



Newsletter

VISAKHA VIDYALAYA OLD GIRLS' ASSOCIATION

133, Vajira Road, Colombo 5. www.visakhav.org

June 2012

Environment : A Moment To Ponder

The distant thunder heralds the coming rain. The patter of the rain on the window soothes while it washes away the grime. As the world watched the 7 billionth baby being born, nature continues to survive amidst a growing population; unhindered, unabashed, and unstoppable.

Nature is as subtle and its scope is vast. As untamed as nature is, it is beautiful and takes care of all life within it, including us. From the breath of fresh air that give us life, nature lies at the heart of our food, our clothes, our homes and inspires our music, art, literature, ideas, feelings and thoughts.

The environment we live is fragile, just like the wings of a butterfly and intricate and interwoven as the threads of a spider's web. It is in our best interest to return what nature has given us: caring.

Even though man is given a fleeting impression that nature is under our control, something happens to put us in our place. We talk of climate change. We talk of global warming, deforestation, and melting of the polar ice. Quite recently the coastal population of Sri Lanka faced the terror of a potential tsunami. Our actions, directly or indirectly affect the environment we live in. When man crosses the boundaries of the seemingly innocent nature, the results can be frightening.

It doesn't take much effort to care if you have the proper perspective. Nature, just like life, is built upon countless little things. Millions and millions of little drops of water go in to forming the clouds that cause the rain. The streams of water from the rain converge, in to wider and wider bodies of water, finally ending in the vast ocean. What started with a little drop of water, together with like minded water drops, made a huge impact on all forms of life.

Be a water drop. Look for other water drops. Give your little contribution, on your own and as a team. Not only will it create a ripple in the pond of life, it will inspire others to carry on the ripple. What's our aim? To live on, live a healthy life, in a healthy environment. It's called mutual benefits.

Ishani Banagala

Visakha records the best performance indices

It is a great pleasure to state that Visakha Vidyalaya has achieved the highest performance indices, based on ordinary level and advanced level examination results in the year 2011.

The performance indicator (Composite school performance index), issued by the Department of Examinations, was developed based on the ability displayed by the students at public examinations and considered a reliable index of performance than measures such as number of students getting 3 'A's. Schools all over the Island are then given a rank based on the score of the index.

In 2011 our school achieved the highest composite school performance index within the advanced level science stream. It is also a pleasure to state that the index shows an increment of 5 points (66 in year 2010, 71 in year 2011) compared to the previous year.

For the advanced level non science subjects, the composite school performance index was 69, which ranks our school in 4th place. This also shows an increment of 1 point compared with the previous year. According to the 2011 ordinary level examination results we have achieved a Composite school performance index of 80. This is the highest index achieved out of all the schools which conduct classes from grade one. We also have the record of highest number of students with 9 A's in both year 2010 and 2011.

I would like to thank all who have contributed and helped the students of Visakha Vidyalaya to achieve such success and hope that we continue to reach the high standards we have done to date.

Mrs. Sandamali Aviruppola
Principal
Visakha Vidyalaya



Upcoming Events

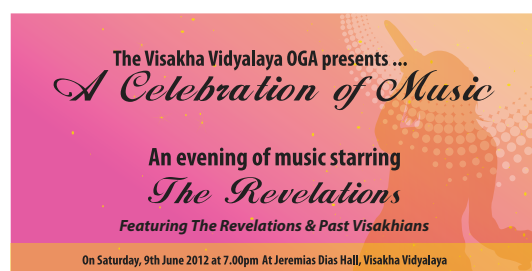
9th June 2012

A Celebration of Music

An evening of music with the choral group 'Revelations' and featuring past Visakhians will be held at the Jeremias Dias Hall, Visakha Vidyalaya. Tickets will be available at the VVOGA office from 1st of May 2012.

☎ Amaya Ellawala 0773 864 197

☎ Ranjula Rajapakse 0777 900 016



30th June 2012

Annual General Meeting - 2012

At the Jeremias Dias Hall at 9.00 am

☎ Darshi Neelawathura Bandara 0773 084 142

3rd July 2012

Esala Sil programme

☎ Visakha Samaraweera 0718 011 842

23rd July 2012

Susan George Pulimood Oration

Prof. Geetha Fernando, Professor of Pharmacology

☎ Shantha Gunaratne 0112 588 156

8th September 2012

Visakha Dinner Dance 2012

At the Cinnamon Grand, Colombo.

☎ Dehara Gomes 0777 321 824

Special Projects/Activities by VVOGA

English Enhancement Programme

The Education Sub-Committee conducts the English Teaching Programmes for Primary students, the Hostel English reading project & the Hostel Elocution project to enhance English education among Visakhians.

Renovation of School Geography Room

The Education Sub-Committee of the OGA donated much needed furniture and facilitated renovations to the school's Geography Room.

Scholarship Programme

24 students from the O/L and A/L classes were selected to receive scholarships through phases 1 & 11 of the Scholarship program undertaken by the VVOGA. Deserving students were selected through a lengthy screening and their progress regularly tracked and reported to their sponsors. We wish to thank all donors for their kind generosity.

Phase 111 of this program will be launched soon with the granting of 12 scholarships for Year 6 Hostellers.

Announcements

The OGA needs a volunteer to undertake photocopying duties. This duty will be from 7:30 am - 1:30 pm. The volunteer must be an OGA member.

☎ Aroscha on 0772 519 975 / aroscha.hemali@holcim.com

The Education Sub-Committee is running an English reading project for Hostellers. Those interested in sponsoring a student or volunteering for teaching should please contact:

Eranthi - eranthip@masholsings.com

Sumudu - sumudu@citypak.lk

Priyanka - priyankap@yahoo.com

The OGA is looking for volunteers to work in the school cafeteria from 8.30 am - 12.30 pm. The volunteer must be an OGA member.

☎ Chami 0776 742 535

The Membership Directory is now being formulated. All OGA members are requested to email or hand over membership directory applications to the OGA Secretariat. Applications can be downloaded from the school website.

☎ Dilini 0714 336 343, 0773 772 466 / dilininak@gmail.com

VISAKHA VIDYALAYA OLD GIRLS' ASSOCIATION

Notice of the Annual General Meeting 2012

Notice is hereby given that the Annual General Meeting of the Visakha Vidyalaya Old Girls' Association will be held **on Saturday, 30th day of June 2012 at 9.00 am** at the Jeremias Dias Hall, Visakha Vidyalaya, 133, Vajira Road, Colombo 5 for the purpose of inter alia electing new members for the Executive Committee 2012/2013 and Auditors for the Association and to adopt resolutions as necessary.

Nominations in the relevant format need to be completed & sent by Registered Post to the VVOGA Secretariat (at the above address) latest by **Saturday the 16th day of June 2012 by 3.30 pm.**

The nomination list would be on display at the OGA Secretariat **until Friday 22nd June 2012.**
The final date for objections to the nominations (if any) would be **Saturday 23rd June 2012.**

Voting will be open **until 11.30 am** on the day of the AGM.

Agenda for the AGM

1. Religious observances
2. Welcome address by the President
3. Reading of the Notice convening the Meeting by the Secretary
4. Condolences
5. Excuses
6. Reading & adoption of minutes of the previous Annual General Meeting & matters arising from the minutes
7. Election of Office Bearers & Members of the Executive Committee
8. Tabling of the Secretaries' Report
9. Tabling & adoption of the Statement of Accounts by the Treasurer
10. Appointment of Auditors
11. Tabling & adoption of the Statement of Accounts of any Trusts or Affiliations of the Association by invitation
12. Consideration of any resolutions which are in order - discussion, voting & passing of resolutions
13. Vote of thanks
14. School song

NOMINATIONS FOR THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE 2012/2013

Nominations are invited from the general membership to serve on the Executive Committee of the Visakha Vidyalaya Old Girls' Association. Nominations should be sent on the prescribed form (appended herewith)

The Executive Committee of the Visakha Vidyalaya Old Girls' Association comprises of the following

President -	Principal of Visakha Vidyalaya (Ex officio)
Vice Presidents -	Two posts
Joint Secretaries -	Two posts
Treasurer -	One post
Assistant Treasurer -	One post
Committee Members -	Total 30
60 yrs & above -	02 positions
Above 40 yrs & below 60 yrs -	10 positions
Above 30 yrs & below 40 yrs -	14 positions
30 yrs & below -	03 positions
Staff member -	01 position

The Criteria for eligibility & non eligibility as per the VVOGA constitution are as follows

Eligibility

- Any past pupil who has been a member of the Association for a minimum period of five (05) consecutive years ending on the 31st March 2012, shall be eligible for election to the Executive Committee.
- Members who have served on the Executive Committee for a period of 2 years or more & are of high integrity & efficient are eligible for nomination as Office Bearers. However the maximum number of occasions as Office Bearer is 06.

Non-eligibility

- No member whose daughter's application is to be submitted for admission to any grade of Visakha Vidyalaya for any particular year, shall be eligible for election to the Executive Committee for the one (01) year immediately preceding the year of submission of such application for admission and until the admission process is complete

Eg: No member whose daughter's application is to be submitted in 2013 shall be eligible for election to the Executive Committee 2012/ 2013 and until the admission process is complete

- No member of the Association shall be elected a member of the Executive Committee for more than three (03) consecutive years. (this does not apply to Office Bearers)
- No member who has been elected as an Executive Committee Member or an Office Bearer in a Past Pupils' Association of another school; shall be eligible for election to the Executive Committee of the Visakha Vidyalaya Old Girls' Association for that particular year
- No member may be elected an Office Bearer of the Association on more than six (06) occasions
- An Office Bearer on being elected to such office each year could hold a particular office for a maximum period of two years. However in the absence of nominations for a particular office in any given year, such a member who has held such office for more than two years may be appointed to continue in such office for one more year.
- Those who qualify to serve on the Executive Committee should send in their nominations in the attached format.

By order of the Executive Committee, Visakha Vidyalaya Old Girls' Association

Renuka Dharmadasa/ Darshi Neelawathura Bandara
Honorary Joint Secretaries, 2011/2012
Visakha Vidyalaya Old Girls' Association

VVOGA NOMINATION FORM

ELECTION OF MEMBERS TO THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE 2012/2013

PROPOSER:

I propose the name of _____

(Name as used in Full. Please print) _____

For the Office of _____/as Executive Committee Member for Category

Over 60 yrs	
Over40 & below 60 yrs	
Over 30 & below 40 yrs	
30 yrs & below	
Staff	

Membership No of Nominee _____

_____ Name of Proposer	_____ Membership No	_____ Date of Joining VVOGA	_____ Signature & Date
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SECONDER:

I second the name of _____

(Name as used in Full. Please print) _____

bearing membership No. _____ for the above post.

_____ Name of Proposer	_____ Membership No	_____ Date of Joining VVOGA	_____ Signature & Date
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CONSENT OF NOMINEE

Name: _____

Address: _____

Telephone Nos. _____

Membership No _____ Date of Joining VVOGA _____

Fill if applicable

1) Year of submission of application for admission of daughter to Grade 1 _____

2) Details of current membership in Executive committee or Office Bearer of any other PPA/ OGA _____

3) Been an Ex-Co Member consecutively for 2007-2008,2008-2009,2009-2010,2010-2011,2011-2012 - Yes/No

4) Nominee, Proposer & Seconder are Members of VVOGA since 31/3/2007-31/3/2012 Yes/ No

I consent to be nominated for the above post & hereby declare that the above information furnished by me is true & correct.

Signature _____

Date _____

PLEASE FORWARD THE COMPLETED NOMINATION FORM BY HAND / REGISTERED POST TO REACH THE JT. SECRETARIES ON OR BEFORE 3.30 PM ON JUNE 16, 2012

APPLICATION FORM

DIRECTORY OF MEMBERS, VVOGA

1. Full Name (In block letters) : 1.1 Family Name : 1.2 First & Middle Names :	
2. Maiden Name : 	3. Title : Miss/Mrs./Dr./Other – please specify
4. OGA Membership No.:	4a. OGA Member of the;
5. Your Current Occupation/Expertise: 	VVOGA <input style="width: 40px;" type="checkbox"/> VVOGA Medarata Branch <input style="width: 40px;" type="checkbox"/> Past Pupils of Visakha, UK Branch <input style="width: 40px;" type="checkbox"/>
6. Professional qualifications if any: 	VVOGA, Victoria Branch, Australia <input style="width: 40px;" type="checkbox"/> VVOGA, East Coast, USA <input style="width: 40px;" type="checkbox"/> Visakha Alumni Association of Southern California <input style="width: 40px;" type="checkbox"/> Other (please specify): <input style="width: 40px;" type="checkbox"/>
7. 7.1 Place of Work: 7.2 Address: 7.3 Telephone No: 7.4 Mobile No: 7.5 E-mail Address:	8. 8.1 Residential Address: 8.2 Telephone No: 8.3 Mobile No: 8.4 E-mail Address:
I hereby declare that the information given above is true, correct and complete. I shall bear the responsibility for the veracity of the above information. Date: Signature:	
FOR OFFICE USE ONLY Accepted for inclusion in the Directory of Members, VVOGA <div style="text-align: right; margin-top: 50px;"> Hony. Jt. Secretary, VVOGA </div>	

Events from the Past

Donation of Computers



Eleven (11) computers gifted by the London Branch of the OGA were donated to the A/L computer lab to help students get more hands on experience with computers.

"An Evening of Sinhala Short Plays"



'Evening of Sinhala Short Plays' organized by the Fund Raising Sub-Committee was held on 7th January, 2012 at the Namel Malini Punchi Theatre, Borella. Two widely acclaimed comedies, "Golu Birinda" and 'Kandoskiriya' were staged and the event was one of great entertainment for both young and old present that evening.

School's Official Website gets a new look

School's official web site was re-designed with new features and new outlook. The newly designed website was officially re-launched by the President of VVOGA, Mrs. Sandamali Aviruppola together with Dr. Priya de Silva on 25th of March 2012 during the Members' Day celebrations, amidst a large gathering of past Visakhians.

Visit 'www.visakhav.org' today and enjoy the new look!"



Vesak Project



Two Infusion Pumps, worth Rs 249,000/- were donated to the Neonatal Unit of the Lady Ridgeway Hospital on 20th May, under the Vesak Project organized by the Religious Sub-Committee of the OGA. These were handed over to Dr. P. G. Maheepala, Additional Secretary, Ministry of Health by Mrs Srimathi Jayasooriya, former Vice President and Secretary of VVOGA.

The Members' Day - '95 & Fabulous'



The Members' Day was held on 25th February, at the the Jeremias Dias Hall. Themed around the 95th birthday of our school, it was an evening of entertainment, much fun and fellowship. We thank all those who came in large numbers and thank them for their enthusiastic participation.

Founders' Day Pirith and Dane

Founders' Day Pirith and Dane were held at the school premises on 25th and 26th March respectively. The Religious Sub committee undertook a few renovations to the Bo-Maluwa in conjunction with the above event.

'Hostellers in Action' - 2012



In response to the appeal made by the Principal, last year for support for a wider exposure of the Hostellers to English, the Education Sub-Committee launched a program to familiarize and improve the English oratory skills of the Hostellers. A 'Recitation' & Prepared Speech' competition was held and prizes awarded.

Taking a cue from the above success, the Ex Co this year approved the program as an annual event. Over 130 Hostellers of Grades 7 to 10 were coached in the staging of an adaptation of "Cinderella" and 4 skits. Billed 'Hostellers in Action' and staged on 10th May with the Principal as the Chief Guest, it brought into focus the potential inherent among the Hostellers. Prizes donated by three old girls were given away by the Principal who in her speech highlighted the importance of the program and thanked the OGA for its support.

The OGA acknowledges the huge effort put in by Anoma Perera Project Convener who together with Anagi Wijemanne, Dilini Fernando, Nimalee Heenpalla, Kanchana Ambagawita and Vajirapane Bandaranayake trained the Hostellers for over 8 months on a weekly basis.

Annual Medical Camp



The annual Medical Camp for past and present teachers, organized by the Medical Sub-Committee of the OGA, was held on 13th May, 2012 at the school premises. Consultants from almost all specialities were present and investigations for providing screening and diagnostic facilities were provided free of charge.

Visakha Avurudu Pola 2012



The Visakha Avurudu Pola 2012 was held successfully on Saturday 31st of March 2012 at the school premises. The Chief Guest of the event was Mrs. Dhammeshwari Wickramasinghe, an old girl and a former Deputy Principal. The profits raised from this event would be utilized to finance and maintain the development projects of the school initiated by the VVOGA in the upcoming year.

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Visakha Vidyalaya Old Girls' Association
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