



### **THE COMPLETE LEARNING EXPERIENCE**

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Good news first..... We had a tremendous response from the advertisement placed in the Times Educational Supplement in London. Over 220 applications have come in as of now and the process is on – we are short listing the candidates and parents are welcome to drop by on the 25<sup>th</sup>, after 9 am to look through some of the applications and make their choices. We would like parents' involvement in the selection of teachers, since they are going to be dealing with your children. Of course, when the number of parents increases substantially, that may not be possible and the Managing committee (which includes parents) will be given the task of choosing candidates. We are looking at recruiting UK qualified teachers for all subjects except of course, Malayalam, Hindi and maybe, Math. Costs of expatriate teachers are going to be substantially higher than local recruitments, but we think that it may be worth the expense. We will try not to increase the fees, but some increase may be necessary to deal with the added expenses. It will however not reach the fees being charged by other international schools. Please be aware that we are not looking to make profits here, but we do need to meet expenses.

At the parents meeting on Saturday, the 20<sup>th</sup> of March, it was decided to close school early this year since many of the children had already started absenting themselves. The next year, we will make sure year end tests are done only at the end of the school year – this year, we did not have a choice since Mrs. Vimala Menon wanted leave for her daughter's wedding.

As all of you are aware, we have been trying to raise funds for the purchase of land and construction of the school building. We are hoping for the support of parents in raising funds. Since some parents felt that they would prefer a more active role in the school, we are floating a company. Mr. Harikrishnan (Easwari's father) is doing the company formation for us. We are therefore issuing shares as well as accepting fixed deposits. The company will pay interest of 7.5% per annum on deposits which will have a lock in period of 5 yrs or which will be returned when the child leaves, whichever is earlier. The interest payable can be adjusted against the child's school fees. Our first contribution has come from Mr. S. Gopalakrishnan Nair (grandparents of Gowri Ram and Gokul Ram) who has contributed Rs. 200,000 (without interest) to the fund. Thank you very much, Mr. Nair.

Below is the total fund requirement for a minimum 2 acres and thatched structures. If we are able to raise more, we should be able to have more facilities or buy more land.

COST OF PROPOSED CONSTRUCTION OF THE NEW SCHOOL BUILDING	IN RUPEES
LAND COSTS FOR 2 ACRES - minimum	2,000,000
INCIDENTAL COSTS	300,000
COST OF CONSTRUCTION – PUCCA BUILDING – 3000 SQ FT X 500 RS	1,500,000
COST OF SHEDS - 14	250,000
TOILETS – 1000 SQ FT X 600 RS	600,000
BOUNDARY WALL	500,000
WATER, ELECTRICITY, MISCELLANEOUS	500,000
<b>TOTAL COSTS AT MINIMUM</b>	<b>5,650,000</b>

The school office will be open through the holidays, excepting for Easter. Fees for April, May have to be paid before the 5<sup>th</sup> of April, 2004. Have a good holiday!!