



MONDAY 10TH OCTOBER 2005
FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

AWARD-WINNING HUMANITARIAN TO VISIT BRITISH SCHOOL OF BOSTON

Boston, MA - Nobel Peace Prize nominee A.T. Ariyaratne will visit the British School of Boston on Friday, October 14, 2005 to share heart-breaking and heart-warming stories regarding the tsunami that claimed 50,000 lives in Sri Lanka in December 2004. He will set out how one organization made a big difference.

Dr. Ariyaratne founded the Sarvodaya Movement in Sri Lanka in 1958, aimed at promoting development in the Asian country. For his work promoting nonviolent social transformation he was awarded the Niwano Peace Prize in Japan and the Mahatma Gandhi Peace Prize in 1996.

Sarvodaya was honored on October 3, 2005 by the United Nations for its outstanding humanitarian work after the catastrophic tsunami that took place December 2004. The organization has been presented the 2005 Habitat Scroll of Honor award, a prize that is granted annually by the United Nations Human Settlement Program for outstanding work in the field of settlement and shelter.

Like many organizations, The British School of Boston was deeply moved by the Tsunami disaster that overwhelmed parts of southern Asia on December 26th 2004. The staff, students and parents of British School of Boston came together to support one of the worst affected countries - Sri Lanka. After some consideration, we chose to donate our funds to the charity Sarvodaya. We felt their pledge to "...take care of orphaned children" and "to rebuild schools" fitted with our own ethos here at the British School of Boston.

At an 'Auction of Promises' and other events held in February this year, the school community raised over \$62,000 for Sarvodaya. On October 14, our students are honoured to welcome Dr. Ariyaratne to the British School of Boston to hear at first hand how their hard work made a difference to the children of Sri Lanka.

The British School of Boston is part of the British Schools of America which were founded in 1998 when the first school opened in Washington D.C. The British Schools of Boston and Houston both opened in September 2000, the British School of Chicago opened in September 2001 and the British American School of Charlotte, the fifth school, opened in September 2004. It is anticipated during the next few years that the total number of British Schools of America will grow to 20, all located in major cities across the USA. Pupils at the British Schools of America follow the International Primary Curriculum, the National Curriculum of England through GCSEs and the International Baccalaureate Diploma. Teachers at the schools are recruited directly from the UK and are trained in the delivery of the National Curriculum, the IPC and the IB.

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