

## Principal's Report

Your Excellency The Ambassador for Sri Lanka in the Sultanate of Oman

Distinguished invitees

Chairman and the members of the Board of Directors

Deputy Principal and the staff

Chief Representative of Parents' Committee and dear Parents and students

I started my report at the last Awards Day by enumerating what I believe that children should be.

This year please allow me to take you a step further. I would like to take our children on a journey from unconscious incompetence, to conscious incompetence and from there to conscious competence.

Unconscious incompetence – The children, and even us adults, have many an incompetence that we are not even aware of. For example majority of the students are unaware that they have the potential to become a genius in Mathematics, a world renowned Scientist or a great musician. As they are blissfully unaware of this potential, it is an unconscious incompetence.

Conscious incompetence – Once someone points out that they are performing far below their own potential and that they are capable of developing skills of a very high order, they become conscious of the incompetence.

Conscious competence – When a person realizes the incompetence, one might take measures to rectify it and develop the relevant skill. Since you have done it consciously and are aware of it, it becomes a conscious competence.

Unfortunately school systems stop at this point. Examination Boards draw the line here. Evaluations, Assessments, testing are only aimed at conscious competence.

I would like to take the children of this school one step beyond, to unconscious competence. This is where the powerful subconscious mind comes in to play. You may call it automatic response, reflex action or second nature.

When one first learns to walk, ride a bicycle or drive a car, one does everything consciously. Once you have mastered it, you don't think about it anymore. This is how the human brain and the mind have been evolved. This principle applies equally to other competences too.

Hence the journey should end not at conscious competence but unconscious competence.

## EXAMINATION RESULTS

Your Excellency, today we are celebrating academic success of the students and the teachers. We are proud to announce that we have continued to build on the sturdy foundation laid by the pioneers of the school 23 years ago.

Students of SLSM have once again performed creditably at the public examinations. Ten students are receiving Edexcel Awards for academic performance at IGCSE and another ten students at Advanced Level later in the evening today.

### IGCSE

Our students produced excellent results at the IGCSE and GCE examinations conducted by Edexcel in May/June 2011.

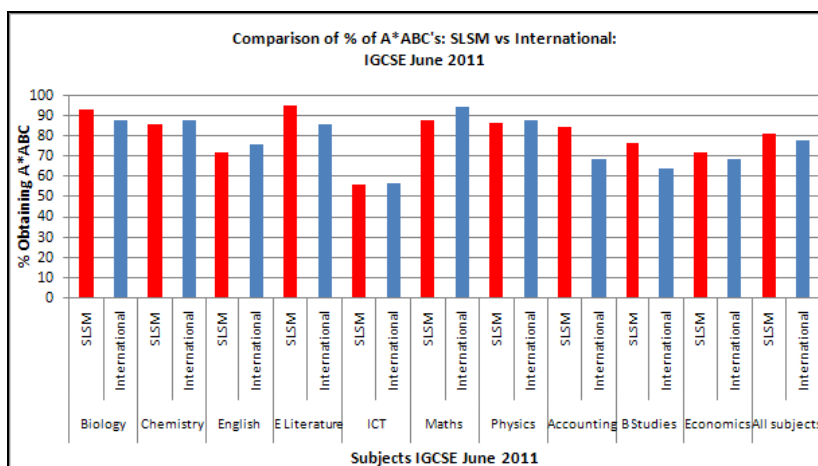
The charts show the percentages of grades achieved by our students in different subjects. It may be noted that the school has achieved over 50% A and A\* grades in the subjects Mathematics, Physics, Chemistry, Biology, Accounting, Tamil, Urdu and English Literature.

We have also achieved over 50% passes at C Grade or above in all subjects.

<b>Subject</b>	<b>Percentage A and above</b>	<b>Percentage C and above</b>
Mathematics	77.36	90.57
English Language	10.34	70.91
ICT	13.21	56.6
Physics	71.05	86.84
Chemistry	61.54	86.49
Biology	67.57	91.89
Accounting	50.00	85
Business Studies	11.11	77.78
Economics	33.33	72.22
Art & Design	2.17	70
English Literature	50.00	95.45

Human Biology	38.71	74.19
Sinhala	23.08	91.67
Tamil	66.67	100
Urdu	63.64	100

The chart below depicts where we stand in comparison to world averages in similar schools. I am happy to state that our students have performed better than their counterparts in the rest of the world in many subjects.



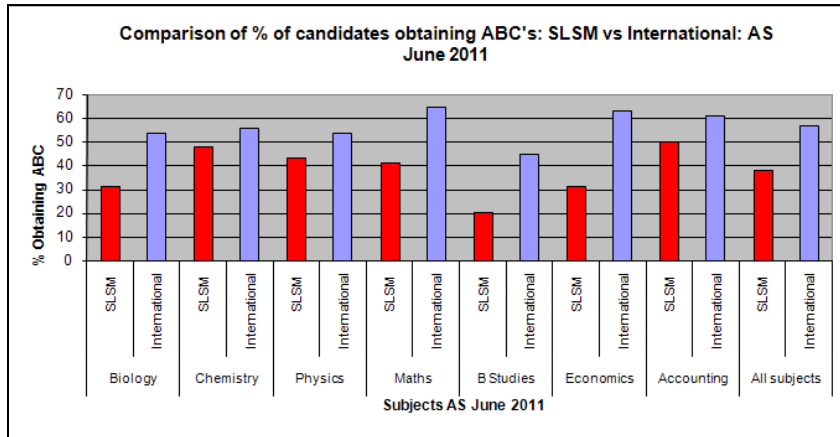
#### ADVANCED SUBSIDIARY LEVEL

The performance at this level is below the potential of the school.

Subject	Percentage A and above	Percentage C and above
Mathematics	20.51	41.03
Physics	28.57	42.86
Chemistry	26.19	47.62
Biology	19.23	30.77
Accounting	10.00	50
Business Studies	0	20

Economics	0	30.77
Pure Mathematics	72.73	72.73

The chart above and the chart below show that the current batch of students in Year 13 will have to work consistently to achieve the best possible results

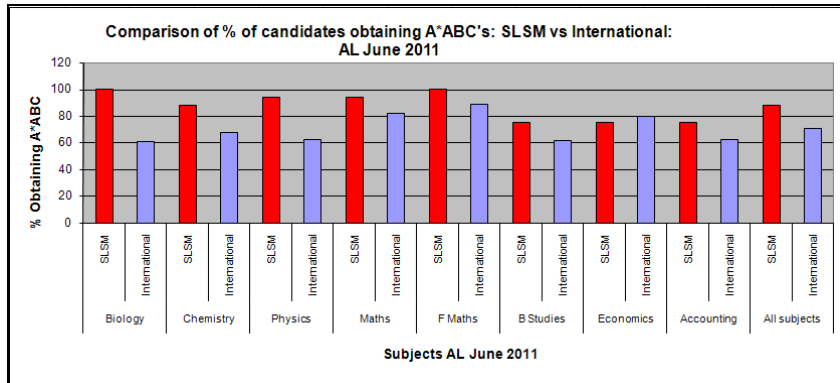


#### GCE Advanced Level

Subject	Percentage A and above	Percentage C and above
Mathematics	70.59	94.12
Further Mathematics	87.50	100
Physics	62.50	93.75
Chemistry	64.71	88.24
Biology	25.00	100
Accounting	25.00	75
Business Studies	0	75
Economics	25.00	75

We have achieved over 50% A\* and A grades in Mathematics, Further Mathematics, Physics and Chemistry while we have achieved over 75% passes over C grade and above in all subjects.

The next chart shows that the students of SLSM have performed better than their international counterparts in all subjects at Advanced Level.



Your Excellency, examination results is a fine yard stick to measure the progress of a school. Sri Lankan School – Muscat identifies that intelligence is multi faceted. Our students have been provided with facilities to engage in a variety of co-curricular activities. I request my dear parents to go home and read leisurely the remaining pages of this booklet in which we have given details of all co-curricular activities conducted in school.

As this is incidentally, the second Awards Day conducted in the same calendar year, I would not repeat what I mentioned at the last awards day conducted a few months ago.

## SPORTS

Sri Lankan School – Muscat emerged the champions in Boys Basketball for the fourth consecutive year in the Interschool Basketball tournament.

Miyuru Wickremaratne was selected to represent Oman in the National Under 19 Cricket Team while Gayash Dias represented Oman National under 16 Cricket Team which toured Malasia in the Asian Challenge Cup and was selected Man of the Match. Gayash also represented Oman National Under 19 Cricket Team and was the Vice Captain of Muscat Cricket Club team which toured India. He was selected the Up coming Cricketer of the tournament.

Rukshika Wijesuriya excelled in Tennis, bringing glory to the school. She was the winner of Under 12 division in the Women's International Club Tournament, Matale District Tennis Club tournament, Hill Club Nuwara Eliya Tournament, Bandarawela Tennis Club tournament, Oman Tennis Association Junior Tournament, as well as the Kandy Garden Club tournament. Rukshika was a semi finalist at the Sri Lanka Junior National Championships in the Under 12 category.

I am proud to state that Rukshika is ranked number 2 in the under 12 category in the Sri Lanka Tennis Association ratings.

Senuri Almeida won medals at the British School Marlins' Swimming Meet and Alaam Zaid was a member of the Oman United Under 16 team which toured India.

#### CO-CURRICULAR ACTIVITIES

The English Department conducted READ A THON in collaboration with Time Life for the children of foundation Stage and Year 1. Children who read the most number of books were awarded valuable books as prizes.

The Science Department celebrated the Earth Day in a unique manner using skits, songs, speeches, presentations and a poster exhibition.

#### ICT

The ICT Department was instrumental in implementing Google Apps service for the school. Google Apps accounts with email and document management facilities have been set up for the whole staff.

The department has also been working in close coordination with a few dedicated parents and 3CS limited Colombo to get the new school website developed.

#### THE FOURTH VERTEX

Any school system consists of a tetrahedron of ownership – the students, teachers, parents and the alumni. Sri Lankan School could not get a past students association established over the years, due to the practical reason of past students being scattered all over the world.

Instead we established a Virtual Alumni Association on the internet with phenomenal success. I am pleased to inform you that the SLSM VAA has attracted a membership of 634 within four months of establishing.

My gratitude goes to the two indomitable twins Nadeesha and Nilusha Hemachandra for the mercurial leadership and to Mr. Chatura Kotagama for the groundwork laid.

#### SCHOOL ON LINE

Currently we are implementing a parallel run of the existing accounting system of the school and the new School on Line Management Information System. Once all the issues are sorted out and the SOL is fully operational, parents would be able to access it and use the facilities offered from home.

#### JOLLY PHONICS

The teachers of the Foundation Stage conducted an initiation session for the parents in to the newly adopted synthetic phonetic method of introducing English language.

I am glad to state that this new initiative has shown good results already.

#### TEXT BOOKS

The school introduced new and modern text books for Science and English at Key Stage 3 and Mathematics at Key Stages 1 and 2 in the current academic year. The teachers are enthusiastic in using the new resources.

#### KEY STAGE STRUCTURE

The school has fallen completely in line with the English National Curriculum in implementing the proper Key Stage structure from Foundation Stage to Advanced Level.

#### FOUNDATION STAGE

The school has developed a new Early Years Foundation Stage Profile which highlights the various milestones and achievements of the child in this vital stage. The teachers keep meticulous records of evidence of these achievements. I am sure the parents would realize the long term benefit of this report and treasure it.

#### KEY STAGE 3

In accordance with the ENC we have now reclassified Year 9 as a part of the Key Stage 3 teaching learning programme.

#### KEY STASGE 4

The IGCSE courses that are designed for two years now start in Year 10 from the current academic year. We believe that students would be adequately motivated to give out their best at IGCSE examinations by this correction.

#### THE ADMINISTRATIVE STRUCTURE

In accordance with the Key Stage structure, the administrative structure too was reorganized by appointing Sectional Heads for each Key Stage. I am happy to mention that the new Sectional Heads are all very enthusiastic about their duties and with their inclusion the senior management of the school has been sufficiently strengthened.

#### BUILDING PROJECT

Dear parents, allow me to once again to emphasise on the fact that the building project that the Board of Directors have embarked upon is not for expansion of the school but for providing sound educational facilities and an academic environment for your children to study. We strive to maintain the norm of 24 students to a class, which is very conducive to learning and healthy teacher child interaction.

#### IN CONCLUSION

Ladies and gentlemen, Sri Lankan School – Muscat is a great school striving to be greater. It requires an enormous effort and a quantum leap to reach the next level of excellence. It also needs a tremendous amount of determination and dedication. It also needs single minded purpose.

I am blessed with a staff that is willing to go the extra mile to achieve our goals. The Board of Directors has the crystal clear vision of what has to be done in the best interest of the school at all times. The parents are understanding and patient, eagerly awaiting results. The students are our treasure.

With a team like this, we cannot fail.

Somabandhu Kodikara

Principal