

16th March 2005

Dear Mr. Jayatilaka,

S. Thomas' College, Gurutalawa

As you know, S. Thomas' Gurutalawa was founded on a farm gifted by the late Leslie de Saram. The vision of the founders was that it would be a unique boarding school providing a well-rounded education and building boys with leadership qualities and character through a variety of activities in the classroom and on the farm and playing fields. Over the years, particularly over the last decade or so, the character of the school has changed and it is becoming increasingly difficult to maintain financial viability in its present form.

The Board of Governors therefore needs to take some major decisions to enable the school to continue to provide the unique educational blend that was the vision of the founders, adapted to today's needs and challenges. In order to assist the Board in this task, we are arranging a series of meetings, with the first planned for 29th March 2005 at 6 p.m in the Board Room (Warden's Office) at Mount Lavinia.

The objective of these meetings would be to assemble all those interested in Gurutalawa to discuss available options and initiate short and long-term plans, identify key people to be involved in these plans, mark milestones and enlist the support of the wider Thomian family.

In view of your interest in Gurutalawa, I am happy to invite you to the first meeting in order that we may collectively participate in this vital and important stage in the life of S. Thomas' College, Gurutalawa.

With Peace and Blessings,

Yours sincerely,

The Rt Revd Duleep de Chickera
Bishop of Colombo