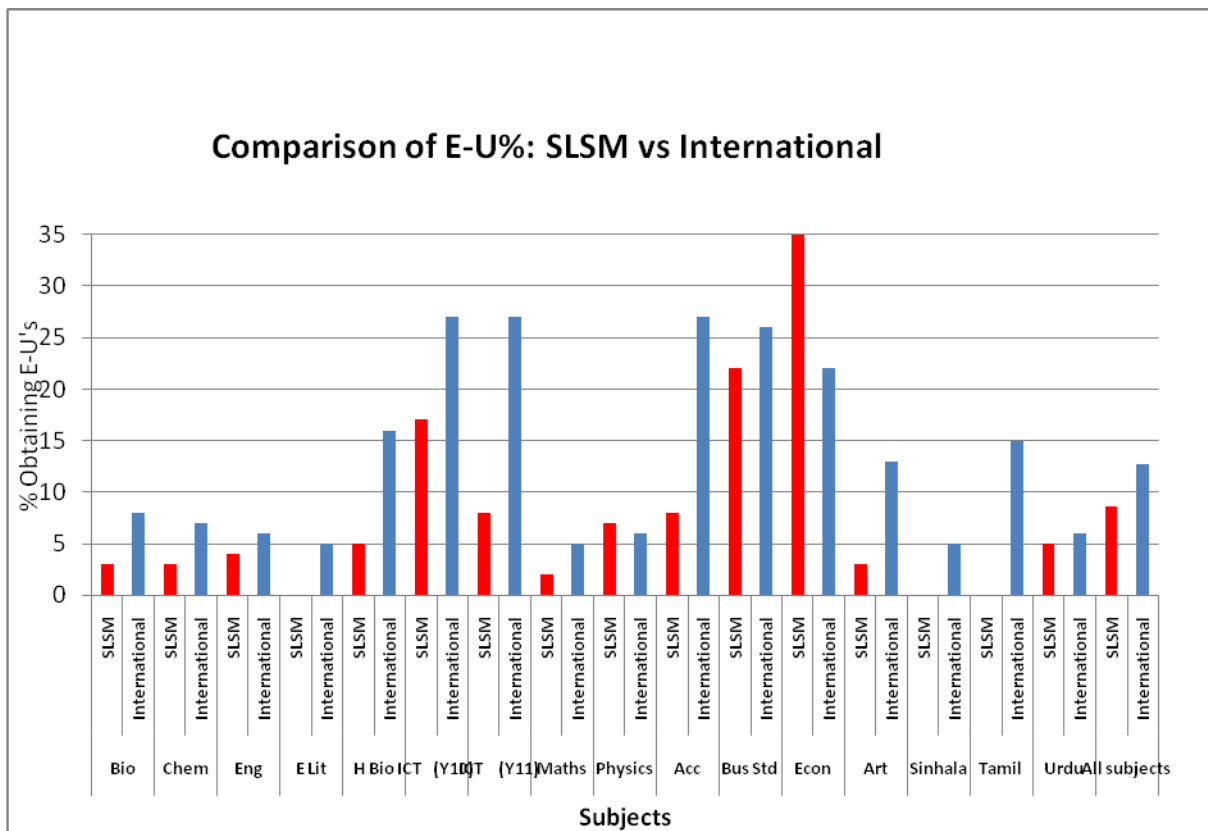
Grade	Bio	H Bio	Chem	English	Eng LIT	ICT (Y10)	ICT (Y 11)	Math	Physics	Acc	Bus Std	Econ	Art	Sinhala	Tamil	Urdu
A*	62%	26%	53%	14%	50%	0%	2%	51%	39%	10%	0%	23%	3%	19%	33%	5%
A	21%	43%	16%	22%	38%	8%	16%	24%	37%	30%	6%	15%	13%	25%	0%	16%
B	9%	9%	21%	29%	6%	25%	41%	6%	5%	10%	29%	7%	30%	38%	0%	53%
C	6%	13%	8%	24%	0%	31%	22%	16%	7%	20%	35%	0%	40%	19%	67%	21%
D	0%	4%	0%	8%	6%	19%	12%	2%	5%	10%	6%	14%	10%	0%	0%	0%
E	0%	0%	0%	2%	0%	10%	4%	2%	2%	20%	12%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%
F	0%	0%	0%	2%	0%	7%	2%	0%	2%	0%	6%	7%	3%	0%	0%	5%
G	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	2%	0%	0%	0%	6%	21%	0%	0%	0%	0%
U	3%	4%	3%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	2%	0%	0%	7%	0%	0%	0%	0%

We rejoice at the percentages of students achieving A* and A grades in Biology (82), Human Biology (70), Chemistry (68), Mathematics (75), Physics (76), English (35), English Literature (88), Accounting (40), Economics (38), Tamil (33) and Urdu (21).

I request you to study the charts below carefully. These charts show where we stand in every subject compared to the international percentages released by Edexcel.



Let me now show you the performance at the lower end. The chart below shows the percentages achieved by our students against international percentages in getting grades from E down to U.



Parents should also be aware that though we group an E grade at the bottom end, Grade E too is a weak pass and not a failure.

I am also pleased to inform you that 18 students are getting Edexcel High Achiever Awards today for their excellent performance at IGCSE 2013.

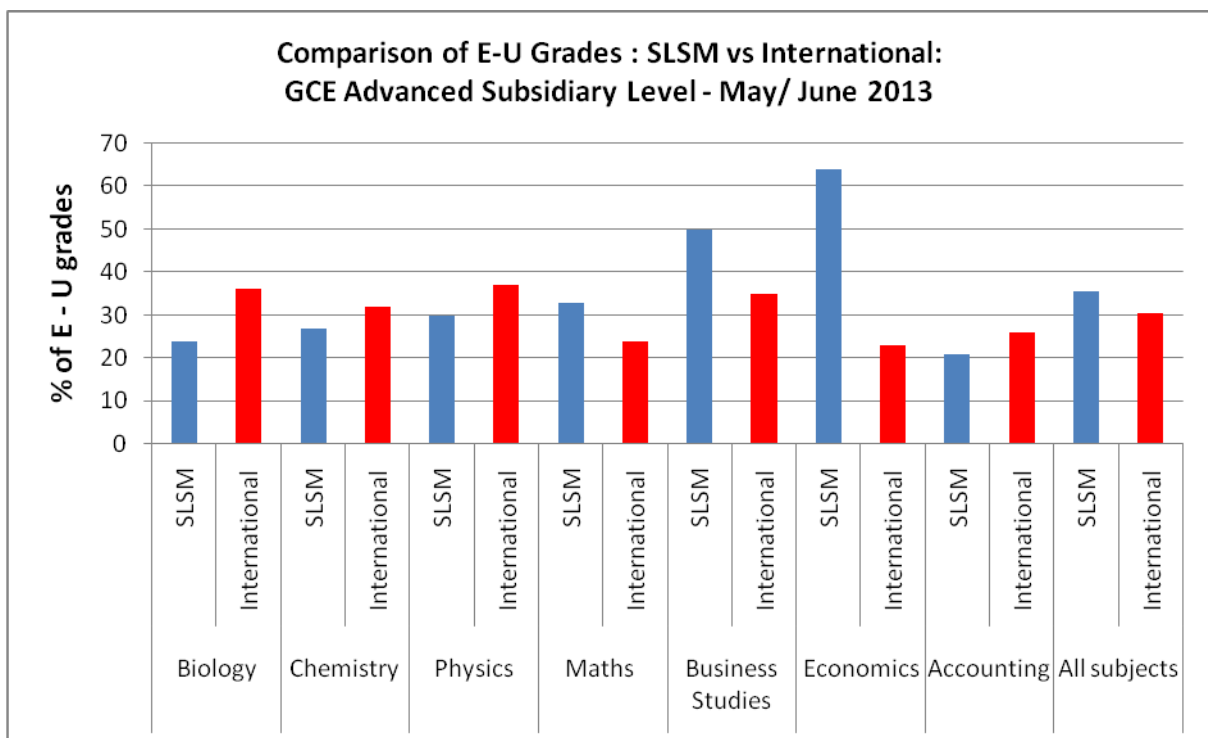
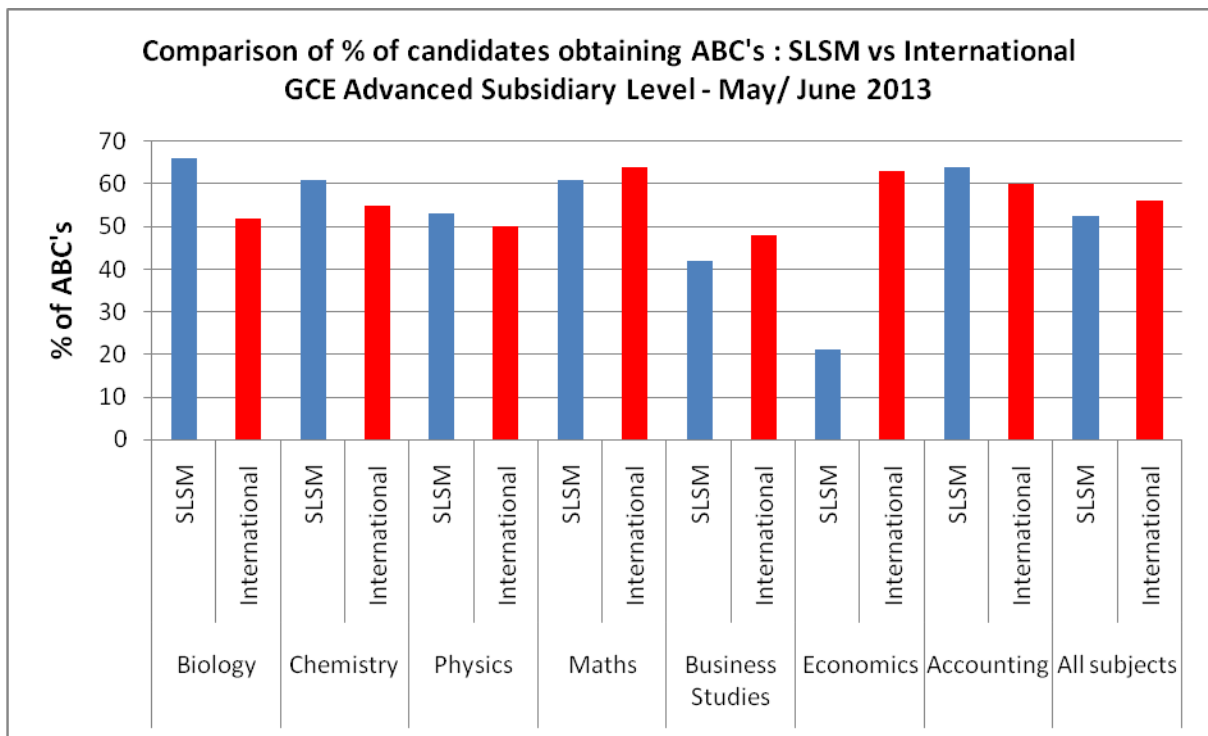
GCE ADVANCED SUBSIDIARY

The tables and the charts below will show the performance of our students at GCE AS level. Once again we are far above the international standard in many subjects.

Edexcel GCE Advanced Subsidiary Level Examination - May / June 2013

Results Summary

Grade	Biology	Chem	Physics	Maths	Further Math	Bus Std	Econ	Acc
A	31%	27%	23%	33%	23%	8%	7%	29%
B	31%	15%	15%	19%	38%	25%	0%	21%
C	3%	20%	15%	9%	15%	8%	14%	14%
D	10%	12%	18%	6%	0%	8%	14%	7%
E	3%	5%	3%	7%	15%	17%	7%	14%
U	21%	22%	28%	26%	8%	33%	57%	14%



GCE ADVANCED LEVEL

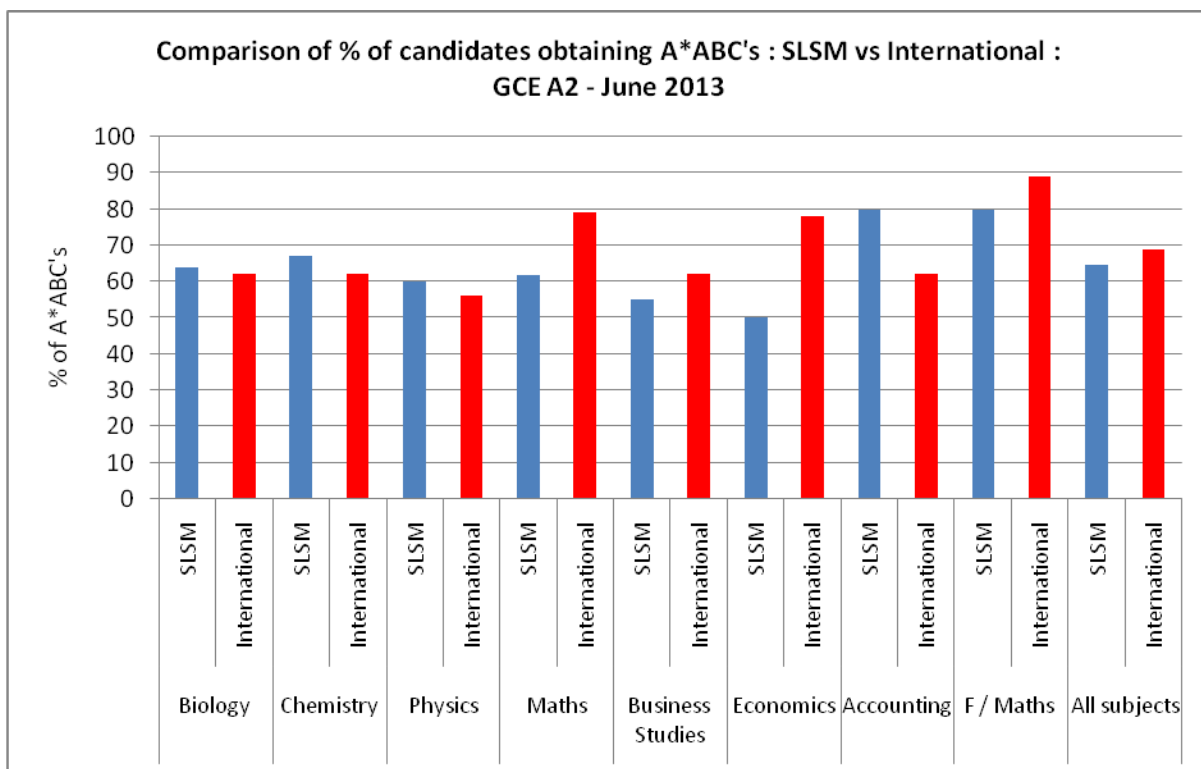
We have achieved exceptional results at Advanced Level examination too. Five students of Sri Lankan School Muscat will receive Edexcel High Achiever Awards today.

Edexcel GCE Advanced Level Examination - May / June 2013

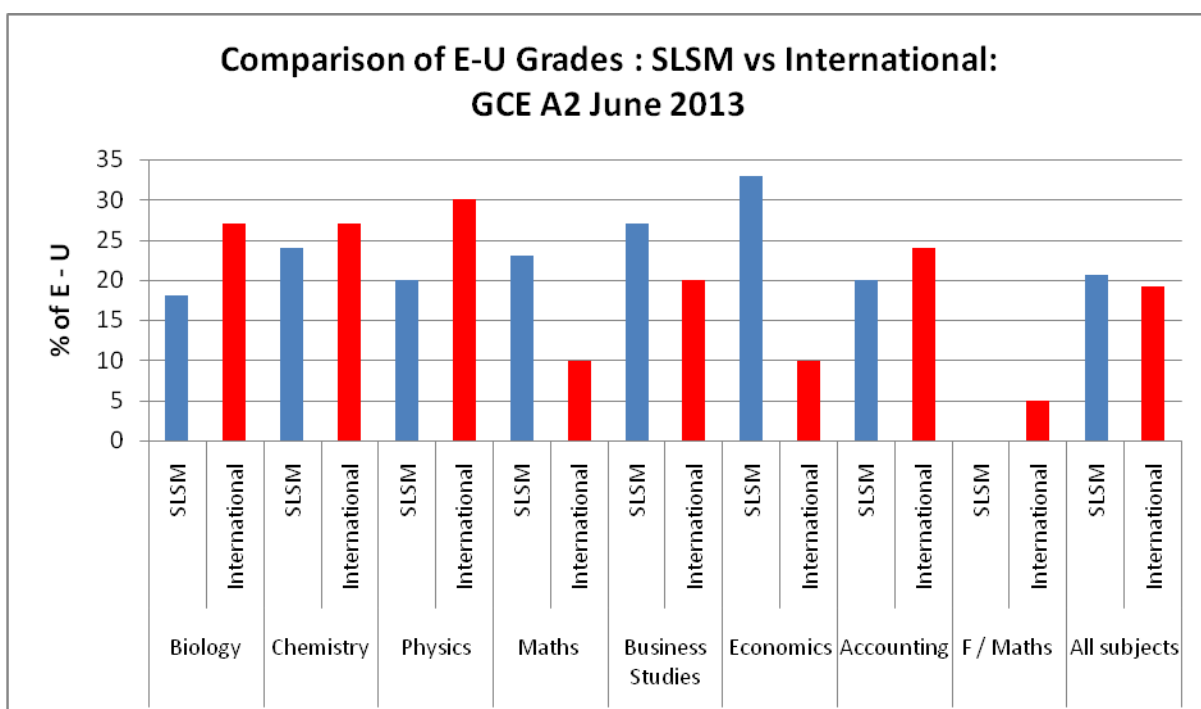
Results Summary

Grade	Biology	Chemistry	Physics	Mathematics	Further Maths	Business Studies	Economics	Accounting
A*	27%	5%	5%	8%	0%	0%	0%	20%
A	18%	19%	15%	23%	0%	9%	0%	20%
B	18%	19%	30%	19%	60%	45%	33%	20%
C	0%	24%	10%	12%	20%	0%	17%	20%
D	18%	10%	20%	15%	20%	18%	17%	0%
E	9%	14%	10%	15%	0%	18%	17%	0%
U	9%	10%	10%	8%	0%	9%	17%	20%

I am pleased that our students have achieved above 30% A* and A grades in Biology (45%), Mathematics (31%), Accounting (40). Furthermore I would like to mention the performance of our students in many subjects is higher than the international standards.



Lower end of the spectrum is also impressive.



While we rejoice and celebrate our excellent results at Edexcel Examinations taken up by the senior students of the school, we also are mindful that academic success is not only the performance of the senior

students at public examinations. How do our students in the lower Key Stages perform? Since these students do not sit for any public examination routinely, this often goes unnoticed.

TIMSS AND PIRLS

Trends in Mathematics and Science Studies (TIMSS) and Progress In Reading and Literacy Studies (PIRLS) is a research conducted by the International Association for the Evaluation of Educational Achievement (IEA) and University of Boston once in 4/5 years.

The tests were conducted in 63 countries including Oman in April 2011. The Ministry of Education which carried out the tests in Oman, invited all International and Private schools to take part in these tests, in addition to the government schools.

PIRLS

These tests were done at Grade 4 and only three international schools in Oman have scored above the centre point - average scale score of 500. I am proud to state that Sri Lankan School Muscat is number 1 with average scale score of 581. The next best is Indian School Muscat with an average scale score of 503 while Indian School Sur is in the third place with 501. No other school in Oman has scored over the centre point.

Among the 63 countries that took up these tests the country with the highest Average Scale Point is Hong Kong with 571. You will notice that the average scale point of Sri Lankan School Muscat is higher than the highest achievement of any country in the world. Among the higher achievers in this particular test, it is my pleasure to announce Himansa Kahandagamage (667), Nishaath Tahani Nazeem (658) and Syed Ali Gelani (655) are the top scorers at Sri Lankan School Muscat.

TIMSS at Grade 4 - Mathematics

Sri Lankan School Muscat has achieved an Average Scale of 533 points in this test. No other international school in Oman has scored above the

centre point of 500. Three Private schools (Al Azhar, Sur Private and Al Jowhara) have scored above 500 points but less than the Average Scale Point of ours. The country with the highest average scale point is Singapore with 606. Only Singapore, Rep of Korea (605), Hong Kong(602), Taipei (591), Japan (585), Northern Ireland (562), Belgium(549), Finland(545), England(542), Russian Federation (542), USA(541), Netherlands(540), Denmark(537) and Lithuania(534) are above the SLSM score. Interestingly Sri Lankan School Muscat is above the highly developed countries like Germany, Australia, Austria, Italy, Sweden, and many more.

Sehara de Alwis is the top scorers of Sri Lankan School Muscat with 601 points.

TIMSS at Grade 4 - Science

Sri Lankan School Muscat achieved Average Scale Point of 576 while the next highest school ISM is in the second place with 508. No other international schools have scored above 500. Only two countries are above SLSM in their Average Scale Points - Rep of Korea (587) and Singapore (583).

The following developed countries are below Sri Lankan School Muscat in the Average Scale Points- Finland (570), Japan (559), Russian Fed (552), Taipei(552), USA(544), Hong Kong(535), Sweden(533), Austria(531), England(529), Denmark(528), Germany (528), Italy(524) and Australia(516).

Vehan Hesara Devage (668) and Sumudith Bhanuka Jayasooriya(666) have scored highest scores in this category.

TIMSS at Year 8 - Science

Sri Lankan School Muscat has surpassed the other schools with average scale point of 565 at this test too. International Schools ISG (561),

ISWK(537), IS Musanna(520), ISM(516), IS Sur(512), IS Ibra(504), IS Sohar(503), ISD (503) and IS Ibri(502) are trailing behind. The Sultan School has a score of 524 and Al Mawali Private School has 518. The only country whose Average Scale Point is above our school is Singapore with 590. The Second is Taipei with 564.

Sameer Shafique has reached the highest level by scoring with 643.81 points.

TIMSS at Year 8 - Mathematics

This is the only test that Sri Lankan School Muscat was beaten in to the second place. ISG is on top with 538. SLSM is second with 531. ISWK is third with 514. Among the private schools only Sultan School is above the centre point with 522. Korea(613), Singapore(611), Taipei(609), Hong Kong(586), Japan(570), Russia(539) are the only countries that have Average Scale Point above Sri Lankan School Muscat. Israel, Finland, USA, England, Australia are below SLSM. Italy, New Zealand, Sweden, Norway are below the centre point of 500 points.

Sameer Shafique has scored the highest with 598.54.

SPORTS

BASKETBALL

We are extremely proud to announce that Sri Lankan School Muscat has become the Champions in the Inter School Basketball Tournament in the boys' category for the seventh year in succession defeating the nine schools that took part. The girls' team of Sri Lankan School Muscat has been successful to win the Runners' up Trophy in the Inter School Basketball Tournament.

ROAD RACE

We are glad to have conducted the inaugural road race at the beginning of 2013. The second successful Road Race was completed full filling the expected high standards.

CRICKET

SLSM cricket team has won many Under 16 cricket matches organized by the Oman Cricket Club. I am pleased to announce that Gayash Dias and Gimash Dias have been selected to represent Oman under 19 Cricket Team for the Asian Cricket Council (ACC) challenge cup to be held in Thailand in December 2013. We wish them success.

PRESIDENTS' GUIDES

Amanthi Wijesundera and Michelle Zuhiri brought glory to the school and to themselves by achieving the top honour of becoming President's Guides under the Girl Guides Association of Sri Lanka. This is the second occasion that the Girl Guides pack of the school has achieved the pinnacle of success by producing President's Guides. I congratulate the Guides Pack for this success.

FRIEND OUR WORLD

Students learning Citizenship Studies took part in the international programme "Friend Our World". Three of our students Mohamed Tariq Faqir, Amrin Anna Haleem and Seyara Rozen Thalawinna were among the best achievers in the world in the 'on line' competition associated with this programme.

I am proud to declare that Amrin Haleem has been selected by "Friend Our World" to visit the United Nations as one of the ten student representatives worldwide. Ms. Anjalie De Silva - the teacher of

Citizenship Studies has been appointed as an International Peace Ambassador.

BOOK OF POETRY

I am happy to announce that another student of SLSM has published a book of poetry in the Silver Jubilee year.

Sandu Thisarane Jayasinghe published her maiden book titled 'Seeing Through'. Sandu also won the first place in an Art Competition held by Sri TV for all Sri Lankans who live abroad. We wish her success in her future artistic and literary work.

NEW TEACHERS

I am happy that the school has recruited a very good set of new teachers this academic year.

- Mr. Shirley Windus - teacher of Physical Education and Sports Coordinator
- Mr. Jagath Ranasinghe - teacher of Mathematics, Trainer in Chess
- Mr. Sudanth Mendis - teacher of English Language and Literature, TIC Cricket
- Ms. Dilani Hewagama - teacher of Biology and Science, TIC Chess
- Ms. Charmaine Agalakumbura - Teacher of English, TIC Scrabble
- Ms. Ginthan Sathiyen - teacher of English
- Ms. Priyadarshanie Mudunkotuwa - Teacher of Mathematics
- Ms. Maheeka Jayaweera - Teacher of Foundation Stage
- Ms Shalika Witharama - Teacher of Foundation Stage

We welcome the new teachers who are already deeply involved with school activities and wish them success in their careers.

CHILDREN'S AND TEACHER'S DAY

The International Children's Day and the International Teachers' Day were celebrated by teachers performing songs, dances and dramas for the children. The children reciprocated by performing for the teachers. All children in the school were given a token gift by the teachers.

PARENTS' COMMITTEE

I express my gratitude to the Parents' Committee of 2012/2013 which did yeoman service to the school. They were there at every function and event doing the difficult and unglamorous tasks. They were the strength that took the school forward at difficult times. Thank you very much sirs.

The Parents' Committee of 2013/2014 has already made its mark by inaugurating the Inter House Parent Teacher Cricket Tournament. I wish them success in their service to the school.

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

I wish to express my gratitude to the Board of Directors who would be relinquishing their duties on 31 December 2013. Dear Chairman - as I said many times before, your dedication to the school is unmatched. I am personally aware that the parents of the school are rallying round in the fund raising projects conducted by the school mainly due to the enthusiasm and perseverance shown by you. Mr. Palitha Premasiri - Head of Infrastructure Development subcommittee and Mr. Dulip Rajapakse - Director in Charge of IT services, both of you will be completing your terms at the end of the year. Your commitment and the time you spent voluntarily in the service of the school is invaluable.

Gentlemen - Your services will be recorded in the annals of history of SLSM.

THE STAFF

I salute my academic and non-academic staff for their indefatigable service to the school. Teachers are the architects of the success of the children. They are the 'makers' to be celebrated when their students achieve excellent results. Teachers have to be mindful that they can also become 'breakers' by one wrong, careless or unthinking word or act.

Mahagama Sekera - the Sri Lankan poet says in one of his immortal poems - 'The easiest way to become divine is to believe that you are divine'

Teachers are divine beings in the eyes of the children. It is up to us to maintain that by not doing what is not divine at any time in our lives.

Let us dedicate our lives to bringing out the best in the students under our care. Like we said in the little gift that we gave our dear children on the Children's Day, they are marvels beyond compare. The master teacher is not only the expert in the subject. She is also the loving guide, matured mentor and caring friend.

If there is anything that could be done for the children, then it should be done.

Somabandhu Kodikara

Principal