Kingston High's Annual Report 2024-25

Good evening... Chief guest, Dr. Gayethri Devi, members of the board of management, special invitees and my dear parents, thank you for being with us this evening.

The psychologist Jean Piaget said , “The goal of education is not to increase the amount of knowledge but to create the possibilities for a child to invent and discover, to create people who are capable of doing new things.”

In our efforts to provide a holistic education for our students, we at Kingston have a vision for education that transcends the confines of traditional learning. In a world that is increasingly interconnected and complex, our approach to teaching and learning is also evolving to prepare students not just for exams, but for life itself. We believe that education should foster not just academic success but also personal growth and social responsibility.

It is our aim that school becomes a place where students are encouraged to explore, question, and collaborate, where their unique strengths are celebrated and where their challenges are met with support and understanding, cultivating a love for learning that extends beyond the classroom walls.

Since our last Annual Day, Kingston High has had a constant stream of events and achievements to boast of.

We are extremely proud to announce that we have received permanent affiliation to the ICSE Council. We were also granted the permission to begin ISC and this year we have started classes for Grade 11. We offer students a range of subjects to choose from in streams of Humanities, Commerce and Science. At the Grade 9 level as well, we have offered students more options with regard to subject choice, introducing Commerce and Economics as core subjects and Mass Media and Communication as electives.

Academically, our students have continued to shine. In the ICSE exams 2023 and 2024, all our students passed with flying colours, with the average being over 85%.

Participation in SOF Olympiads and the KISA Talent Search Exams is noteworthy with over a 100 students registering for each exam. 7 students qualified for the second level of the Olympiad exams and received commendable national and international ranks.

We have always encouraged scientific curiosity in our students. Our Science Exhibition Eureka was conducted in January 2024 and was a resounding success. Students from Grade 1 upwards prepared working models, made presentations and conducted live experiments. Some of our students presented their projects at the REVA university inter-college competition and stood head and shoulders above the other participants. Iraj Debnath of Grade 7 won the competition for his groundbreaking project on Solar power while Meraj Ahmed of Grade 8 got the second place for her anti-sleep alarm, a pair of glasses that prevents drivers from falling asleep at the wheel.

Understanding that students of today learn uniquely and need to be engaged in different ways, we have introduced audio-visual and interactive learning with the installation of smart boards in Grade 7 and above. Our aim is to have the same in all our classes soon.

Sports and games have always been important at Kingston High. Our athletes and sports teams participated in the Valour Gear Sports Fest, the Vibgyor Viva sports fest, the SFA Championships, RKCA Cricket tournament and Sri Kamalabai Sports tournaments, to name a few. The SFA Championship is a state-wide sports tournament conducted by the Sports Authority of India. Our students performed exceedingly well - Adithyan A of Grade 1 won a Bronze medal in skating, Riddhi and Om Thakur of Grade 5 won a Gold and Silver medal respectively for Squash and Sydwin Wesley of Grade 7 won the gold medal in carrom. At the TFP Football tournament conducted by Mother Teresa School, our U-11 Boys team won the tournament while our U-13 boys and U-12 girls teams were Runners-up. Our cricket team won the third place in both the RKCA and the SKEI tournaments while the team captain, Talish of Grade 7 was awarded the best bowler of the SKEI tournament. We are also proud to acknowledge

our medal winners at district and state level Taekwondo championships - Haniya Khadija of Grade 10, Iraj Debnath and Amelia Tessy of Grade 8.

Our Gracious Givers Christmas Carnival “Make a Joyful Noise” was greatly appreciated and ended the calendar year on a high note. Choirs from schools and churches from around the city filled the air with melodies of Christmas carols. The Carnival was conducted to raise funds for the various causes that we support. It was wonderful to see parents, students and staff all working together for a good cause. With the generous support and contributions from our parents and well-wishers, we were able to raise over 2 lakhs which was distributed towards the causes we support - Provision Asia, Nammane Summane, Ashraya School for underprivileged children, and Holy Family Old Age home to name a few.

That brings me to the end of my report. Thank you for your patience. I know that you are eagerly awaiting the students’ performance. The production of today’s programme has been a labour of love. A journey that began in January and involves 50 teachers and 300 students. We are very proud that all our students from Grade 3 to 11 are involved in this production - acting, dancing, singing, backstage, ushering and technical support. There are a few people I would like to appreciate for their efforts without whom this programme would not be possible. Mr. Michael Thomas, our director for taking care of all the technical details personally. Ms. Nitasha Nilkanth for sourcing and designing costumes. Ms. Chythanya and her team of teachers who are responsible for the beautiful display you saw outside and many of the props you will see on stage. Ms. Saritha Sudarshan and Ms Sandra Browne for their meticulous organisation. I would like to thank Pratham Joel of Grade 11 who has helped us with getting all the music tracks for this evening in order. Our choreographer, Mr. Ajay Prasad, who has not only choreographed all the dances but has gone out of his way to help with costumes and props as well. Last but not least, our music director, Mr Philip Daniels who has single handedly trained our 80 member choir (With just an hour of practice a day, (which is no mean feat). In addition to this, he worked with all the soloists and put together all the music and sound effects. The students have all worked very hard on this production so please encourage them with your cheers and applause. Thank you once again and I hope you enjoy the programme.