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MESSAGE FROM THE WARDEN

I am pleased to write this brief message on the “sound mind, sound body” program that has been just started at S. Thomas’ College Mt. Lavinia. This program was initiated and funded entirely by the class of 1994 and aims to introduce a pedagogically rich program on age appropriate discussions on “relationships.” While a certain amount of life skills are taught in the school curriculum, there is little comprehensive common discussions around such highly relevant topics as bullying, proper behavior among students, and their relationships with their elders. Little discussion takes place in schools about changes to young people’s bodies and how they interact and deal with females. How boys learn to deal with their sexuality, substance abuse, and gender stereotyping, for example, are pedagogically, socially, and practically highly relevant, perhaps critical to young people’s futures beyond memorizing narrowly focused exam material. We believe that this program will add a lot to a child’s learning and help with the general discipline in the school because this programs aims to build collective understanding on what is expected of each student as a Thomian, a citizen of Sri Lanka and as a man.

I thank especially the class of 1994 for initiating this project; Hans Billimoria and his highly competent team of experts, and all those teachers and parents who have been on board with this program from its very inception.

As Warden, I am proud to be part of this pioneering program at S. Thomas’. I have little doubt that we will soon see great results!

Esto perpetua

Prof. Indra de Soysa

Warden