

PRIZE DAY 2009

HEADMASTER'S ADDRESS

Mrs Nirmali Wickremesinghe our Chief Guest, Mr Lincoln Fernando, our Manager & the other members of the Board of Governors of our College, our invitees, Fr Harold Goodchild, Fr Saman Jayasooriya, Mr Ananda Gallearachie, Sectional Heads, Supervisory Staff, Members of Staff, Past Pupils, Parents, Well wishers and my dear children.

It is my privilege to welcome you all to our annual Prize Giving Ceremony this morning. The Prize Giving is perhaps the most important event in the School Calendar as it is the opportunity for us as a school to take stock of the year that has gone by not only to choose those whose achievements need recognition but also to analyse in some form, our progress during that year. An annual reflection is very important as it shows both areas of success and failure – the triumphs and the defeats – thus enabling us to take steps to avoid the pitfalls of the past.

It is my pleasant duty to introduce to you our Chief Guest for this morning - Mrs. Nirmali Wickremesinghe – Principal of Ladies' College. Mrs. Wickremesinghe is a 3rd generation old girl of Ladies' College. After leaving school she read for a BSc at the University of _____ and obtained _____ her subjects being _____. Mrs. Wickremesinghe's teaching career spans 30 years in several schools in Sri Lanka and abroad. She began her teaching career when she married and joined her husband, the noted Anglican liturgist and lay theologian Dr Narmasena Wickremesinghe, who was stationed in Trincomalee. She was attached to the Education Ministry and taught Chemistry, Botany and Zoology to Advanced Level students at the Sinhala Maha Vidyalaya there. She then moved on to Harischandra Maha Vidyalaya, Negombo and St. John's College, Nugegoda. She retired from government service and joined her husband working in the Republic of Seychelles. She was attached to the Ministry of Education in Seychelles and taught Chemistry, Biology and English in the Seychelles Polytechnic. On returning to Sri Lanka she served on the part time staff of Ladies' College for a time. During this time she was asked to take on the post of Vice Principal of Bishop's College where she worked for a period of five years. Later she joined the British School in Colombo and took on the challenging job of organizing and implementing a Teacher Training Course. She left the British School in Colombo in 2003 to take on the post of Principal of Ladies' College. In addition she is a committed Christian and member of the Anglican Church of Ceylon. She serves on a number of Church Committees and is called upon often to contribute to the Church's thinking on children and education. In an interview with her shortly after her induction as

Principal of Ladies' College, Colombo, when she was asked about her teaching career and if she enjoyed teaching she very clearly stated that she has always had a fascination for children and that she relates well to children and enjoys being with them. It is very obvious that she enjoys being with the children and when she was asked the secret of her ability to establish instant rapport with children she said it was entirely centered around the fact that she remembers her own childhood vividly and recalls how she wanted to be treated when she was a child. Mrs. Wickremesinghe says she has no regrets at all about her choice of career which she initially got pushed into simply because there was no other job to do in Trincomalee. She says that she has found total fulfillment, and would do it all over again from the beginning if she has a chance to live her life again. She is totally committed to her vocation and is very confident that what you reap as a teacher is far more valuable than anything money can give you.

Madam we are very privileged to have a person of your calibre as our Chief Guest this morning and I am sure your words to us this morning will be inspiring.

I have received apologies from our Bishop who has not been able to make it to our Prize Giving due to a very full calendar, and also from our Archdeacon who as Chaplain of STC Bandarawela has had to attend the Prize Giving there. Needless to say they are both missed today. But a warm welcome to all our other invitees and those who have come from near and far to be with us this morning. Thank you for your presence and your solidarity at all times.

Against the backdrop of much political and socio economic unrest in many parts of our world and not least in our own country the year under review has been one of satisfactory progress and achievement in S. Thomas' College at Gurutalawa. Despite the chaos and uncertainty outside, within the confines of our School and our Boarding we have continued to maintain a community of acceptance and inclusion where children are free and safe and I hope, happy and fulfilled. Barriers of gender, caste, creed, ethnicity and class have no place amongst us, and while it has been hard work maintaining such an ethos due to the prevailing trends in society outside, we have been able to do so and, God willing, we will continue this as part of our mission to our country.

The journey begun in 2007 has continued and although we have been affected by the economic crisis most of all, the School is in good heart as the Report in your hands will show. I do not intend repeating what is contained in the Report but I would like to highlight some significant points for the benefit of those who do not have a copy.

Numbers

The right number of students is crucial to our survival. Just as much as we have admitted children right through the year in a bid to raise numbers, a number of factors have also resulted in children leaving us during the year. The raise in school fees, inability of children to stay in the boarding without their parents and vice versa, other personal problems are among them primary reasons for these withdrawals. As a school we are doing the maximum we can to ensure comfortable and clean living facilities as well as the type of education and discipline parents look for in a School such as ours. There may be shortcomings but considering where we have come from as a School it will be some time before we solve all the tiny problems that trouble us.

Examination Results and Work

We presented 31 students for the Grade Five Scholarship Exam in 2008. Unfortunately only one of them qualified with 114 marks.

58 students of the outstanding Class of 2008 were presented for the G. C. E. Ordinary Level Examination of whom 42 qualified to follow Advanced Level courses. Of the 42 one of our boys obtained distinctions (As) in all 9 subjects while two obtained 7 distinctions (As) and 2 credits (Bs). 29 of our boys obtained entry to our parent School at Mount Lavinia to follow Advanced Level courses in all streams and disciplines. It is to the credit of these boys that they fared so well considering the fact that they did not attend tuition classes outside the school at a time when private tuition has become a disease among parents in day schools – and one that sadly some teachers also seem to encourage for ulterior motives. The myth that one needs to attend tuition classes to pass the O/L exam has been exposed here at Guru.

Buildings, Equipment and Infrastructure Development

All our infrastructure work undertaken during the year was carried out with outside funding as the School does not generate sufficient funds for this purpose. On behalf of the School community I would like to record our thanks to all our benefactors.

Staff

The Teachers are a significant part of the School who as educators have the responsibility of not just teaching subjects, but teaching subjects to children, helping to fix principles and form character. The extent of their contribution to a School's success or failure is dependent on their commitment, skill and

love for children and looking upon teaching as a vocation rather than a way of making money. The My Tutorial Staff need to be especially appreciated for producing the results that they have done despite several limitations imposed on them due to circumstances beyond their control.

The Administrative Staff of the School play a very important role and are often forgotten due to their silent service of support in the College Office. They are an important part of the School and my thanks to them cannot be over stated.

The Support Staff, often consigned to the periphery, are really very crucial coworkers in a School. They are indispensable in many ways and their labour must never be taken for granted.

Mr. Jacques Huyghebaert

I would be failing in my duty if I did not place on record at this event, although I have spoken at length at the special Felicitation event earlier this year, about the services of Mr Jacques Huyghebaert who left the services of the School in December 2008.

He came to STCG in November 2007 at the invitation of the Board of Governors to implement a set of proposals he had made to save the School from closure. At the end of January 2007 he was requested to take over the School as Acting Headmaster on the resignation of Headmaster Mr E. G. J.

Canagasabey and was asked to hold the fort until a new Headmaster was appointed. He acted in that capacity until 30th May 2007 after which he handed over to the new Headmaster appointed from 1st June 2007. He then reverted to being Advisor to the Board of Governors on Gurutalawa and de facto Administrative Manager of the School with special responsibility for implementing much needed reform of the accounting and administrative departments. Mr Huyghebaert was able to reduce costs, bring in efficient and transparent administration and was also responsible for overseeing the infrastructure development programme of the School. His marketing campaign also bore fruit in the number of new students who joined in 2007 and 2008.

After two years of dynamic involvement in the life of the School and by offering a different, almost radical, way of doing things and getting things done, he decided that it was time to call it a day. His services were completely gratis and all he asked for in return was that the system he put in place should continue for the betterment of the School. His name will be written in gold in the history of the School for his contribution and we are indebted to him. We wish him well.

The Old Boys' Association

The STCG OBA completed its 49 year of existence at the end of 2008. In that year it continued its role of the primary support group of the School. What we appreciated was the commitment of many senior old boys who have no other link with the school other than their sense of loyalty and gratitude to their alma mater – the repayment of their nurture fee in a sense. Many of them travel up to Guru at their own expense, spend time going around and identifying areas that can be improved and also help with raising funds as and when required for a major project. Most of them come up for special events and when they do their presence is a source of great encouragement and solidarity that means more than funds.

My Thanks

Whatever has been possible over the year has been due to the hard work and dedication of so many. My thanks are due to them for all that they have contributed over the past years through their efforts, financial contributions and other acts of solidarity and support. A list is included at the end of the Prize Report in your hands. I must make special mention of the School Prefects of 2008 for the exemplary way in which they conducted themselves and performed their duties. Despite obstacles from many quarters they helped me to maintain a high standard of discipline among their peers. Last but not by any means least I must say a very special word of thanks to my three Sectional Heads and some other Supervisors without whom my work would not have been possible. They took a lot of my burdens and stood with me through many challenging times. Thank you one and all.

Conclusion

It is said that where there is faith, hope and love with a touch of patience and perseverance much can be achieved despite all the odds. This is true for individuals struggling to live this transitory life but also true for institutions and groups of people faced with often seemingly insurmountable odds. Reinhold Niebuhr composed for the Church a daily prayer that expresses sentiments close to my heart. It is a prayer I express daily and one that we can all derive strength from as we continue our journey at Guru.

O God, grant us the serenity to accept the things we cannot change;
the courage to change the things that we can;
and the wisdom to know the difference...

Thank you. LausDeo & Esto Perpetua.

**S. THOMAS' COLLEGE
GURUTALAWA**

HEADMASTER'S REPORT AND PRIZE LIST



CHIEF GUEST: MRS NIRMALI WICKREMESINGHE
Principal, Ladies' College Colombo

FRIDAY 3RD JULY 2009 AT 10.00 A.M.

PROGRAMME

1. Welcoming of the Chief Guest
2. Hymn for Sri Lanka
3. Prayer - The Chaplain Emeritus
4. Presentation of the Report - The Headmaster
5. Address by the Chief Guest -
MRS NIRMALI WICKREMESINGHE
6. Distribution of Prizes -
MRS NIRMALI WICKREMESINGHE
7. Vote of Thanks to the Chief Guest
 - i. Mr Prabhath Jayasundere,
A Vice President of the STCG OBA
 - ii. Mast. Vijayadas Wilfred,
Head Prefect of the School
8. College Song
9. National Anthem

PRAYER

We give Thee humble and hearty thanks, O most Merciful Father for the memory and good example of James, first Bishop of Colombo, our Founder and for all our Governors and Benefactors, especially Dr R. L. Hayman, our first Headmaster, by whose benefit this whole College is brought up to godliness and good learning. We beseech Thee to give us grace to use these thy blessings to the glory of thy Holy Name, that we may answer the good intent of our religious Founder, and become profitable members of the Church and Nation, and at last be partakers of the immortal glory of the Resurrection through our Lord and Saviour, Jesus Christ. Amen.

HYMN FOR SRI LANKA

O Father, thou hast promised
The isles shall wait for thee
The joyous isles of ocean,
The jewels of the sea
Lo! We this island's watchmen,
Would give and take no rest
For thus hath thou commanded
Till our dear land be blessed.//

Then bless her, mighty Father,
With blessings needed most,
In every verdant village
By every palmy coast
On every soaring mountain
O'er every spreading plain,

May all her sons and daughters
Thy righteousness attain.//

Give peace within her borders,
That there may be goodwill
The love all unsuspecting
The love that works no ill,
In loyal, lowly service
Let each from other learn
The guardian and the guarded,
Till Christ himself return.//

To him our land shall listen,
To him our land shall kneel
All rule be on his shoulders
All wrong beneath his heel,
O consummation glorious
Which now by faith we sing
Come, cast we up the highway,
That brings us back the king.//

Rev. Walter Stanley Senior (1876 – 1938)
Poet of Sri Lanka, Seeker of Soul, Servant of God

THE HEADMASTER'S REPORT

2008 was a year of settling down and witnessed the continuing recovery and revival of the School. However, the situation in our country and the world in general did not and has not left us untouched.

In 2008 we continued our effort to restore traditional Thomian systems and traditions and although implementing some of these have not been without problems, on the whole there has been a smooth transition.

There has been much progress in all spheres of life at the School. The standard of education and discipline continues to rise and our goal continues to be to produce integrated persons of sound character who will be responsibly independent in adult life - an intrinsic part of Thomian education. Our G. C. E. Ordinary level results of 2008 are a good indicator of the improvement in standards.

The Report in your hands speaks for itself on the many activities the College has been engaged in over the past year. The performance of our children in every sphere – discipline, academia, sports and other extra curricular activities has been more than satisfactory despite the lack of funds and up to date facilities. There is still much that needs to be done for us to reclaim the lost prestige of this school.

The Chapel

Chaplain: Rev. Andrew Gnaniah

Senior Sacristan: C. P. Olagasekera

We thank and praise God that during the year 2008 the number of Christian children increased and we had a full Chapel at services. The life of the Chapel has continued with regular morning and night prayers as well as celebrations of the Holy Eucharist on Sunday mornings.

The Revd Christo Balraj, Dean of Post Graduate Studies of the Theological College of Lanka and a former Chaplain of the School, was present as our Guest Preacher at the annual Patronal Festival of the Chapel on St. Francis of Assisi Day, 4th October 2008.

Childrens' Day was observed on the Feast of St. Nicholas, 6th December 2008 when we also held our annual Service of Lessons and Carols in three languages. The Service was followed by a community fellowship dinner and the Childrens' Day programme in the College Hall. Every child and all in the community received a small

Christmas gift.

Fr. Harold Goodchild, our beloved Chaplain Emeritus, was a great source of support to the Chaplain and with three clergymen (including the Headmaster) on the premises the Sunday Eucharist was a different experience each week. Mr. M. J. L. Rajapakse continued to assist with the administration of the chalice at communion. We are thankful to him for his assistance.

Fr Andrew Gnaniah, the Chaplain, was transferred at the end of 2008 back into parish ministry. We thank him for his two years of service amongst us and wish him and his wife Doris God blessings in their new charge at Koslanda.

Bible studies in different language groups were started and are functioning well under the guidance of the Chaplain (in Tamil), the Headmaster (in English) and a Christian member of staff (in Sinhala).

Numbers

The right number of students is crucial to our survival. Just as much as we have admitted children right through the year in a bid to raise numbers, a number of factors have also resulted in children leaving us during the year. The raise in school fees, inability of children to stay in the boarding without their parents and vice versa, other personal problems are among them primary reasons for these withdrawals. As a school we are doing the maximum we can to ensure comfortable and clean living facilities as well as the type of education and discipline parents look for in a School such as ours. There may be shortcomings but considering where we have come from as a School it will be some time before we solve all the tiny problems that trouble us.

The numbers in the School as of 31st December 2008 were:

Lower School	274 (with Nursery)
Middle & Upper Schools	<u>224</u> (including 58 O/L students)
Total	<u>498</u>

Examination Results and Work

We presented 31 students for the Grade Five Scholarship Exam in 2008. Unfortunately only one of them qualified with 114 marks.

58 students were presented for the G. C. E. Ordinary Level Examination of whom 42 qualified to follow Advanced Level courses.

One of our boys obtained distinctions (As) in all 9 subjects while two obtained 7 distinctions (As) and 2 credits (Bs). 29 of our boys obtained entry to our parent School at Mount Lavinia to follow Advanced Level courses in all streams and disciplines. 1 of them has gained admission to Trinity College, Kandy, while 1 has been admitted to Issipatana MV and the only girl has been admitted to Badulla MV.

Buildings, Equipment and Infrastructure Development

All our infrastructure work undertaken during the year was carried out with outside funding as the School does not generate sufficient funds for this purpose.

There were a number of small and medium scale works carried out during the year. We were able to upgrade facilities for all dormitories with the help of the STCG OBA and the UK and Australian branches of the STC OBA. The Upper & Middle School students and Staff Room toilet facilities that were in a deplorable state were completely rebuilt by Brandix. We were also able to effect minor repairs to other buildings on the campus as required.

The College Office was computerized and networked and an accounting package was installed thanks to the generosity of some old boys. This has made it easier for us to update our accounts regularly.

Thanks to Dr Hans Wijeyesuriya who served on our Board of Governors we were able to obtain a special internal network of mobile phones with special rates for all our staff thereby saving us the cost of an intercom system.

The STC OBA branch in Canada donated five brand new Computers for our IT Room that enhanced the work of the IT section.

The STC OBA branch in the USA donated 50 new desks and chairs for our Prep Hall.

Staff

Staff numbers as at 31st December 2008 were as follows:

Academic	41
Administrative	15
Support	29

The Teachers are a significant part of the School who as educators have the responsibility of not just teaching subjects, but teaching subjects to children, helping to fix principles and form character. The extent of their contribution to a School's success or failure is dependent on their commitment, skill and love for children and looking upon teaching as a vocation rather than a way of making money. The Tutorial Staff need to be especially appreciated for producing the results that they have done despite several limitations imposed on them due to circumstances beyond their control.

The following joined the Tutorial Staff in 2008

Rev. K. S. Jayasuriya, Messrs. G. B. Prematilleke, M. Jeyasorooban, W. M. Dharmapala, G. S. B. Amarathunga, A. Amsakumar, S. P. P. Wijesinghe, A. M. S. Guneratne, Mrs M. Billimoria, Mrs T. Abeykoon, Mrs. B. Arunagirinathan, Mrs P. Gunerathna, Mrs J. Godwin, Miss U. Udayayoga, Miss R. M. N. T. Amerasinghe, Miss M. A. U. I. P. Gunathilake, Miss D. M. S. M. K. Dissanayake, Miss W. M. S. R. Wijesundere, Miss H. K. P. D. Ambepitiya and Miss S. M. D. D. Seneviratne.

The following left the Tutorial Staff in 2008

Rev. Andrew Gnaniah, Messrs. P. Edirisinghe, G. Nesaseelan, J. M. Haniffa, M. Jeyasorooban, S. P. P. Wijesinghe, A. M. S. Guenratne, G. S. B. Amarathunga, Mrs M. Wickramage, D. Gnaniah, Mrs J. Godwin, Mrs D. Subasinghe, Miss R. M. N. T. Amerasinghe, Miss M. A. U. I. P. Gunathilake, Miss D. M. S. M. K. Dissanayake, Miss H. K. P. D. Ambepitiya, and Miss J. Thamilvani. We place on record our thanks to them for their dedicated service to the School and wish them all success and happiness in their future endeavours. The Administrative Staff of the School play a very important role and are often forgotten due to their silent service of support in the College Office. They are an important part of the School and my thanks to them cannot be over stated.

The following joined the Administrative Staff in 2008:

Messrs. H. M. C. Ranasinghe (Farm Manager), M. M. Maheer (Works Supervisor), U. D. R. K. Navarathna (Accounts Branch), R. A. Ramesh (Accounts Branch), Mrs K. Kandage (Farm Manageress), Mrs E. Gnaniah (Matron), Miss D. M. I. S. Dissanayake (Accounts Executive), Miss R. Jayanthi (Farm Assistant Trainee)

The following left the Administrative Staff in 2008:

Mr. J. Huyghebaert, Mr. B. V. T. Harischandra (Domus), Mrs E. Karandagoda (Fees Clerk), Mrs. P. A. Kamala (Nurse), Mrs. K. Kandage, Mrs. E. Gnaniah & Miss R. Jayanthi.

The Support Staff, often consigned to the periphery, are really very crucial coworkers in a School. They are indispensable in many ways and their labour must never be taken for granted.

The following retired from the Support Staff Cadre in 2008:

Messrs. K. M. Weerasena, M. Thowfeek, R. Nadesan, M. L. M. Gunapala, Mrs. I Iranganie & Mrs. K. Thewani.

We welcome those who joined us and we bid farewell to those who left us with gratitude for their time spent with us – some of them for a long period of service to the College – and their contribution in their several fields.

Mr. Jacques Huyghebaert

Special mention must be recorded about the services of Mr Jacques Huyghebaert who left the services of the School of his own volition in December 2008.

He came to STCG in November 2007 at the invitation of the Board of Governors to implement a set of proposals he had made to save the School from closure. At the end of January 2007 he was requested to take over the School as Acting Headmaster on the resignation of Headmaster Mr E. G. J. Canagasabay and was asked to hold the fort until a new Headmaster was appointed. He acted in that capacity until 30th May 2007 after which he handed over to the new Headmaster appointed from 1st June 2007. He then reverted to being Advisor to the Board of Governors on Gurutalawa and de facto Administrative Manager of the School with special responsibility for implementing much needed reform of the accounting and administrative departments.

Mr Huyghebaert was able to reduce costs, bring in efficient and transparent administration and was also responsible for overseeing the infrastructure development programme of the School. His marketing campaign also bore fruit in the number of new students who joined in 2007 and 2008.

After two years of dynamic involvement in the life of the School and by offering a different, almost radical, way of doing things and getting things done, he decided that it was time to call it a day. His services were completely gratis and all he asked for in return was that the system he put in place should continue for the betterment of the School.

His name will be written in gold in the history of the School for his contribution and we are indebted to him. We wish him well.

SUPPORT GROUPS

The Board of Governors

The role played by the Board was and continues to be vital. It is hoped that the Board will have at least one or two meetings at Gurutalawa every year as this will be of mutual benefit to the Board and the School community that often feels isolated from the center.

2008 witnessed a 'Changing of the Guard' with Mr Christo Gonawala being replaced as Manager by Mr Lincoln Fernando and as Staff Representative by Mr Merrill Aluwihare. We also had a change of Treasurer with Mr Sunil Peiris stepping out and being replaced by Mr Indrajith Fernando.

We place on record our special thanks to Mr Christo Gonawala for his services as Manager and Staff Representative during the very crucial period of 2007 – 2008. He spared no effort to express his solidarity and support at all times.

The Old Boys' Association

The STCG OBA continued its role of the primary support group of the School. What we appreciated was the commitment of many senior old boys who have no other link with the school other than their sense of loyalty and gratitude to their alma mater – the repayment of their nurture fee in a sense. Many of them travel up to Guru at their own expense, spend time going around and identifying areas that can be improved and also help with raising funds as and when required for a major project. Most of them come up for special events and when they do their presence is a source of great encouragement and solidarity that means more than funds.

A special word is necessary to thank the dynamic Senior Vice President of 2008 Mr Mahen Ranasinghe, who was the live wire of the Executive Committee, motivating his committee and personally overseeing the work undertaken by them.

Needless to say that the constant support of the old boy network is crucial for our existence.

CAMPUS FACILITIES

Boarding

Senior Boarding House Master: Rev. Fr Harold Goodchild

Prefect of Discipline: Mr V. W. Dikkumbura

The traditional House system fully revived in the Boarding towards the end of Term 3 functioned well in 2008. The Headmaster was a regular visitor to the Dormitories and with the support of the School Prefects the standards of order and discipline within the Boarding were raised.

There are four senior dormitories and four junior dormitories for the four Houses (De Saram, Garnier, Hayman & Read) as well as two intermediate dormitories (Foster for Grade 6 students and Jayasinghe for Grade 9 students not ready for the senior dorms).

With the increase in the number of Boarders we had to open a second intermediate dormitory for Grade 9 students (the Illangakoon dormitory named after former Headmaster M. L. C. Illangakoon).

What prevails after 2.20 p. m. in a Boarding School must be that the School becomes 'Home away from home' for our boys and girls. A warm, friendly and family atmosphere must prevail together with the necessary safeguards to preserve discipline and order. This is a time tested system and one that we continue to foster at Gurutalawa.

Keble & Blanchard Dormitories

Matron: Mrs. J. Bartholot

Asst. Matron: Miss J. Tamilvani

We received Board approval to go up to 30 girls in the Blanchard Dormitory in 2008.

The Lower School boy boarders are all housed in the Keble Dormitory and in 2008 two senior House Prefects were stationed with them to assist with the maintenance of discipline.

The Sick Room

School Nurse: Ms. A. P. Kamala

The Sickroom continued to serve its purpose. Children in need of medical treatment were taken to the DMO at the Boralanda Rural Hospital. On the whole the general health of the students was satisfactory.

The College Kitchen

Domus: Mr. B. V. T. Harischandra

We continued to provide a balanced diet for our Boarders at a very reasonable rate. A Food Committee chaired by the Headmaster and on which the Head Prefect represents the students met regularly to plan menus.

With the revival of the College Farm, the children were able to have fresh vegetables from our own cultivation plots. They also received fresh milk and chicken as well as an egg a day.

The College Farm

Manager: Mrs. K. Kandage / Mr. M. Ranasinghe

The College Farm continued to be an integral part of the School. The Farm supplied eggs, chicken, milk and vegetables for the use of the School.

The Farm was an ideal resource for the teaching of Agriculture as well as offering practical hands on training to boys interested in farming.

From March 2008 we entered joint venture partnerships with two persons to cultivate the land in front of and

below the Headmaster's Bungalow extending to our boundary with the village fields as well as the block below the College Guest House en route to the Keble section.

While our primary goal was to produce sufficient eggs, milk and chicken and grow sufficient vegetables for our own consumption we also have outsiders interested in purchasing these from time to time and so we opened a vegetable stall outside the main gate to facilitate sales to those passing by.

Three female heifers and one bull calf were born to our Frisians during the year.

The College Shop

Manager: Mr. M. L. Razik

The College Shop (formerly the Cooperative Stores) stocked many things required by the Boarders and others resident on the campus. It was closed towards the end of Term 3 2008 due to circumstances beyond our control.

The College Bakery

Manager: Mr M. L. Razik

The Bakery continued to provide the required bread, buns and cakes for the consumption of the College community. The Cookery Club used the facilities for their baking activities as well.

Film Shows

Masters in Charge: The Headmaster & Mr D. N. Seneviratne

In addition to the weekly film show the Boarders now have a satellite connection courtesy and old boy and a parent and thereby have more access to educational and sports channels that are invaluable. We also received a donation of a large screen television. A Film Club was formed to run the Friday and Saturday film shows.

The Library

Librarian: Mrs. M. W. Wickramage

Library Assistant: Mr I. Kamalakannan

The daily and Sunday newspapers in all three languages are purchased for the children and there are a few periodicals that we received from time to time.

We received a number of donations of books from old boys.

A Library Club was formed and Junior Librarians appointed to help with the work in the Library. Although the reading habit is not what it once was the facilities are still being used by many students and teachers.

SOCIETIES & CLUBS

Prefect of Clubs & Societies: Mrs Manomanie Wickramage

A member of staff was appointed to coordinate the various Clubs and Societies of the School that continue to be inactive due to many reasons. This Report includes the reports of only those societies and clubs that have been active during the year under review.

Student Christian Movement

Master in Charge: The Chaplain

Bible Studies are held weekly under the auspices of the SCM. Senior SCM members lead morning prayers along with the Chaplain and Christian teachers.

Buddhist Students Society

Teacher in Charge: Mrs. Sita Jayasekera

The Buddhist children start each day with a 10 minute meditation. Those Buddhist boys of the Upper School who wish to go are taken to the local Temple by a member of staff every Poya Day.

Hindu Students Society

Master in Charge: Mr. S. Vijayaraja

The Society conducts meditation for Hindu students every morning during Chapel.

Islamic Students Society

Master in Charge: Mr. B. M. Sufiyan

Apart from the conducting of the morning prayer time to start the day the Islamic students are permitted to attend Friday Prayers at the Gurutalawa Jumma Mosque under the supervision of Muslim members of staff. The Islamic students observed the Ramazan Fast for which the School allowed them to occupy a separate dormitory and they also celebrated the Meelad Nabi Festival in the customary manner.

English Literary and Debating Society

Teachers in Charge: Mr P. Edirisinghe & Ms. Nilanthi Chathurani

The usual essay writing, debating and oratory competitions were held.

Sinhala Literary Society

Teacher in Charge: Mrs. M. Wickramage

Under the guidance of the teachers of Sinhala this society is functioning satisfactorily.

Tamil Literary Society

Master in Charge: Mr. B. M. Sufiyan

A number of Tamil items were performed at the annual Cultural Day of the School and were of a high standard.

Landscaping & Gardening Club

Master in Charge: Mr. B. M. Sufiyan

Some *shramadanas* were conducted during the year and members also helped in maintaining the gardens outside the Hall, Library and College Office.

Oriental Music Society

Maestro-in-Charge: Mr. D. P. Sugathapala

Our Oriental Musicians fared extremely well by emerging 1st in the Zonal and Provincial Competitions. They came 2nd at the All Island Competition.

The Lower School Oriental Singers came 1st in the Zonal event but were unfortunately knocked out in the Provincial event.

The enthusiastic musicians ventured into a new project by starting a 'Beat' Band under the watchful eye of the Maestro in Charge. This band gave its debut performance at the Christmas Concert in December. The members of the band handle their own sounds and have brought their own instruments including a drum set are very enthusiastic about their new activity.

Oriental Dancing Society

Maestro-in-Charge: Mr G. B. S. Prematilleke

The activities of the Dancing Society have received new life under the new Master in Charge who re formed the Oriental Dancing Group and Drum Group. The outgoing O/L Class of 2008 made a donation of funds collected by them for the purchase of new instruments for the Hewisi Band.

Oriental Dancers led the procession to welcome the Chief Guest at the annual Cultural Day held in June and at the Prize Giving in October.

Our Dancers and Hewisi Drummers participated in the All Island Competitions. Our Dancers emerged 1st in the Zonal and Provincial events and 2nd in the National event while the Drummers came 1st in the Zonal and 2nd in the Provincial events.

Art & Craft Club

Masters in Charge: Messrs. D. Seneviratne & A. Amsakumar

The activities of the Club were revived in 2007 and in 2008 members of the Club were very active.

A colourful backdrop depicting scenes in harmony with Sinhala and Tamil culture was drawn for the Cultural day .

An Art & Craft Exhibition was organised by the Club to coincide with the Prize Giving in October 2008. This was declared open by Mr P. S. Duleepkumar. A series of special bookmarks depicting art work done by the members were sold to raise funds for the activities of the Club.

Photographic Club

Master in Charge: Mr. K. M. T. Pushpakumara

Members use the two digital cameras owned by the School to capture images at the various College events that take place. There is much interest among those involved in developing the activities of this Club.

The Cookery Club

Teacher in Charge: Mrs. M. Billimoria

The Cookery Club, begun for the Girls of the School, drew a large group of boys as well who interested in sharpening their culinary skills. Members of the Club provided short eats and cake for sale at a number of school events and also helped with providing food for the annual Avurudu Uleela organised by the Upper VIth students in April..

Interact Club

Master in Charge: The Headmaster

The Interact Club undertook a campaign, with the assistance of the STCG OBA, to place plastic barrels around the campus for garbage collection.

The Club also sold College Tie Pins to raise funds for their activities.

Agriculture Club

Master-in-Charge: Mr. V. W. Dikkumbura

The Agriculture students help out in the activities of the College Farm. The Farm Manageress, Mrs Kalpana Kandage included some of the children in practical things around the Farm.

As in past years the students also visited the Ambewela New Zealand Farm and the Highland Milk Factory to gain a practical knowledge of their subject.

Science Society

Master in Charge: Mr. R. M. D. W. B. Ratnayake

The Science Society did not have much activity during the year under review but continues to help with the work of the Science Laboratory.

The Horse Riding Club

Master in Charge: Mr. S. Medawela

Riding Master: Mr. S. Jayanath

Two Equestrian Displays were shown at the Inter House Sports Meet that were well received.

The original location of the Riding Ring has been restored using basic materials and is in use. In addition to the original three horses donated we received a fourth horse at the beginning of 2008 named Scooby Doo. Due to

pregnancies of the two mares the regular activities of the Club reduced, not due to any lack of interest among the boys. For the first time there are prizes for Horse Riding at a Prize Giving this year.

Scouting & Cubbing

Master in Charge: Rev. Fr. H. C. Goodchild

Scouting was restarted with great enthusiasm after a lapse. Baden-Powell said he could manage to train only 32 boys at a time but he said 'if you are a better leader you may take 40 boys.' We found ourselves with close upon 60 and more asking to join.

Trained staff are still needed as Fr Goodchild manages alone on Wednesdays.

Our emphasis is scout training with little emphasis on badge hunting. Our instructions also emphasize Health and First Aid. Through games and outdoor activities, the boys have exercise and fun. They are ready helpers and begin their weekly programme with a cleaning up session cleaning certain areas in the school that need a sweep.

They enjoy swimming and nearly every scout can swim. We sometimes practise life-saving.

The Scouts were able to get uniforms done in time for the Prize Giving of 2008 and were in charge of the Flag Hoisting that preceded that event.

The College Magazine

Master-in-Charge: Mr. Panini Edirisinghe

Co-Editors: A. W. S. T. Gomes & D. Senanayake

Our attempts at releasing the Magazine have stalled due to unavoidable circumstances. We are hoping that we can release a combined number for 2007/2008 in 2009. Contributions towards the publication of this are welcome.

SPORTS AND GAMES

Prefect of Games: Mr. S. Medawela

The number of sporting activities we have listed does not reflect the reality of the state of games and sports at Guru. While there were attempts to reorganise and revitalise activity only a few sports went well during the year under review. Lack of resources both human and monetary as well as the lack of motivation among the students have been the contributory factors for this.

Athletics

Master in Charge and PTI: Mr. S. Medawela

The main event of the Athletics calendar in 2008 was the annual Inter House Athletics Meet on 28th February. The Chief Guest was Brigadier Bandu Munasinghe. The event was well organised and included a drill display. Hayman House emerged Champions and carried away the D. A. Seneviratne Memorial Challenge Cup & Shield.

A number of our athletes won places at the Zonal Athletics Meet held in May. Two of them were selected for the All Island Meet held in Colombo. They were G. N. Devinda (Putt Shot) and U. E. Ranaweera (Long Jump).

Badminton

Master in Charge/Coach: Mr. S. Medawela

Badminton is a very popular evening sport and all four outdoor courts are always occupied during games time daily. There is a lot of interest in Badminton and some very good talent among the juniors as well.

The annual Inter House Badminton Tournament was revived and the Challenge Trophy was won by Read House.

Rugby Football

Master in Charge/Coach: Mr. V. W. Dikkumbura

During the year under review our Under 18 team took part in the Milo Tournament emerging 1st in the Cup championship at the provincial tournament held in Bandarawela (beating traditional rivals STC, Bandarawela, Bandarawela Central College and Dharmapala Vidyalaya). They then went on to emerge Cup Quarter Finals

Runners up in the Division 3 All Island Championship also held at Bandarawela.

The Under 16 side emerged Runners Up at the Provincial Milo Tournament.

The annual Inter House Rugby Football Tournament was organised after a break and the Canon R. S. de Saram Challenge Shield was won by De Saram House.

Cricket

Master in Charge: Mr. I. Kamalakannan

Our Under 15 team led by A. S. Kalpana participated in the Inter School All Island Lakbima Trophy Tournament in which they were unfortunately dismissed in the 1st round.

The Under 13 team led by Tharindu Bandara played 5 matches in the 1st Round of the Under 13 Lakbima Trophy Tournament and won all five proceeding to round 2 in which they were defeated after two matches and knocked out at the quarter finals. Outstanding performances were made by A. Silva who ran up an average of 60 in the entire tournament as the wicket keeper/batsman. The Skipper, Bandara, took a total of 18 wickets and two half centuries. M. H. B. Dikkumbura, the youngest player at 11 got 59 runs in the match against Bandarawela Central College as opening batsman.

The annual encounter between STCG and our brother School at Bandarawela was revived by the two Headmasters and played after 20 years at Gurutalawa. It was a 25 over match and was won by STCB by 1 run. Outstanding performances at the crease were displayed by G. A. N. Devinda (46) and the Skipper G. M. Mallawarachchi (49) while M. M. M. Maheesh took 4 wickets for 29 runs. G. M. Mallawarachchi was awarded the Man of the Match trophy while G. A. N. Devinda won the Best Batsman Trophy and M. M. M. Maheesh won the trophy for Best Bowler. The winning team was awarded the Headmaster Patrick Gunawardene Memorial Challenge Trophy presented for the first time by the Headmaster, STCG.

Basket Ball

Master in Charge: Mr. M. J. L. Rajapakse

This sport continues to draw much interest and there are always boys playing a game of Basket Ball. Despite not having a qualified Coach our Under 18 Basket Ball Team participated at the Badulla District Basket Ball Tournament but were not able to match the more professionally trained players.

The Inter House Basket Ball Tournament was revived and was played at two levels (juniors and seniors). The Tournament was won by Hayman House.

Swimming

Master in Charge: Mr. I. Kamalakannan

Coach: Rev. Fr. H. C. Goodchild

The College Swimming Pool was back in action thanks to the hard work and generous contribution of a loyal old boy of the School and his colleagues. Fr Harold Goodchild took a very keen interest in coaching the House and College swimmers.

The annual Inter House Swimming Meet for the Dr R. L. Hayman Memorial Shield was held on 7th August 2008 and was won by De Saram House.

Volleyball

Master in Charge: Mr. S. Medawela

Coach: Mr. S. Jayasiri

Our Volley Ball teams did well at both the Zonal and Divisional level meets although they did not fare well at the Provincial tournament.

Inter House Volleyball Tournament was held and was won by Hayman House in both senior and junior categories.

Conclusion

We are still rationalising the Prize Giving and trying to bring it more into conformity with the traditional Thomian features. Many new prizes have been introduced with specific criteria and we hope there will be others who will come forward to offer prizes in the future. We also hope to advance the event to Term 2 from 2009 as having a Prize Giving for the previous year late in the year is not desirable. Next year there will be even more changes to the structure and format. Repetition of some prizes is inevitable until we fine tune the event.

My Thanks

Whatever has been possible over the year has been due to the hard work and dedication of so many. My thanks are due to them for all that they have contributed over the past years through their efforts, financial contributions and other acts of solidarity and support.

Our Bishop-Visitor, the Rt Revd Duleep de Chickera

The Board of Governors of the School, especially our present Manager Mr Lincoln Fernando, Staff Representative Mr Merril Aluwihare and Treasurer Mr Indrajith Fernando who are always available for advice.

The Archdeacon of Nuwara Eliya, the Ven. Dhiloraj Canagasabey

The STCG OBA and the many old boys who have rallied round to support us.

The OTAUK, the STC OBA Australia, the STC OBA Canada and the OBA in California for their solidarity with funding.

Our parent School at Mount Lavinia and brother Schools at Kollupitiya and Bandarawela especially the Warden and Sub Warden and the other two Headmasters for sending us 15% of their admission fees

Our Advisor, Mr Jacques Huyghebaert whose services cannot be adequately appreciated and who stepped down from his post at the end of 2008.

Our Chaplain, Fr Andrew Gnaniah, who was transferred in December 2008.

Our Chaplain Emeritus, Fr Harold Goodchild, for being such a tower of strength at all times

The Sectional Heads, Mrs S. Jayasekera, Mr V. W. Dikkumbura and Mr K. M. T. Pushpakumara and all the academic staff of the three sections who have been a very hardworking team to ensure academic standards.

The Prefect of Games Mr S. Medawela and the Sports Unit staff.

The Administrative Officer, Mr S. Selvaratnam and the other administrative staff in the College office.

The Works Supervisor and all members of the College Support Staff

The Divisional and Zonal Directors of Education, Welimada

Donors towards our many projects and other needs.

Parents and well wishers.

Conclusion

It is said that where there is faith, hope and love with a touch of patience and perseverance much can be achieved despite all the odds. This is true for individuals struggling to live this transitory life but also true for institutions and groups of people faced with often seemingly insurmountable odds.

Reinhold Niebuhr composed for the Church a daily prayer that expresses sentiments close to my heart as we continue our journey at Guru.

O God, grant us the serenity to accept the things we cannot change;
the courage to change the things that we can;
and the wisdom to know the difference...

As we go forward in faith, hope and love may this be the prayer of all our hearts.

**The Revd Marc Billimoria
Headmaster
Feast of St. Thomas the Apostle
3rd July 2009**

THE ADMINISTRATION OF THE SCHOOL (as of July 2009)

1. The Board of Governors

Chairman (*Ex-Officio*): The Rt. Revd the Lord Bishop of Colombo,
Bishop-Visitor
Hony. Secretary: Mr. R. N. Asirwathan
Hony. Treasurer: Mr. Indrajith Fernando
Manager of the School: Mr. Lincoln Fernando
Staff Representative Mr. Merril Aluwihare
Members: Prof. G. L. Peiris, Prof. Dayasiri Fernando, Prof. Priyan Dias, Dr. Vijaya Corea,
Messrs. Rohan Edirisinghe, Mohan Abeynaike, Michael Sproule, Maithri Wickremesinghe, C. P. S. Mendis,
Suren Goonewardene.

2. School Administration

Headmaster

Revd N. M. P. Billimoria BA, Dip Theol, Dip Min TG

Chaplain

Vacant

Manager – Administration

Mr Ananda Gallearachie

Sectional Head – Upper School

Mrs. S. Jayasekera BSc (Spl), Dip. in Ed., MA (Ed.)

Sectional Head – Middle School

Mr. K. M. T. Pushpakumara Dip in Com. System Design (NIBM)

Sectional Head – Lower School

& Prefect of Discipline

Mr. V. W. Dikkumbura Bed, Dip in Agri., Trained

Prefect of Games

Mr. S. Medawela G. C. E. A/L

Senior Boarding House Master

Rev. Fr. H. C. Goodchild

Administrative Officer / Accountant

Mr. S. Selvaratnam

Hostel Administrator
Mr. A. Javahir

Secretary
Vacant

3. Tutorial Staff

LOWER SCHOOL

1. Mrs. J. Dharmawardene	Primary Trained
2. Mrs. R. C. Dikkumbura	Primary Trained
3. Mrs. R. M. S. Rajapakse	Primary Trained
4. Mrs. J. Nesaseelan	Christianity Trained
5. Miss K. S. Wijesinghe	G. C. E. A/L
6. Miss H. T. Mafliya	G. C. E. A/L
7. Miss S. Saranja	G. C. E. A/L
8. Miss A. S. Subashini	G. C. E. A/L
9. Mrs B. Arunagirinathan	G. C. E. O/L

MIDDLE & UPPER SCHOOLS

1. Rev. K. S. Jayasuriya	BTh
2. Mr. S. R. Ratnapala	Maths Trained
3. Mr. D. P. Sugathapala	Music Trained
4. Mr. R. M. D. V. B. Ratnayake	BSc, Dip in Ed
5. Mr. W. M. Bandulasena	G. C. E. A/L
6. Mr. M. L. Razik	Trained
7. Mr. B. M. Sufiyan	BA, Dip in Ed
8. Ms. N. Chathurani	English Trained
9. Mr. S. Vijayarajah	BSc
10. Mr. S. Kaviharana	BCS (UK), Dip
11. Mr. T. Ellango	Science Trained (London)
12. Mr. Peter Colin	G. C. E. A/L
13. Mr. S. M. D. M. Seneviratne	G. C. E. A/L
14. Mr. L. Theepakaran	G. C. E. A/L
15. Mr. A. Amsakumar	G. C. E. A/L
16. Mr. G. B. Prematilleke	BFA
17. Mrs. M. Billimoria	BA
18. Mrs Priyanka Guneratne	BFA
19. Mr. W. M. Dharmapala	BA
20. Mr. B. Kajendiran	G. C. E. A/L
21. Mr. S. I. S. Subasinghe	BA
22. Mr. T. B. A. Fernando	Trained
23. Mr. S. T. Nithyaraj	G. C. E. A/L
24. Mr. R. M. C. S. Bandara	BSc
25. Mr. K. H. S. Chandralal	G. C. E. A/L
26. Mr. W. M. R. T. Kumara	G. C. E. A/L
27. Mrs. T. S. S. G. Hewavitharane	Trained
28. Mr. F. B. Nishanth	G. C. E. A/L, Trainee

PRIZE LIST 2008
THE LOWER SCHOOL
NURSERY (PLAY SCHOOL)

Prizes for General Proficiency

1. N. M. N. B Nawarathna
2. H. M. S. M. Rathnayake
3. N. F. M. Azran
4. M. N. M. Murshid
5. M. N. M. Rinaz
6. M. H. M. Sameer
7. W. M. S. Sewmini
8. I. Isham Khan
9. J. M. A. W. V. Jayasooriya

GRADE ONE (KINDERGARTEN)

Prizes for General Proficiency

1. J. K. T. A. Jayarathna
2. R. M. Nalin Yashith
3. M. N. M. Nafleen
4. M. G. U. Senadheera
5. N. Shahid Ahamed
6. M. A. M. Arham
7. H. A. M. P. Amarasena
8. N. Fathima Fazna
9. R. Prashan

GRADE TWO (FORM 1)

Prizes for General Proficiency

1. K. D. S. A. Madusanka
2. H. M. P. D. Malshan
3. K. M. R. M. Sugathapala
4. M. H. M. Hasher
5. T. M. G. D. Tennekoon
6. H. K. Gunasiri
7. S. B. L. Billimoria

8. M. K. W. A. C. Deshapriya
9. C. A. Jenusan
10. R. Krishanthan

GRADE THREE (FORM 2)

Prizes for General Proficiency

1. W. M. P. Kaushalya
2. T. R. Ashan
3. M. H. Razik
4. M. J. M. Inshaf
5. M. A. M. Safran
6. C. U. B. Ratnayake
7. M. A. M. Aquill
8. M. N. M. Rizan

GRADE FOUR (LOWER THIRD)

Divinity	Not Awarded
Buddhism	P. K. D. Chamod
Hinduism	Not Awarded
Islam	M. M. M. Faslan
English Language	N. Senal Dilmith
Sinhala Language	N. Senal Dilmith
Tamil Language	P. Kokulatheepan
Number	D. P. Liyanapathirana
ENV	P. K. D. Chamod
Link Language	P. Kokulatheepan
Handwork	M. N. M. Nafeed
Dancing	W. Bryan Smith
Singing	G. G. B. G. Prasad
Art	N. Arshad Ahamed
Form Prize	P. Kokulatheepan
	G. G. B. G. Prasad
	W. Bryan Smith
	G. G. B. G. Prasad
	W. Bryan Smith
	L. S. Abeysooriya
	N. Senal Dilmith

GRADE FIVE (UPPER THIRD)

Divinity	K. P. J. Wijesinghe
Buddhism	T. Anthony
Hinduism	K. O. Mahalaksha
Islam	Not Awarded
English Language	M. H. Azam Khan
Sinhala Language	M. M. M. Fazloor
Tamil Language	D. D. Leitch
Number	M. A. Madushan
ENV	K. O. Mahalaksha
Link Language	C. Felix
	M. H. Azam Khan
	M. M. M. Rizhad
	M. H. Azam Khan
	M. M. M. Fazloor

Handwork	M. A. Madushan
	T. Anthony
Dancing	K. O. Mahalaksha
	T. Anthony
Art	T. A. Samaratunga
	T. Anthony
Singing	M. M. M. Fazloor
	K. O. Mahalaksha
Form Prize	K. O. Mahalaksha

Special Prizes

Singing	Grade 1	D. S. Uyanage
		G. G. D. Thilanka
	Grade 2	G. C. L. Perera
		S. Vinobass
	Grade 3	K. A. D. K. Madusanka
	C. Dushyanthan	
	Grade 4	L. H. L. Nimalan
		C. Krishanthan
	Grade 5	M. Dinesh
		L. S. Abeysooriya
Dancing	Grade 1	M. L. M. V. D. Mahalaksha
	Grade 2	A. M. Isuru Udara
		S. Vinobass
	Grade 3	K. M. R. M. Sugathapala
		N. Rizmiya
	Grade 4	M. N. M. Nuzri
		M. H. Rizard
	Grade 5	G. G. B. G. Prasad
		M. Hafra
Art	Grade 1	S. M. J. Ranhida
	Grade 2	J. J. M. A. M. R. Bandara
	Grade 3	A. N. D. Guneratna
	Grade 4	H. G. C. Malinga
	Grade 5	W. A. S. L. Wickramarachchi
Handwork	Grade 1	M. I. A. Razmi
	Grade 2	M. R. M. Razmi Dilzad
	Grade 3	S. B. L. Billimoria
	Grade 4	M. H. Razik
	Grade 5	A. Arshad

The Headmaster's Prize for the Best All Round Student in the Lower School
K. O. Mahalaksha

**MIDDLE SCHOOL
GRADE SIX (LOWER FOURTH)**

Divinity	C. C. K. J. Jayarathna J. Sharmilan S. J. Nilani
Buddhism	C. P. Ratnayake
Hinduism	R. Thivagarn
Islam	M. N. M. Nuzki M. Z. . Abdullah
English Language	S. I. P. Billimoria
Sinhala Language	M. H. B. Dikkumbura
Tamil Language	S. J. Nilani
Mathematics	M. H. B. Dikkumbura E. Gladwin S. D. Rathnayake
Science	M. H. B. Dikkumbura E. Gladwin
History	M. H. B. Dikkumbura T. Madurshana
Geography	M. H. B. Dikkumbura T. Madurshana S. I. P. Billimoria
Civics	M. H. B. Dikkumbura S. J. Nilani S. I. P. Billimoria
Link Language	Not Awarded
Health & Phy.Education	C. P. Ratnayake T. Madurshana S. H. Hwang
Art	P. P. T. A. Bandara T. Madurshana
Dancing	N. Jawagar
Music	Not Awarded
PTS	M. H. B. Dikkumbura S. J. Nilani
Form Prize	M. H. B. Dikkumbura

GRADE 7 (UPPER FOURTH)

Divinity	P. D. R. Saram
Buddhism	S. L. Wijesooriyarachchi
Hinduism	C. Arun Prasath
Islam	M. H. Hisham Khan
English Language	L. S. Fernando I. N. N. Ananda

Sinhala Language	N. J. Aravinthan
Tamil Language	S. L. Wijesooriyarachchi
Mathematics	N. J. Aravinthan
	K. M. N. Kumara
Science	N. J. Aravinthan
	M. H. Hisham Khan
History	P. D. Saram
	I. D. Fernando
Geography	N. J. Aravinthan
	A. L. A. K. D. Liyanarachchi
Civics	C. Arun Prasath
	K. M. N. Kumara
Link Language	N. J. Aravinthan
	M. H. Hisham Khan
Health & Phy. Education	D. Praveen
	A. L. A. K. D. Liyanarachchi
Art	N. J. Aravinthan
	A. L. A. K. D. Liyanarachchi
Music	C. Arun Prasath
PTS	Not Awarded
	S. L. Wijesooriyarachchi
	H. D. Pathirana
	K. A. T. K. Perera
	M. H. Hisham Khan
	C. Arun Prasath
Form Prize	N. J. Aravinthan

GRADE EIGHT (FORM FIVE)

Divinity	T. I. Dharmaraj
	V. Robert Kenady
Buddhism	P. B. Kodithuwakku
Hinduism	Not Awarded
Islam	M. A. M. Sarfan
	M. N. M. Ziraj
English Language	J. S. de Silva
Sinhala Language	T. I. Dharmaraj
Tamil Language	V. Robert Kenady
Mathematics	P. B. Kodithuwakku
	V. Robert Kenady
Science	T. I. Dharmaraj
	V. Robert Kenady
Social Studies	T. R. Kapugamage
	V. Robert Kenady
Health & Phy. Education	T. R. Kapugamage
	V. Robert Kenady
Art	M. A. M. Sarfan
	V. Robert Kenady
Dancing	D. M. B. Dissanayake
Music	S. R. Wickramarachchi

PTS

P. B. Kodithuwakku

Link Language
Form Prize

V. Robert Kenady
Punsandani Nayoda
V. Robert Kenady

Special Prizes

The Headmaster's Award for the Best All Round Student in the Middle School

P. B. Kodithuwakku

UPPER SCHOOL

GRADE NINE (LOWER SIXTH)

Divinity
Buddhsim
Hinduism
Islam
English Language
Sinhala Language
Tamil Language
Mathematics

Science

Social Studies

Health & Phy. Education

Art
Dancing
Music
PTS

Link Language

Form Prize

G. Deepadarshan
J. K. D. Himayanthi
Not Awarded
K. R. Ahamed Farhan
G. Deepadarshan
B. Y. S. Perera
G. Deepadarshan
K. N. K. Gamage
G. Deepadarshan
K. C. M. Thilakarathna
W. A. Yasun Chanuka
G. Deepadarshan
N. N. Thilakarathna
G. Deepadarshan
K. C. M. Thilakarathna
N. N. Thilakarathna
G. Deepadarshan
P. A. Rathnayake
G. Deepadarshan
K. C. M. Thilakarathna
Not Awarded
S. Ravikumar
G. Deepadarshan
K. V. Niroshkanth
K. R. A. Ahamed Farhan

G. Deepadarshan

GRADE TEN (MIDDLE SIXTH)

Divinity	V. Wilfred
Buddhism	A. H. M. S. R. B.
Wadigamangawa	
Hinduism	C. Kavinath
Islam	Not Awarded
English Language	A. H. M. S. R. B.
Wadigamangawa	
Sinhala Language	A. H. M. S. R. B.
Wadigamangawa	
Tamil Language	V. Wilfred
Mathematics	A. G. Indurangala N. Ananth Wallace A. H. M. S. R. B.
Wadigamangawa	
Science	V. Wilfred
History	W. M. D. Weerasinghe V. Wilfred
Entrepreneur Studies	T. M. P. Mendis
Business Studies	A. Ananth Wallace
Link Language	Not Awarded
Art	Not Awarded
Music	Not Awarded
Dancing	S. S. Kodipiliarachchi
English Literature	S. M. D. M. Senanayake
Health & Phy. Education	C. K. G. Malalanayake V. Wilfred A. S. Kalpana
Agriculture	Not Awarded
ICT	A. G. Indurangala S. M. D. M. Senanayake
Form Prize	V. Wilfred

GRADE ELEVEN (UPPER SIXTH)

Divinity	A. W. S. T Gomes
Buddhism	Not Awarded
Hinduism	Not Awarded
Islam	R. Ahamed Shifa
English Language	A. W. S. T. Gomes
Sinhala Language	A. W. S. T. Gomes
Tamil Language	V. R. Premkumar
Mathematics	L. H. A. Iroshan V. R. Premkumar A. W. S. T. Gomes
Science	Not Awarded
History	L. H. A. Iroshan A. W. S. T. Gomes
Entrepreneur Studies	A. W. S. T Gomes
Business Studies	Not Awarded

Link Language	R. Ahamed Shifa
Art	M. N. M. Fazmil
Music	Not Awarded
Dancing	A. W. S. T. Gomes
English Literature	V. R. Premkumar
Health & Phy. Education	L. L. K. K. Rajapakse
	C. P. Olagasekera
Agriculture	Not Awarded
ICT	Not Awarded
Form Prize	A. W. S. T. Gomes

SPECIAL PRIZES

The Canon A. J. Foster Memorial Chapel Prize C. P. Olagasekera
[Presented by the STCG OBA]

The Dr & Mrs I. G. Gunawardene Prize for Divinity V. Wilfred
[Awarded to a student in the Upper School]

The M. B. N. W. Gawaramana Prize for Buddhism
[Awarded to a student in the Upper School]

D. M. S. J. Ekanayake

Sukunda Sudanthri Memorial Prize for Hinduism C. Kavinath
[Awarded to a student in the Upper School]

The Shakir H. Marikar Memorial Prize for Islam
[Awarded to a student in the Upper School] A. M. Rinaz Ahamed

The Cyril Perera Memorial Prize for Excellence in English
[Presented by the Members of his Family] M. C. Salgado

The Perpetual Prize for Mathematics in Memory of Headmaster E. L. Pereira *[Presented by the Members of his family]*

A. H. M. S. R. B. Wadigamangawa

The Wijewardene Science Prize A. G. Indurangala

The Mr. A. K. Chapman Scholarship Awards for Science
[Presented by Mrs Betty Chapman and Members of the Family]

Senior K. V. Niroshkanth
Junior Not Awarded

The D. W. Sooriyarachchi Memorial Prize for Agriculture
R. E. A. Perera
M. J. M. Fayaz

The David Paynter Memorial Prize for Best Artist A. S. Kalpana

The Prize for Best Oriental Musician		V. Wilfred S. R. H. Rathnapala
The Prize for Best Oriental Dancer		B. Y. S. Perera
The English Essay Prize	Senior	N. Ananth Wallace
	Junior	M. M. D. C. Dinali
The Sinhala Essay Prize	Senior	K. C. M. Thilakarathna
	Junior	S. M. Sandamali
The Tamil Essay Prize	Senior	V. Wilfred
	Junior	M. L. M. Rifam
The English Oratory Prize	Senior	S. M.D. M. Senanayake
	Junior	M. M. D. C. Dinali
The Sinhala Oratory Prize	Senior	B. Y. S. Perera
	Junior	M. K. R. M. Perera
The Tamil Oratory Prize	Senior	N. Ananth Wallace
	Junior	R. Thamilselvan

Special Sports Awards for the Year 2008

Athletics	Primary	P. N. Jayaweera
	Junior	U. E. Ranaweera
	Senior	L. L. K. K. Rajapakse
Badminton	Junior	K. N. K. Gamage
	Senior	R. B. Paranavitane
Basket Ball	Junior	K. N. K. Gamage
	Senior	C. P. Olagasekera
Cricket	Junior	V. Wilfred
	Senior	G. A. N. Devinda
Karate	Not Awarded	
Rugby Football	Primary	G. R. M. C. B. Seneviratne
	Junior	U. E. Ranaweera
	Senior	C. P. Olagasekera
Swimming	Primary	H. W. C. V. Madusanka
	Junior	D. G. C. Kumara
	Senior	L. L. K. K. Rajapakse
Volleyball	Junior	K. N. K. Gamage
	Senior	B. U. Pethum
Horse Riding	Best Rider	C. Muthukumarana
	Best Groomer	H. N. T. Lakmal
Prize for Best Cadet Western Bandsman	Not Awarded	

The Gamini Dissanayake Memorial Challenge Trophy for the Cricketer of the Year [*Presented by Mr. S. Perera*]
G. M. Mallawarachchi

The Ralston Tissera Memorial Prize for the Most Outstanding Ruggerite
[Presented by his brothers] L. L. K. K. Rajapakse

The D. A. Seneviratne Memorial Challenge Cup for the Champion House at the Inter-House Athletics Meet 2008
Hayman House

The Canon R. S. de Saram Memorial Challenge Shield for the Champion House at the Inter-House Rugby
Football Tournament 2008 De Saram House

The Dr R. L. Hayman Memorial Challenge Shield for the Champion House at the Inter-House Swimming Meet
De Saram House

The Challenge Trophy for the Champion House at the Inter-House Badminton Tournament
Read House

The O. L. A. Cader Memorial Challenge Shield for the Champion House at the Inter-House Hockey Tournament
Not Awarded

The D. A. Seneviratne Memorial Challenge Shield for the House with the Best Scholastic Achievement
[Presented by Mrs. D. A. Seneviratne] Garnier House

The W. A. Ratwatte Memorial Challenge Shield for the Best All Round House *[Presented by Mr A. T.
Ratwatte]* Garnier House

The Headmaster M. L. C. Illangakoon Memorial Prize for the Best Performance at the Grade Five Scholarship
Examination 2008
[Presented by the Headmaster] M. M. M. Rizard

The Ronnie Weerakoon Memorial Challenge Shield for the Most Outstanding Student in Sports 2008 *[Presented
by Members and Friends of the Weerakoon Family]* L. L. K. K. Rajapakse

The Cyril Perera Memorial Prize for the Best Scholar in the Middle Vith Form 2008 *[Presented by his Family
Members]*
A. H. M. S. R. B. Wadigamangawa

The R. G. W. Nilaweera Memorial Prize for the Scholar obtaining the Best Results at the G. C. E. Ordinary Level
Examination 2008 *[Presented by Members of the Family]* For obtaining Distinctions (As) in all 9 subjects
A. W. S. T. Gomes

The Headmaster's Award of the Willie Jayatilleke Memorial Scholarship Prize for the Best All Round Student in
the Middle Sixth Form *[Presented by Members of the Jayatilleke Family]* K. N. K. Gamage

The Dr. R. L. Hayman Memorial Trophy for the Best All Round Student of the School
[Presented by the STCG OBA] A. W. S. T. Gomes

VOTE OF THANKS
SECONDED BY THE HEAD PREFECT, MAST. VIJAYADAS WILFRED
PRIZE DAY
3RD JULY 2009

Our Chief Guest Mrs Nirmali Wickremesinghe the Principal of Ladies' College, Colombo, Father Headmaster, members of the Board of Governors, Father Harold Goodchild, Father Saman Jayasuriya, our Sectional Heads and Supervisors, Old Boys, Parents, Distinguished Guests and my fellow Thomians.

We have gathered here this morning for a very special event, the most important event in our College calendar – our annual Prize Giving.

It is my privilege as Head Prefect of the School to second the Vote of Thanks to our Chief Guest so ably proposed by Mr Prabhath Jayasundere, a Vice President of the STCG OBA and himself a distinguished former Head Prefect of this School.

I would like to thank our Chief Guest for her presence this morning in spite of her busy schedule. Your presence with us here today Madam, has not only encouraged and inspired us but has also added glamour to our Prize Day. Thank you for being with us.

I also wish to thank our beloved and dedicated Headmaster for the wonderful work he is doing for the development of our school. Since assuming duties as the Headmaster he has worked tirelessly to put our school back on track and to attain new heights and regain our past glory.

I also must thank all our teachers who worked with dedication and also encouraged us in our studies throughout the year gone by. I also want to thank them on behalf of all my friends, for their hard work towards making this event a success.

I want to thank all our parents, guardians and old boys who have gathered here to support us and to witness our achievement and for having come from near and far to be with us.

I would like to congratulate all the prize winners on their achievements and to those who did not win any prizes I want to encourage you to try to do so next year.

I am pleased to say as the Head Prefect that this event will live in our memory for a very long time. That is because we not only have as Chief Guest the Principal of the leading Girl's School in Sri Lanka but it is the first time in the history of this School that we have had a lady as Chief Guest. As Thomians we all know our school is built around healthy traditions. One such tradition is to keep a good memory alive in our minds. Dear Madam Chief Guest, you have graced this occasion and as I said this is a historic event. It calls for along celebration. We therefore humbly request you to use your charm on our Headmaster, who is always telling us about the value of Ttraditions ands history, to declare an extra day as a holiday for the mid term vacation that starts today.

I thank all of you once again for being with us and wish you all the very best.

Thank you and Esto Perpetua.