



School
International School

ANNUAL REPORT 2015/2016

PRIMARY SCHOOL

"Free the child's potential, and you will transform him into the world."- Maria Montessori

Alethea International School & Alethea School has been in existence for the last 87 years and is a well established government registered private school in education. We have achieved much recognition in the field of education and conducted many programmes to be proud of. At present we have an ongoing training programme to train student teachers of Lyceum teacher training centre.

The classes are from the Nursery – age 2 ½ yrs to Grade 4 in the Primary Section. We are the only school in Sri Lanka where the students are provided with curriculum of both Cambridge exams and the local English medium. A firm foundation is laid in the Primary nurturing the students to give out of their best, and to achieve best results in the competitive examinations held at the end of their school career. Many an exposure is given to the students from the Nursery going up to the higher grades, where practical activities are planned out to teach them facts of educational value.

Co-Curricular Activities

Many awards were achieved in extracurricular activities namely dancing, drama, sports, etc. All co-curricular activities & sports are offered to students of 'Alethea' with qualified staff conducting them. Every child is given the opportunity to join in all school activities, which has been made compulsory to all. The children are encouraged to participate at Zonal, Provincial & District competitions.

The Primary celebrated World Children's' Day on the 1st October, 2015. The Children's Day celebration was held in the Senior School with children talking of the history and the importance of the day.

World Teachers' Day was celebrated together with the Senior School on the 5th October, 2015. Teachers were given tokens of appreciation by the students. They performed for the teachers which made them feel blessed.

- **Reading day**

Reading Day in the Primary was held on the 23rd September, 2015. This year the theme was "Enid Blyton Books" and the kids dressed up as their favourite characters from the stories each class selected and took part in the assembly.

- **UN Day**

The Primary celebrated the UN Day on the 29th October, 2015. The Primary took part at the Senior Assembly and spoke of the countries they represented. Back in the

Primary the classes were decorated in their National Flags, monuments of the country, famous people, etc. Students marked the country they learnt about on the world map, coloured the flag, learned about the country's importance and a few geographical information. Some classes shared the food of their country with the rest of the school too. Most importantly the whole school, including the teachers were dressed in the National costumes their classes were representing which brought in life and colour to the Primary.

- Annual Cultural Night

The Annual Cultural Night was held on 10th December, 2015, at the Bishop's College Auditorium. The children performed different dances, songs and the nursery band displayed their musical talents. The whole Primary from Nursery (2 ½ years old) up to Grade 4 (9 year old) took part in this event. The costumes were designed by the primary which added to the glamour of the event. The beauty of this event was the fact that all the children of the Primary took part immaterial of the age, religion or ability. It was a resounding success and the audience was marvelled by the performance made by such a young group.

- The Annual Christmas Party

The children had their Annual Christmas party on the 7th December, 2016, at the Senior School premises. The party started at 3.30pm and went on until 6.30pm. They had fun and danced with the teachers despite the bad weather. They had the snacks and drinks provided by school. But the most exciting part was when Santa came to visit them! The children shrieked with excitement and enjoyed the gifts given and toffees handed out.

- New Comers Day

Was held on the 14th of September, 2015, for the Alethea International School Children and 18th January, 2016 for the Alethea School children. The new students were given a warm welcome to the school by the present students. This event showcased very briefly the talent of the Primary school with songs and dances. Primary teachers and staff were introduced to the parents. The teachers welcomed them with a token and Mrs. Kumari Hapugalle Perera Spoke at the occasion.

- Independence Day

It was celebrated together with the upper school on the 3rd February, 2016. The Primary children were dressed in their national Costumes and went in procession carrying flags. They joined the rest of the school at the common Assembly. The Primary did a skit at the assembly which explained the Independence process to date which signified the true meaning of Independence.

- Avurudu Celebrations

The Sinhala & Hindu New Year celebrations were held in the senior school premises on a very grand scale on the 7th of April, 2016, along with the senior school. The children were all dressed in their colourful national costumes. The children participated in the traditional games and dances which made the day colourful. They had a lot of fun thereafter they came back to the Primary to enjoy the traditional sweet meats.

- Annual Sil Campaign

The Sil Campaign was held on 17th June, 2016, with all Buddhist students from Nursery to Grade 4 obtaining sil. The school was decorated beautifully in white Vesak lanterns and the Buddhist flags. All other religious denominations had their own religious activities while the Sil campaign was going on which they enjoyed.

- Bakthi Gee

The annual Bakthi Gee programme was held on the 14th of July, 2016, at the Jayasinghe Hall. Items of songs and dances were presented by the Primary students. This year there was tremendous improvement on the primary children and most of the non-Buddhists too enjoyed participating in it.

- Annual Sport Meet

The Annual Sport meet was held on the 21st of March, 2016, at the Mahinda Rajapakse Stadium, Diyagama. The primary students performed a spectacular drill display which won the hearts of all those who were there at the Sport meet. The highlight of the day was the Primary Band which stole the hearts of all present including the school staff. There was a vast improvement in the track and field events after a lot of hard work put in by the teachers and students alike.

- Esela Perahera

The Esela Perahera was held on the 2nd August, 2016. The children of different religious backgrounds participated in this traditional cultural event. It consisted of students from Nursery up to Grade 4 which paraded along the Galle Road and back to school. Children, parents, teachers and by-standers enjoyed watching the little ones going along the road with a vibrant elephant made by the Staff of the Primary. The perahera finished at the Senior school premises where the children were treated with drinks to quench their thirst and enjoyed dancing to the papare tunes played by the band.

- Mini Graduation

The Mini Graduations of Alethea School and Alethea International Schools were held on 11th December, 2015, and 3rd August 2016 respectively. The Primary students were promoted to the Senior School and the Nursery students were promoted to

Grade 1. Ms. Kumari Hapugalle Perera, CEO/MD of Alethea, was the Chief Guest at these occasions.

- Drama Competition- English and Sinhala

English and Sinhala drama competitions were held for the first time in the primary. Sinhala drama competition was held on the 15th March 2016 and the English on the 11th July 2016. This brought out a lot of talent of the students and the teachers alike.

- Art Exhibition 2016

The Art exhibition named “Little Aletheans’ Colourful Thoughts” was held on the 30th July, 2016, which was a resounding success. It was graced by our Chief Guest Mr. Chandraguptha Thenuwara who voiced his surprise by the talent that Alethea possessed. Those who visited the primary was mesmerised by the talent of the students and teachers alike. Each grade had a theme and every art and craft done followed the theme. I should thank the teachers for their hard work, long hours, patience and tears they shed during the process of getting everything together. A special thank you to Ms. Shehara whose little thought went a long way. A big thank you should go to Sir Sandun too for his support.

- Parents’ Special Meetings – Grade wise

Meeting for the parents were held to discuss any concerns they had and to improve the standards of teaching in the primary.

- New clubs were started – Band and Choir

Due to the high demand two new clubs were introduced to the primary.

ACADEMIC ACHIEVEMENTS - ALETHEA INTERNATIONAL SCHOOL

“It is the mark of an educated mind to be able to entertain a thought without accepting it.” Aristotle

Cambridge International Examination – London

We owe our gratitude to Ms. Panchalika Kulatunga -Schools Development Manager – CIE Sri Lanka for her continuous assistance and support rendered to us throughout the year. CIE provides our teachers with continuous training in their professional development and updates all changes in specific subject areas, so that the students are exposed to a rigorous learning process in order to fit into a competitive world.

- Cambridge Examinations May/June 2016

21 students sat the G C E (O/L) Cambridge (CIE) – May June Examination this year and have done the school proud with very good results in all subjects. We are proud of our Aletheans, most of who have been with us from their early years. Today we celebrate their success and I wish them the very best as they pursue their advanced level education in Alethea and firmly believe that they will do their school proud and remain loyal at all times.

Our best wishes and congratulations to the following students who obtained the best results: Udayani Perera – 5A*, 2A , 2B

Himara Wijesinghe - 3A* 4A 2B

Fayaaaz Jawed - 3A* 3A 3B

G.C.E Cambridge O/L Examination May – June 2016 (Subject wise summary)

<u>Subject</u>	<u>%</u>	<u>Teacher</u>
English Language	100%	Ms. Nirosha Navaratnam
Mathematics	90%	Mr. Thanjana Chamikara
Environment Management	90%	Dr. T.G.A Sisira
Economics	94%	Ms. Sujatha Perera
Business Studies	100%	Ms. Nishanka Pitadeniya
Principles of Accounts	86%	Ms. Aadila Abdul
Physics	100%	Dr. T.G.A Sisira
Biology	100%	Ms. Bhagya Siriwardena
Chemistry	100%	Ms. Anoma Sandamali
Literature in English	100%	Ms. Nirosha Navaratnam
Computer Science	91%	Ms. Apsara Gunaratne
Sinhala	100%	Ms. Ellen Kumarasinghe
Sociology	100%	Ms. Shiva Tavasoli
Travel & Tourism	100%	Ms. Malithi Neluhena

G.C.E Cambridge A/L Examination November 2015 (Subject wise summary)

<u>Subject</u>	<u>%</u>	<u>Teacher</u>
Mathematics	100%	Mr. Malcolm Fernando
Economics	100%	Ms. Sujatha Perera
Principles of Accounts	100%	Mr. Aponso Fernando
Physics	100%	Dr. T.G.A Sisira
Biology	100%	Ms. Bhagya Siriwardana
Chemistry	100%	Mr. I.A Wickramaratne

Our best wishes and congratulations to the following students who obtained the best results:

Minusha Weerasuriya	2A*, 2A
Ashane Rodrigo	1A*, 3A

Edexcel Examinations London

Our heartfelt thanks go out to Premila Paulraj Regional Director Pearsons South Asia. and her efficient team and Ms. Shenuka Fernando, who have gone out of their way in promoting Edexcel examinations as well as training programs for teachers.

Each year Alethean students who continue to express a keen interest in art and design are prepared for the exam conducted by Edexcel Examinations London. This year we will be shifting to Edexcel Examinations in Commerce & Mathematics stream in the Advanced Level.

British Council

Our heartfelt thanks to the team at British Council for their continued support in assisting us with all administrative work relating to London examinations, and training programmes for teachers and students. I must make mention of Mr. Simon Creasey - Country Examinations Officer whose timely help and advice is invaluable to us. My sincere thanks to Tharindini Tennakoon, Amila Livera & Lasantha Karunarathne, and for their assistance and support extended at all times

ACADEMIC ACHIEVEMENTS - ALETHEA SCHOOL

“The educated differ from the uneducated as much as the living differs from the dead.” Aristotle

My congratulations go out to all the high achievers and teachers who worked tirelessly round the clock and have done Alethea proud with excellent results once again.

GCE Ordinary level examinations – December 2015 (subject-wise summary)

Subject	Subject Teacher	%
Buddhism	Ms. Anusha Rambukwella	100%
Christianity	Mr. Quintus De Zilva	100%
Islam	Ms. Aadila Hassim	100%
Hinduism	Ms. M. Krishnaveny	100%
Sinhala Language & Lit	Ms. Ellen Kumarasinghe	100%
English Language	Ms. Vanaja Ratnayake	100%
Mathematics	Ms. Anoma Sandamali	90%
History	Mr. L.Z.T.M.B Sooriyabandara	97%
Science	Ms. Ayodhya Prabashini	97%
English Literature	Ms. Vanaja Ratnayake	97%
Dancing	Ms. Janadari Salgado	100%
Art	Mr. Sandun Kudaligama	100%
Business & Accounting	Ms. Aadila Abdul	100%
IT	Ms. Navomi Handawela	100%

Our best wishes and congratulations to the following students who obtained the best results:

Thisalee Anththony	9A's
Nisan Abeywickrama	9A's
Anjalika De Silva	9A's
Virandi Kularatne	7A, 2B
Yelani Kularatne	7A, 2B
Savinjith Mihisara	6A, 3B
Harshika De Alwis	6A, 3B

Local Advanced Level – 2016

We eagerly await the results of the graduating batch who have set the tone with fine results at the GCE A/L Examination General Information Technology - 2015 with

Chamal Piyaratne	A
Himaj Hettiarachchi	A
Krishan Sanjeev	A
Thabith Fouzer	B
Mohamed Shafky	B

All Island Competitions

It is with great pride that I place on record the achievement of Sanduni Perera who came first in the all island prose competition and was awarded a gold medal. Sanduni was also placed third at the national level winning a bronze medal for the year 2015.

TEACHER TRAINING PROGRAMS

"Knowledge is learning something every day." Zen Proverb.

Alethea's strength lies in its academic staff and therefore international and national training programmes are provided to our teachers. Teachers who handle the London examinations attend face to face and online training workshops organised by both Cambridge and Edexcel Board of Examinations. These workshops and seminars were conducted during September – October, February – March and May-June

- **International Curriculum – Teacher Training Programmes**

Subject	Teachers
IAL Mathematics	Mr. Asiri Bandara
GCSE Mathematics	Mr. Thanjana Chamikara
IAL Chemistry	Mr. Wickramaratne
IAL Physics	Dr. T G A Sisra

- **National Curriculum - Teacher Training Programmes**

Alethea being a Government recognized private School is entitled to the facilities of Teacher training and free books. Our thanks go out to the District Education Office and the Piliyandala Zone Education office for organizing various training programmes in updating the teacher knowledge in the National curriculum.

During the course of the academic year, all teachers who handle subjects for Grades 6 and 10 attended workshops and seminars in order to familiarise themselves with the changes introduced to the new curriculum.

- **TISSL – conference**

The 3rd TISSL conference was held in Heritance Ahungalla, from the 11th to the 13th of November 2015. Heads of School, Heads of departments and senior teachers attended this conference which included eminent speakers of international calibre who spoke on various aspects of the role of educators in the field of education.

LEARNING RESOURCE CENTRE

“Just like the beautiful flowers in a garden God’s Children come in different shapes, sizes, colours and abilities. Yet like the flowers, each one is beautiful and has his or her own special gift to offer the world. Unfortunately, the world seems to accept only those who conform to its dictates.”

Approximately 800 million young children worldwide are affected by biological, environmental and psychosocial conditions that can limit their cognitive development. In Europe, recent estimates place the number of children with Special Educational Needs (SEN) at 15 million. SEN is not a disease. It is a correctable deviation of a child’s psychological being, which can be normalized to a greater extent the sooner it is identified and accepted by both parents and teacher alike.

The Learning Resource Centre (LRC) of Alethea School & Alethea International School is a centre for children with Special Educational Needs (SENs). It is headed by Ms. Sharon Fernando along with Ms. Yoga Loganathan and Ms. Amali Perera.

At the LRC the teachers strive to identify students who face challenges in their education as well as their well-being and to provide them with the skills necessary to empower them to become active members of the society by helping them to reach their potential by utilizing their individual strengths. The teachers provide a caring community where they meet the students’ diverse academic, social and emotional needs.

The LRC places emphasis on the following:

- Employ special educational strategies and techniques during lessons to improve students’ language, cognition and memory.
- Help students acquire socially acceptable behaviour as determined by their Individualized Education Plans (IEP) by employing techniques in a positive behavioural support system.
- Modify the general education curriculum for students with Special Educational Needs so that they benefit from classroom instructions.
- Integration of IT skills and Life Skills Training in to their IEPs.
- Develop plans for effective communication for students in the classroom setting.
- Meet with parents to discuss their child’s progress and to determine priorities for their IEPs.
- Provide counselling for students with behavioural and emotional problems.

At the conclusion of the academic year July 2016 the LRC comprised 26 students as follows:

Section	Number of Students
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Primary School	11
Middle School	6
Senior School	9

Robert John Meehan said, “Every child has a different learning style and pace. Each child is unique, not only capable of learning but also capable of succeeding.” That is our mission at LRC and we are committed to achieving it.

ANNUAL EVENTS

- **Dance Fest 2015**

The 7th Annual All Island Inter School Dance Competition was held from the 8th to the 10th of October 2015 at the Bishops College Auditorium. Organised by Alethea, the competition saw over 1000 dancers of all ages from 15 schools in and out of Colombo perform and compete. Schools presented both senior and junior teams for one or more of the following dance categories – Traditional Eastern, Folk, Fusion, Western and Bollywood. Adjudicated by eminent personalities in the field of fine arts Dance Fest 2015 proved to a spectacular event.

- **Annual School Concert**

The annual concert was held on 10th December, 2015, at the Bishop’s College Auditorium. The participants ranged for 2 ½ year olds to 19 year olds. The first half of the programme saw the entire primary school on stage as they sang, danced and performed much to the enjoyment of all present. The latter half of the programme was transformed into a cultural celebration by students of the middle and senior schools with a kaleidoscope of dance, song and drama. Needless to say it was an unforgettable night.

- **Independence Day**

To mark the importance of this day a special assembly was held in the senior school premises on the 3rd of February. Students of the primary were dressed in national costumes and actively participated in speeches, traditional dances and skits along with students of the senior school whose presentations were commendable. The national day celebrations concluded with a message from the chairperson Mrs. Kumari Hapugalle Perera

- **Sports Meet**

The Annual Inter-house Athletics meet was held on the 21st of March, 2016, at the Mahinda Rajapakse Stadium, Diyagama.. The inclusion of class relays saw an increase in students participation. Two days of heats preceded heavy competition which was

visible on the final day. All athletes exhibited true sportsmanship and took part with enthusiasm.

- **ISAC**

The 16th International Schools Athletic Championships 2016, saw an enthusiastic group of 22 Aletheans who took part in various track and field events. Under the training and guidance of Mr. Jayashantha Fernando the athletics coach, the athletes did quite well, with some of them going on to make noticeable improvements in their personal timings. This year Alethea walked away with 1 silver and 3 bronze medals in the track events and a silver and bronze medal each in the field events.

- **Esala Perahera**

The Annual Esala Perahara organised by the Buddhist society was held on 3rd of August 2016. This pageant portrayed the culture and traditions of our country. Students of the primary and middle schools took part in the perahera with much enthusiasm. It was heartening to see many parents who joined us in this celebration of culture.

- **Avurudu Celebrations**

The Sinhala & Tamil New was celebrated in the senior school premises on the 7th of April, 2016, with the participation of the School management, teaching and non-teaching staff, support staff and children. The occasion was celebrated with much enthusiasm giving prominence to the Sinhala and Tamil cultural heritage. The lively competitive events were equally enjoyed by the young and the old.

- **Maldivian Day Celebrations**

For the 1st time in the History of Alethea, the Maldivian community of Alethea got together and celebrated its 51st Independence Day. This was a very colourful event where the Maldivian culture & traditions were shown through song, dance and music. The highlight of that day was the Bodu Bera Dance act where they had a professional dance troupe performed that kept the audience entertained.

- **Class Excursions**

Students in both the middle and senior school were taken on class excursions and field trips which were carefully planned, bearing in mind the age group, number of students and relevance to curriculum. In most classes students participation ranged from 90 – 100%. Class teachers and a few subject teachers accompanied the students. Places of historical significance were chosen as the destination by many classes.

CO – CURRICULAR ACTIVITIES

- **Art Society 'Creators World'**

"Art is man's constant effort to create for himself a different order of reality from that which is given to him." Chinua Achebe

Teacher In Charge:

Mr. Sadun Kudaligama

The year under review was an eventful one for the art society aptly known as Creator's World, beginning with the appointment of new board members. Under the efficient guidance of the Art teacher a relatively young set of board members have shown keen involvement in the activities of the school. The Art Society's involvement in school events was clearly seen in the decor, at the founder's day in September 2015, the Sinhala & Tamil New year celebration and the Bakthi Gee programme.

Members took part in a photography workshop conducted by Sony International (Singapore) Ltd – Sri Lanka branch. Colours of My World" an Art Competition to mark the World Down Syndrome Day was organized by the Kosala Dullawa Foundation which saw young talented artists from Alethea take part. Members of the art society also took part in the Women and Media Collective' poster competition organised last year.

As part of the community project, members of the Art club decided to help stray animals and worked with SOS - Save our Strays. Senior students of grade 10N began to work on scrap material and metal to make sculptures emphasising that everything has a purpose in life. Students of 11I undertook the task of painting one of the wall in the art room.

As part of a fund raising project to purchase equipment for the Art Society, members started a monthly quiz competition which has become a huge success. Teachers were in for a treat when the society organised an art competition especially for them. It was a throwback to their school days and many teachers submitted creative entries.

- **English Department**

"One Language sets you in a corridor for life. Two languages open every door along the way" Frank Smith

Teacher In Charge:

Ms. Nirosha Navaratnam

The English Department has consistently worked towards equipping students with the necessary tool to shape their world. The English language, also known as the 'International language' brings with it, its set of rules and exceptions and complexities in understanding and applying the language.

At Alethea, the primary, middle school and senior school English language teachers work in collaboration to ensure a smooth and uninterrupted delivery of academic work. Students are trained to perfect the use of Standard English in their speech and written work while great emphasis is placed on creativity and imagination. To facilitate this, the faculty uses a variety of resources ranging from books, worksheets, group activities and audio/video aids to enhance learning.

During the course of last year, the English department identified high achievers in the London O Level class and prepared them to sit the GCE O level English Language one year ahead. We are very happy to say that all three students who sat the exam got through with excellent results.

Ayesha Jawed	– B
Hana Mohamed	– A
Mishani Ketheswaran	– A*

For the first time at Alethea, English language is being offered at AS and A levels based on the Cambridge International curriculum. At present we have 7 students who have enrolled in the two year programme and it is our hope that more students will opt to study English in the future at the advanced level.

Apart for the academic teaching which is periodically assessed through unit tests and term tests students are given the opportunity to take part in myriad activities which allow them to practice the English language. The following competitions were held during the academic year under 4 different categories (primary/junior/intermediate/senior): Creative writing / Spelling / Oratory / Debate (senior only) / Drama (primary & senior)

The inter-house drama was introduced for the first time and proved to be a favourite among the students as it led to the discovery of many aspiring actors and actresses. These competitions provide students with different channels through which they can express themselves. Many upcoming writers, poets, playwrights and orators have been discovered and it is our desire that they will use their skills to shape the world they live in. After all, "**The pen is mightier than the sword**" (Edward Bulwer-Lytton)

- **Commerce Society**

"Money, not morality, is the principle commerce of civilized nations." Thomas Jefferson

Teacher in Charge: Ms. Sujatha Perera

The past year has been an active and productive year for the Commerce Society. In preparation for the Commerce Day, on 18th September 2015, various competitions were held on 23rd July 2015. Seven invited schools battled in various categories. The programme consisted of a key note address by the guest speaker – Ms. Dilani

Ganegodagamage, Deputy Director – Central Bank and a presentation by Aletheans on “Save the world through commerce”. The commerce students from Grade 8 upwards were taken to the Natures Secrets Factory in Horana, which gave them an opportunity to observe the practicality of the production methods of the largest and leading manufacturer of herbal cosmetics in Sri Lanka.

- **Sinhala Literary Society**

Teachers in Charge: Ms. Anusha Rambukwella

The Sinhala Literary Society has served its members well by providing ample opportunities to learn improve and make use of Language functions. Here are some of the activities and events conducted by the society.

1. 17 students took part in the Speech, Hand writing, prose and General Knowledge competitions organized by the Piliyandala Zonal Educational office and 12 of them were completed for the all Island level.
2. Sanduni Perera was awarded the first place at the all Island Prose competition, and the third place at national level.
3. She also participated in the Sinhala prose competition at the state literary awards, organized by the Divisional Secretariat Dehiwala and was awarded the first place.
4. The Inter House Sinhala Drama competition was held for the first time at the S. De S. Jayasinghe Hall, in addition to the annual spelling, creative writing and oratory competitions.
5. O level students in the national curriculum were taken to watch the stage drama “Talamala Pipila”
6. A seminar was conducted in par with the month of Literacy in September by Professor Gunadasa Rajapakse.

- **UN Club**

“Without community service, we would not have a strong quality of life. It's important to the person who serves as well as the recipient. It's the way in which we ourselves grow and develop. “Dorothy Height

Teachers in Charge: Ms. Navomi Handawela

The UN Club has continued to provide a secure platform for students who wish to expand their horizons beyond mere classroom learning. Members are given ample opportunities to speak, debate and discuss world issues while maintaining diplomacy and decorum.

The UN Club has had an active year starting off with the Annual UN day which was celebrated on October 29th 2015. A presentation was made based on the theme

'Climate Change'. Dathura Balasuriya was elected president and Shimar Ahmed as student coordinator in January 2016. The club met regularly under the guidance of the faculty advisor Ms. Navomi Handewala. In March 2016 the club celebrated International Women's Day with inspiring speeches and eloquent presentations on the theme "Pledge for parity". Shimar Ahmed was appointed president of the UN club in the month of May as the former president left school. During the month of June the club was introduced to the concept of the Model United Nations and a series of practice debates were conducted by Minusha Weerasuriya and Zoher Alibhoi both former UN club members. In preparation for SLMUN 2016 which was held at the B.M.I.C.H from the 9th – 11th September 2016 delegates took part in a workshop and 3 full day sessions of practice debates organised by the SLMUN. The venues were Ladies College Colombo, Gateway College Rajagiriya and Colombo International School. 10 Aletheans, supported by 2 admins, represented Kazakhstan, Brunei Darussalam, Seychelles, Uruguay, in the following committees:

1. GA3 (The Third Committee: Social, Humanitarian and Cultural)
2. UNHRC (United Nations Human Rights Council)
3. WHO (World Health Organization)
4. FECOSOC (Futuristic Economic and Social Council)
5. AU (African Union)
6. UNODC (United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime)
7. UNSC (United Nations Security Council)
8. HGA (Historic General Assembly)

- **The Gavel Club**

Teacher in Charge: Ms. Oushala Uggoda

The Gavel Club is affiliated to Toastmasters International which is one of the most professional forums that enhance and develop leadership and communication skills of individuals.

The Gavel Club which is in its second year has continued to provide students with the necessary skills to become eloquent speakers. In this regard a special workshop on "Delivering an interesting speech" was organised. The guest speaker Mr. Arfath Saleem who is an internationally acclaimed youngest South Asian speaker addressed the students. Members meet regularly and take part in debates, discussions and impromptu speeches, to improve themselves.

- **Prefects Guild**

Teacher in Charge: Mr. Quintus De Zilwa & Mr. Pranath Fernando

The New Guild was inducted in September 2015. Shimraz Sahil were appointed as the Head Prefect, Zain Riyaz as Deputy Head prefects and Devon De Vesser as the Games captain to lead the new guild.

The first event organized by the prefects was the annual social themed 'Aurora' at the Grand Monarch Hotel on the 7th of February 2016.

- **The Interact Club**

Teacher in Charge: Apsara Gunaratne

The revival installation of the interact club Alethea International School was organized held on the 19th of October 2015. 14 invitee schools attended the installation programme at which the chief guest was Interact past President Paul Harris fellow Clarence Seimon. District In-charge representatives, past president Fabian Shockman and board members of the district graced the occasion with their presence. "The illuminate Artist" page was present as Alethea's media coverage.

During the course of the year Project " HUMANITY " was jointly organized by the interact club and the UN club on 5th October 2015. The theme for this year was "we are privileged while they are not, we have everything while they have nothing ". Clothes, toys and books which were new/nearly new were donated to the children in Jinananda children's home in Colombo 6.

RELIGIOUS SOCIETIES

***"Compassion is not religious business, it is human business, it is not luxury, it is essential for our own peace and mental stability, it is essential for human survival."** Dalai Lama XIV*

- **Buddhist Society**

Teachers in Charge: Ms. Kajini Hapuarachchi

During the Academic year September 2015 to August 2016 ,The Buddhist Society of Alethea School and Alethea International School organized and assisted in the following events.

1. Kokila Udanaya` (New Year Celebrations)

The Buddhist Society of Alethea organized the New Year Festival. Various activities, events and traditional games were arranged along with the laying of the traditional New year table for the Alethean staff. The society contributed towards prizes for the first three places of the class events and for the few open games for students as well as for the teachers.

2. Vesak Lantern Competition

In order to commemorate the Vesak festival a Vesak lantern competition was organized for students of grade 5 and above. The competition which was held under

two categories saw the enthusiastic participation of many teams. All participants were presented with certificates of participation while the winners received attractive prizes.

3. Donations for victims of floods

The Buddhist society of Alethea managed to prepare two hundred (200) parcels of breakfast for the flood victims. The food was handed over to `Manusath Derana` and distributed in the Ja-Ela area.

4. Poson Sil Programme

This time there were two Sil programmes organized by the Buddhist Society. The Programme for included a `kavi bana` in the school .It was conducted by two monks on mother`s love. A sermon, Bodhi pooja and meditation programmes were also held. The Buddhist society provided breakfast and gilanpasa for all the students who observed sil. Those who missed the opportunity to observe Sil and those who ignored the first sil programme were given the chance to take part in the second sil programme organized in the Sri Maha body temple in Dehiwela.

5. Buddhahbi Vanadana Gee Dehena` (Bakthi gee Programme)

The annual Esala Bakthi gee programme was conducted in S.De.S.Jayasinghe hall in Dehiwela. Apart from the class items, the school choir and the teachers too sang in this programme. Two dance items were performed by the Aesthetic Department . A skit titled ` Meth Sisila` was also performed and the message conveyed was to love and take care of animals.

6. Bhodi Pooja

A pooja was held for the students who sat the GCE Advanced Level examination, in August 2016

7. Annual `Esala Perehera`

The Primary school of Alethea successfully conducted the annual Esala Perehera with the participation of all Buddhist and non-Buddhist students. The Buddhist Society sponsored the five members of the traditional Kandyan dancing troupe as well as providing refreshments for the participants.

• **Christian Society**

Teacher in Charge:

Mr. Quintus De Zilwa

The way of the cross a traditional Lenten practice was held under the guidance of Assistant Parish Priest of St. Mary`s Church, Dehiwala. The management, heads of school, teachers parents and students participated.

A prayer service with songs of praise was held on the 17th of July. The senior, intermediate and primary groups watched The Book of Daniel. The day ended with sessions in groups. The senior students with all other Christian teachers take turns in conducting the religious assembly with much variety and enthusiasm. I also wish to

put on record the music provided by Ms. Nelun and Devon and the encouragement given by all the Christian teachers.

- **Hindu Society**

Teacher in charge: **Ms. M. Krishnawerny**

The Saraswathi Pooja ceremony was held attended by the management, heads of School, members of the staff, parents and students. The programme commenced with the lighting of the traditional oil lamp. The special Pooja was performed by a priest.

The Mahashivarathri festival, Hindu children went to 'Sivan Temples'. The special Pooja was performed by the Hindu priest in the temple.

- **Islamic Society**

Teacher in charge: **Ms. Aadila Hassim**

The 29th Islamic Brotherhood Day organized by the Islamic Society of Alethea School and Alethea International School was successfully held on the 5th of November 2015 at the Ministry of Disaster Management Auditorium with over 350 guests and 15 invited schools. The Chief Guest for the event was Mr. Ameer Ahamed (CEO FRANKLYN COVEY) and Guest of Honour Mr. Aman Ashraff (Founder and Chief Crative Officer - Ashraff Associates)

The annual Iftar ceremony organized by the Islamic Society of Alethea was successfully held on the 13th of June 2016 from 5:30pm onwards with the participation of over 180 teachers and students. The guest speaker was Moulavi Umar Youseph who spoke about " The virtues of the month of sacrifice and how it could be a life changer."

EXTRA CURRICULAR ACTIVITIES

"Having children of different races in the same environment is one thing, but having them interact with each other while playing, and participating in extracurricular activities and also building friendships — that's just phenomenal. Our nation has come so far in such a short time."

Angela Crawford

- **Dancing**

"Dance is the hidden language of the soul" Martha Graham

Teacher In Charge: **Ms. Yogya Wijewardena**

Senior dancers took part in various dance competitions. Dancers took part in the annual year end concert, Dance Fest and all other school events such as Esala, bakthi gee and the mini graduation programme. Last year we welcome on board Muddrika Dance Studio who has taken over the western dancing at Alethea.

- **Choir**

“Where words fail, music speaks.” Hans Christian Andersen

Teachers In Charge: Ms. Dharishika Bandara & Mr. Pranath Fernando

The school choir had an eventful year, as various members were given the opportunity to take part in competitions, and cultural programmes. Many aspiring soloists were identified during the course of the year at the singing competitions conducted in school. The choristers focused on harmonizing and have shown great improvement in their ability to sing as a group.

- **Scouting**

“Scouting rises within you and inspires you to put forth your best.” Juliette Gordon Low

Teacher In Charge(Boys): Mr. L.M.Z.T Sooriyabandara

Teacher In Charge (Girl) Mrs Thilanka Thudugalle

Teachers In Charge(Cub): Ms. Natali Win

The Alethean scouts have had a very eventful year with an increased participation in community projects, fund-raisers and scouting activities. The scouts organised the first annual Futsal Football Tournament which was held in September last year with nearly 150 participants. The Dehiwala beach clean-up project was a joint effort with the Interact Club of Alethea. At the Colombo Swim Gala last year the U-13 boys won 2nd place in the 50m free-style. Thirteen scouts participated at the Vesters’ Camp organized by Sylvester College, Kandy from October 24-28, 2015. The Halloween Night which is a much awaited event was once again successfully organised by the scouts in November last year.

During the course of last year the following scouts won awards:

1. Senior Scouts Haaziq Fhuazi and Uvindu Rathnayake won the Air Man Badge (Bushman Thong)
2. The following 17 Junior Scouts won their Scout Master’s Award :
3. Junior Air Scouts Zimaam Ibrahim and Ruzni Ahmed won the Scout Master’s Award
4. Scout Abdul Quadir won the Group Scout Master’s Award

5. Cub Scout Jennifer De Zilva won the Silver Star
6. Junior Scouts their 22 km Hike to Kaduwela which is the final requirement for the District Commissioner Cord.
7. Girl scouting was restarted with three girls: Aileen, Hansi and Tiana under Ms. Thilanka our Teacher In Charge, in October last year.
8. Eighteen Junior Land Scouts , Nine Junor Air Scouts and Four Senior Air Scouts participated in the 51st Colombo Camporee 2016 at Vihara Mahadevi Park from August 10- 14, 2016. Junior Scout Abdurrahman emerged first in the Bicycle. The Group won the highest awards at the Sub Camp inspections.
9. Scouts collected and distributed dry rations and relief items to victims affected in the flash floods in the Kelaniya River area.
10. The following are some events and programmes which saw active participation by the Alethean scout troops:
 - I. Flames of Autumn Organized by Ananda College
 - II. Light of the Knights Campfire organized by Thurstan College
 - III. Winter Camp – The Night of Spartans

- **Chess**

“Chess helps you to concentrate, improve your logic. It teaches you to play by the rules and take responsibility for your actions, how to problem solve in an uncertain environment.” Garry Kasparov

Coach: Mr. Yasith Hirimburagama

Teacher In Charge: Ms. M. Krishnawerny

At present there are fifty students in the chess club as chess players. Regular chess practices were conducted every Monday and Friday. Last year unfortunately the Alethean chess team could not participate in the inter international chess tournament due to lack of time allocation for practices which clashed with various other school activities.

- **Mother Sri Lanka**

“Successful people have a social responsibility to make the world a better place and not just take from it.” Carrie Underwood

In Charge(Boys): Mr. L.M.Z.T Sooriyabandara

The Club woked on many social projects throughout the last year. Members joined the Prefects Guild and Scouts to collect dry rations and relief items for victims in flood affected areas. The club was renamed Social Services Club of Alethea at the beginning of April.

SPORTS

“Most of us start out playing a sport as a means of fun and recreation. But somewhere along the way, in the midst of all the fun, we realize that sports can often be a metaphor for achieving success in life, because of the lessons it teaches us about life”

It is with pride that I mention the sportsmen and women of Alethea, who have achieved much during the past year. Though small in number, they have proved that with the essential guidance, encouragement and also with the skills as well as hard work they can achieve many victories. Thus it is with gratitude that I mention all the coaches and athletes of Alethea.

- **Athletics**

“Athletics is not about records, it’s surpassing your own fitness level”

Derrick Doucet

Coach: Mr. Jayashantha Fernando

Teacher in Charge: Ms. Tania Dirckze & Ms. Arosha Kalupahana

The year under review was certainly an eventful period for the Alethean athletics team. They kick-started the year with the Sir John Tarbet Junior Athletic Championship which was held in Anuradhapura from the 15-19 September 2015. Athletes both boys and girls in the Under 12 -15 age groups took part in this.

At the circuit meet which was held on the 27-29 February 2016, at the Kothalawala grounds in Rathmalana our athletes shone in various track and field events.

1. Dinara Bandara Dela was placed 1st in Long Jump (Under 13 girls)
2. Sandishi Liyanage placed 2nd in Long Jump (Under 13 girls)
3. Sharmali Parameswaran placed 2nd in Shot Putt(under 15 girls)
4. Sanduni Perera placed 1st in Shot Putt (under 19 girls)
5. Aaaquil Mustafa placed 1st in Shot Putt (under 15 boys)
6. Dewaka Bowatte placed 3rd in Long Jump (under 19 boys)
7. Mithsuka Perera placed 2nd in Discuss and Shot Putt(under 19 boys)

At the Dehiwala zonal athletic meet which was held on 2 – 3 March 2016, Alethea entered 9 athletes, and we won two awards.

1. Dinara placed 1st in 200m (under 13 girls)
2. Sandish iLiyanage placed 2nd in 100m (under 15 girls) and 1st in 200m (under 15 girls)

The following participants took part in the event :

Senitha Lonidu 100m (under 13 boys) ,Yenusha Fernando 100m (under 15 girls), Dewaka Bowatta 100m (under19), Kavindra Senanayake 400m (under19 boys), Chanuka Elgiriyaage 400m (under19), Rusiru Akarshana.

22 Aletheans took part in the International Schools Athletic Championship which was held at the Mahinda Rajapaksha Stadium, Diyagama from 4 – 6th March 2016. . I would like to place on record the dedicated training of Mr. Jayashantha Fernando the athletics coach and his assistants. Our heartfelt thanks also goes to Ms. Tania Dirckze who co-ordinated practices and managed the hectic schedule. Our athletes took part both track and field events and were placed 2nd or 3rd in some while quite a few others managed to qualify within the top 10.

1. Sandashi Liyanage placed 2nd in 100m (under 15 girls) and 3rd in 200m (under 15 girls)
2. Sanduni placed 2nd in Shot Putt (under 19 girls)
3. Dewaka Bowatta placed 3rd in 100m (under 19 boys)
4. Aakil Mustafa placed 3rd in Shot Putt (under 15 boys)
5. Dinara Bandara Dela placed 3rd in 100m (Under13 girls) and 5th in 200m (under13 girls)
6. Sunil Wijesinghe placed 7th in 800m (under 19 boys)
7. Thejana Wahalathanthri placed 7th in 200m (under 15 boys)
8. Mithsuka Perera placed 7th in Shot Putt (under 19 boys)
9. Rusiru Akarshana placed 5th in 400m (under 17) and 5th place in 4x100m (under 19)

The Annual Inter House Sports Meet was held on 21st March, 2016 at Mahinda Rajapaksa Stadium, Diyagama. Two days of heats were conducted. Further, drill displays were conducted by the primary school and the senior school. The senior drill was categorised as an inter house event. Hapugalle house emerged champions.

The zonal meet which was held in the month of May proved to be a successful experience for many of our athletes, whose hard work and dedication paid off. The following won 1st and 2nd places in their respective events.

1. Aaaqil Mustafa placed 1st in Shot Putt (under 15 boys)
2. Sanduni placed 1st in Shot Putt (under 19 girls)
3. Dinara Bandara Dela placed 2nd in Long Jump (under13 girls)
4. Tatiana Dirckze placed 1st in Hurdles(under 17 girls)
5. Sadashi Liyanage placed 2nd in Long Jump (under 15 girls)

At the Western Province Athletic Championship which was held in June 2016 at the Mahinda Rajapaksha Stadium, Diyagama.

1. Sandashi Liyanage was placed 2nd in 100m (under 15 girls)
2. Rusiru Akarshana was placed 3rd in 200m (under 17 boys)

35 medals were won by our athletes at the G.S. meet held in the month of March. I must mention the following Aletheans who did the school proud: Rusiru Akarshana, Rusiru Adarshana, Thejana Wahalathanthri, Younus Hussain, Tatiana Dirckze, Sadashi Liyanage, Zaina Riyaz & Dinara Bandara Dela.

At the second stage of this meet, Rusiru Akarshana was placed 3rd in 400m and the under 16, 4x400m boys relay team also won third place.

• **Badminton**

“Those who play badminton well take decisions quickly.” Dmitry Medvedeva

Coach: Mr. Krishantha Godahewa / Mr. Kamal Gamalath
Teachers In Charge: Ms. Zuhaida Silva & Murshidah Muhuseen

The badminton team which has come a long way under the expert training of Mr. Krishantha Godahewa, bid farewell last year and welcomed the new coach Mr. Kamal Gamalath. The under 17 team led by Avindu Rakshitha took part in the under 17 badminton tournament organized by Gateway College, Colombo.

At the Western Province Badminton Association club tournament our players made it to the quarter-finals. Under the captainship of Devon De Vesser the senior team emerged runners-up at the badminton tournament organised by OKI International.

18 badminton players took part in the zonal meet at which Wishvani from the primary and Tajith from the senior school showed great progress.

• **BASKETBALL**

“I came to coach basketball players, and you became students. I came to teach boys, and you became men.” Coach Ken Carter

Coach: Mr. Pranath Fernando

Teacher In Charge: Mr. Quintus De Zilwa

Basketball in Alethea has had its share of ups and downs in the past year which is under review. Poor turnout at practices affected the teams' performances. The young team which took part in the Under 19 Tournament organized by British School in October 2015 found it difficult as many players were under-aged and lacked experience. The Northshore University Invitation Basketball Tournament once again proved to be a good learning experience.

The Inter House Basketball Tournament was worked out on the Alethean Courts. Preston House emerged champions beating Higgins House Comprehensively.

- **FOOTBALL**

"I am constantly being asked about individuals. The only way to win is as a team. Football is not about one or two or three star players." Pele

Coach: Mr. Quintus De Zilwa

Teacher In Charge: Mr. Sadun Kudaligama

Football at Alethea, has had its ups and lows over the early part of the year under review. Mr. Quintus De Zilwa took over as coach at a time when team morale was at a low. The senior team under the new coach's guidance had a complete turn-around and emerged 2nd runners-up at the international schools tournament organised by Royal Institute Colombo in October 2015.

At the Gateway Futsal Tournament the under 19 team were the winners beating Gateway College in the finals. Over the past year, practices and team fitness have become a regular feature, and players have benefited greatly in terms of fitness and skills. Full day football camps and beach practices were conducted by Mr. De Zilwa, assisted by the teacher –in-charge Mr. Sadun Kudaligama. The football team conducted a raffle draw with the aim of raising funds to purchase training equipment for the team.

- **KARATE**

"Karate aims to build character, improve human behavior, and cultivate modesty; it does not, however, guarantee it." Yasuhiro Konishi

Coach: Mr. Ranuka Sanjeewa

Teacher In Charge: Ms. Aadila Hassim

The past year has brought in a noticeable increase in the number of karatekas under the coaching of Sensei Ranuka Dissanayake guided by the 2 teachers in charge Mrs. Aadila Hassim and Mrs . Shehara. Karate practices happen consistently once a week every Thursday from 1.30 – 2.30 int the Primary school premises and 2.30 – 4.30 pm

in the senior school with a bunch of enthusiastic young karatekas ranging from under nines to under nineteen's.

- **NETBALL**

"When we were on court together we played for each other - we didn't play for ourselves. It was all about creating space." Sharelle McMahon

Coach & Teacher In Charge: Ms. Dharshika Bandara/Ms. Juwanita Jeganathan

Aletheans have shown interest in Netball under the leadership of the coach Mrs. Juwanita Jeganathan who took over from the former coach Ms. Darshika Bandara in January of this year. The teachers in charge Ms. Shamila Wijewickrama and Ms. Shwetha de Silva assist in the bi-weekly practices which are held on Tuesdays and Thursdays. Several practices were not held this term due to bad weather, London examinations and illness of the coach. A friendly match was played between Alethea and Anula Vidyalaya, Nugegoda on 28th January 2016.

The under 15 Netball team took part in the Inter-international Schools Under 19 Netball Tournament 2016 organized by Ilma International Girls School held on 7th February 2016 at the St Josephs College Indoor Stadium. Himara Wijesinghe captained the team who made it to the quarter finals. The under 13 and under 15 school teams have shown improvement in their physical fitness and skills and are in good form for the upcoming term.

- **SWIMMING**

"In training everyone focuses on 90% physical and 10% mental, but in the races its 90% mental because there's very little that separates us physically at the elite level".

Elka Graham

Coach:

Mr. Mahi Chandrala

Teacher In Charge:

Ms. Thilini Mudiyanse

Swimming practices for the year 2015/2016 were conducted as usual and the attendance was satisfactory both in the upper and primary school. As the pool was under renovation regular practices had to be cancelled from June to date. The swimming gala which was scheduled last term also had to be postponed for the same reason.