Ref No: BOD/SLSM/2012-5

08th October 2012

Chairman's Circular No. 5

A story about four people: Everybody, Somebody, Anybody, and Nobody.

There was an important job to be done and Everybody was asked to do it. Everybody was sure Somebody would do it. Anybody could have done it, but Nobody did it. Somebody got angry about that because it was Everybody's job. Everybody thought Anybody could do it, but Nobody realized that Everybody wouldn't do it.

It ended up that Everybody blamed Somebody when actually Nobody asked Anybody.

Author Unknown

Dear parent,

I am writing this circular with a deeply disturbed mind. As you are aware, the Board, through the Chairman's Circular No. 04 dated 23rd September 2012, invited all the parents to be present in the School on 25th September 2012 to elect their respective class representatives for the Parent Committee (PC) 2012/13. It is heartrending to mention that out of 550 parents only 35 parents were present. Additionally, out of 15 grades there were no parents from grades 7, 9 and 13. It is disappointing and disheartening to note the lack of commitment and responsiveness of parents to serve the school for the benefit of our children. In the Chairman's circular No. 4 dated 23rd September 2012 it was clearly mentioned the importance of the (PC) and its roles and related responsibilities. We place on record our sincere appreciation to all the parents, who were present at the selections meeting displaying their commitment towards the betterment of the School.

It is pertinent to note that every parent has a fundamental responsibility of involving in the affairs of the School. The Board and the school staff single handedly cannot ensure the smooth functioning of the School. Every parent should understand their duty in their interaction with the School and act in a responsible manner. It is difficult for the school to sustain itself without the support of the parents.
Hence, the Board humbly requests from each of you parents to show your commitment towards the affairs of the School. In this regard we expect a very simple action by the parents, which is participation in all the meetings the School convenes and to provide negative/positive feedback in a constructive manner for the betterment of the school.

During personal interactions, many parents indicated their dissatisfaction involving School’s operational affairs. Many indicated that they are always available for any assistance to the School if required but not willing to be present at meetings. It is our opinion this is a fallacy which should be eliminated from our midst. If all parents thought and acted in this manner, who will carry out the responsibilities of the parents? It is pertinent to note the importance of your presence, deliberations and constructive criticism at these meetings. The information disseminated at these meetings would avoid undue and unwarranted criticism against School, its management and the Board. Participation will provide you the opportunity to directly interact with the Board and the school management. It is the responsibility of each parent to exercise their constitutional rights in full. Many of the meetings convened by the Board are to communicate to the parents the operational issues of the School, discuss and arrive at feasible and workable solutions.

The members of the Board spend much of their personal time to uplift the quality of education, school environment, availing quality teachers and education programs and improving financial condition of the school among many other initiatives. It is disappointing and depressing to address less than 10% of the parent population at important interactive meetings.

We take this opportunity to remind the parents of their responsibility to participate at the meetings and above all volunteer to discuss issues and assist the Board in making and implementing decisions.

In order to comply with the provisions of the School constitution, the Board decided to reconvene a meeting of parents of years 7, 9 and 13 to elect their representatives for the PC for the year 2012/13. In view of foregoing, the parents of years 7, 9 and 13 are kindly requested to be present on Wednesday, 10th October 2012 at 8.00 p. m. at the School main hall. We believe that the parents of these classes will understand their responsibility and display their commitment.

Once again let us appreciate all the parents who were present at the earlier meeting for PC elections and the handful of parents who continuously help the school when requested in numerous ways on a voluntary basis without prejudice.

On behalf of the Board,

K K Lalith Kumara

Hon Chairman, Board of Directors,

Sri Lankan School, Muscat