

Dear Kirkbyites

On Saturday 19 January 2019 the ExCo of the Kirkby Alumni met. Apart from the normal Agenda, the End of 2018 Report and the reaction thereto via WhatsApp messages were tabled and discussed, This Report brings to you the decisions and conclusions reached:

### **1. REUNION 2020**

As agreed at the last Reunion in Johore Bahru, the next Reunion will be held in Kuantan (Gambang) in the first week of July 2020.

### **2. ANNUAL or BIENNIAL REUNIONS**

14 of the 17 responses received opted for Annual Reunions. There was one abstention and two did not make any choice. It was decided that Annual Reunions should be implemented after the 2020 Reunion, for reasons, among others: (a) The J B Reunion decided the next Reunion should be in 2020 and not in 2019. (b) Already there is a crowded programme in 2019 - Sea Cruise in February; Alumni AGM and regular Get-Together (organised by Social Secretary Leela Unnithan, this year assisted by Kathryn Yong Fui Yoon with a broader selection of venues) in March, and a Visit to Kirkby in August.

### **3. ALUMNI ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING**

This year's Annual General Meeting of the Persatuan will be held in March. The Alumni considers every Kirkbyte as being eligible to attend the AGM. The Venue, exact date and other information will be given as soon as available.

### **4. VISIT TO KIRKBY**

On 31 August 2017, with pomp and ceremony, we unveiled a Plaque at the site of our beloved MTTC Kirkby. It has been decided that we should visit the site of the Plaque once in two years, on the anniversary of the unveiling, and view the Kirkby exhibition that may be put up for the occasion. Tentative itinerary is we leave for London on or about 28 August. arrive and check into a Hotel in Kirkby the next day, and spend Friday 30th August in the Archive Resource of Knowsley (ARK). After that you are free to do your own thing and return when you wish. Competitive rates can be negotiated if we have a group of 15 or more.

*Please register with me, as soon as possible, if you wish to join the group to go to Kirkby. Cost and itinerary will be negotiated with the Travel Agent when we know the number going.*

### **5. MTTC KIRKBY MALAYSIA**

On 4th of January 2019 I was invited, on twelve hours' notice, to a meeting of the Majlis Penasihat Pelajaran Kebangsaan (MPPK) chaired by Brinsfordian and former Director General of the Ministry of Education, Tan Sri Dato' Seri Dr Wan Mohd Zahid Mohd Nordin for the views of the Kirkby Alumni on the teaching of English, Mathematics and Science. Recalling that in the Education Forum in the University of Malaya on 7 April 2018 (Tan Sri Wan Zahid was our Keynote Speaker at the Forum) we had proposed the establishment of a MTTC in Malaysia modelled on the MTTC Kirkby, I submitted that the way to go forward to improve the teaching of English in our schools is to replicate in Malaysia MTTC Kirkby. The proposal was received with enthusiasm and I was asked to put up a project paper. I have formed a Committee comprising Satish Chand Bhandari, Tunku Abdul Aziz, Dr Hj. Mohamed Thalha and myself to prepare the project paper. Satish is working on the project paper. We hope to submit it to the MPPK, hopefully, before the Chinese New Year.

Warm Regards,

Dato V L Kandan

President

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