

OCEAN STARS TRUST

ANNUAL REPORT & ACCOUNTS 2023-2024



OCEAN STARS

S R I L A N K A

Empowering children through Education

registered charity 1110022 www.oceanstars.org.uk



HIGHLIGHTS AT A GLANCE

2023/2024

- **919** children accessed preschool education in **30** preschools.
- **Assessment Tool cycle completed** for all preschools to track and monitor Early Year learning goals of OST preschool children. In the endline assessment cycle 374 Year 1 and 418 Year 2 students were assessed.
- **Residential Teacher Training** for all-island preschool teachers completed.
- A **new preschool opened** in Ammankulam for the children of the village.
- **21 students and 4 teachers visited their link schools** for the first time since 2018.
- The Trustee Board welcomed **2 new Trustees**, Rachel Angel and Denise Barnes to the Trustee Board.
- Breakfast Projects were introduced at 15 preschools benefitting **500 children every day**.
- A **new music classroom** opened at Navalady School.



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2023/2024

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ANNUAL REVIEW AT A GLANCE

2023/2024

Income 2023
/2024
£115,000

30 preschools
supported

6 Ocean Stars Lanka
staff salaries paid

39 teachers' salaries
paid

Teachers use tablets
to record Data from
assessment tool as
well as daily
attendance registers



175 children and
teachers on
sponsorship
schemes

30 Preschools
supported all-island

CPS students fund
raised £16,000 for
OST after a 4 year
absence

Breakfast Projects
in 15 preschools



285 children at
MAHADEVA
children's home
supported and 4
children being
sponsored

Working closely
with Batticaloa
Preschool Bureau



Ocean Stars Lanka
continues to be an
important and valued
NGO in Eastern
Province

Social media posts
regularly posted

Residential Teacher
Training held for
75 teachers

Teaching resources
distributed to all
preschools

CHAIR'S REPORT

1 May 2023 – 30 April 24

1) **Governance**

As from the May meeting of 2023 the Trustee Board comprised 7 Trustees. Rev Dan Haylett, Jennie Gilbert, Jo Barton, Cameron Williams, and Chair John Bunter continued to serve from the previous year, and two new Trustees joined, Rachel Angel and Denise Barnes.

Also continuing were Dilanee Bunter, Head of Operations, Tim Rüpke and Amali Bunter as Co-opted Trustees, and Wendy Haynes as Minutes Secretary. A Sri Lanka-born Masters' student, Thisiri, continued to support our CDP programme for the first half of the year, and Kim Gilbert continued her responsibility for managing school links.

A number of Sub-Committees met between the 6 full TB Meetings in the year and reported back to the OGM - notably, a Finance Group, Child Development Programme (CDP), JAYDD (the business arm of the charity) Sponsorship, School Links, and ad hoc meetings for example for Fundraising activities. Equally, communication was a weekly event by Zoom for Dilanee with the Ocean Stars Lanka (OSL) staff. Indeed, OSL staff sat with, and contributed fully to, the CDP group at their meetings. The AGM took place on 6 July 2023.

The Trust has continued to exist to bring support to communities in need, mostly in the Eastern Province of Sri Lanka (Batticaloa, Trincomalee) and it has been the work of the Trustee Board to ensure that the financial resources brought to the Trust are used in the most appropriate and cost-effective way.

2) Finance

The economic situation in Sri Lanka has stabilised a little in the past year, with inflation at lower figures than the previous year, and some of the food and fuel shortages less of a problem, though prices remain high. One area of difficulty for OST money transfers has however been the slight improvement of the Sri Lankan Rupee against the £, thus lowering the buying power of the monies we send. Thus the Finance group continues to show prudence in its support for projects, and rigorously retaining its contingency fund.

Subject to Independent Examination, accounts suggest a turnover of around £115,000, a similar result to 2022-23. We are indebted to support from major donors such as the Fonthill Foundation, Imperial College Tamil Society, Calthorpe Park School community, Fleet, and Goldranch Investments, to name but four. Otherwise donations have been received from regular small donors, teacher and child sponsors, and from larger fundraising events such as a Celidh and a Quiz Night.

3) Supported Projects and Impact

Our Restricted Funds allow us to support the sponsorship programme (the neediest youngsters), and a number of our preschool teachers. Unrestricted Funds pay our staff in OSL (Ocean Stars Lanka, who manage our projects on OST's behalf), our ongoing expenses in maintaining the OSL operation, and other capital projects, when funds allow.

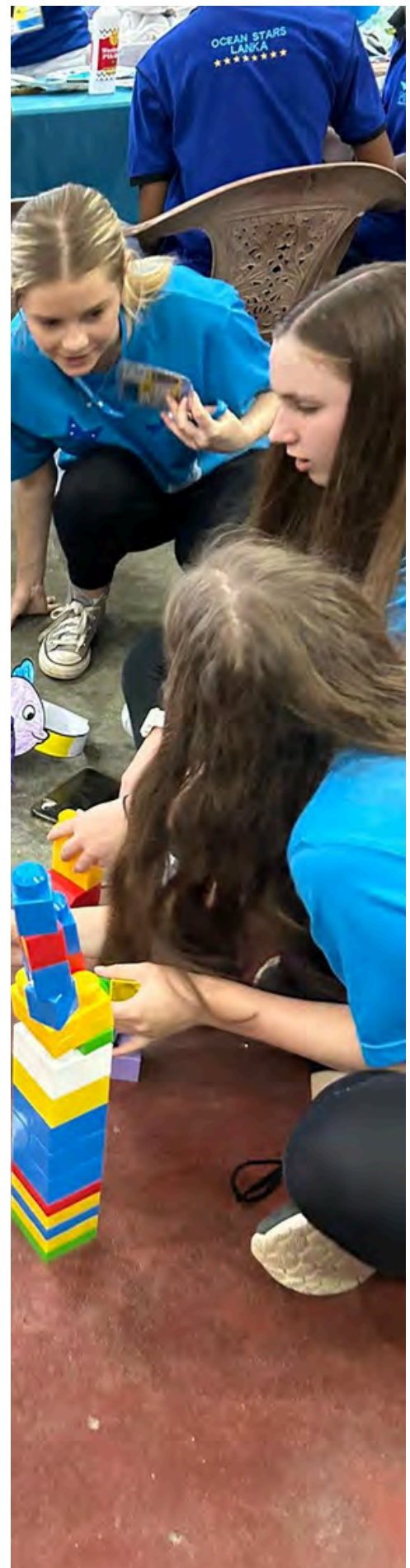
Ongoing generous support from the Fonthill Foundation funds our major projects linked to preschool education. This includes the annual teacher training – enormously valued in the whole Batticaloa area by the 60 or so teachers who attend – and the Child Development Project (CDP) which sets a curriculum and an assessment programme. These are really big educational initiatives, the latter also involving the development of our OSL staff in their delivery. “Hope House” is now three separate training centres for sewing and (child) Computer education and continues to be financed by longstanding donor Jess Butcher.

One of OST's outstanding achievements of the year has been the development of the preschool feeding programme. With the assistance of funds from St James Place and Goldranch Investments some 500 3-5 year old OST preschool children have been delivered a morning meal. Furthermore, fascinating data has been gathered by the CDP group to show how weight gain has been a positive driver in improvement in the children's preschool assessment tasks.

4) Visits to Sri Lanka

Dilaneer our Head of Operations led a school group of 21 students and 4 teaching staff on a trip to Sri Lanka in October. This included extensive volunteering in our preschools and secondary link schools in the Eastern Sri Lanka. In many instances for the students concerned the experiences were life-changing, and plans are afoot to continue these annual trips, restarted now post the pandemic. The students from Calthorpe Park School raised in excess of £15,000 for OST causes, some of which they could see "in action" whilst there.

In addition Dilaneer visited the area in June to observe and monitor the OSL operation, and in particular the Teacher Training.



5. Summary

I can report that the Charity remains in good health. We should be particularly proud that we centre our operations on the annual September Awayday, which directs our strategy for the year. We have targets in place both for the coming year, and, indeed, for 2030. This includes an ambitious Ambassador programme. The Trustee Board, with the additional Co-Opted Trustees, are a fully committed group, with recent new Trustees equally contributing from the beginning, with new ideas and important fundraising lines. I thank them all for their support, alongside the very hardworking Dilanee, our Head of Operations.

All our efforts were rewarded indeed, by the Runners-Up award (of £1,000) at the Charity Governance Awards at Drapers Hall, London, in April. A first award to OST, as we approach our 20th anniversary in March 2025.



CPS TEAM 2023 WITH LINK SCHOOL STUDENTS



TEACHER TRAINING JULY 2023



John Bunter
OST Chair
May 2024

MISSION, VISION & ACTIVITIES

MISSION

Our Mission is to identify and overcome barriers to equal opportunities for children in Sri Lanka through education and social enrichment, sharing friendship, hope and joy.

VISION

Our Vision is a Sri Lanka where every child has equal opportunities.

ACTIVITIES

Sponsorship Scheme
Exchange Programme and Partnerships
Targeted Quality Education
Advocacy
Community Programmes

AWARD WINNING CHARITY

UK Charity Governance Awards 2023

Ocean Stars Trust was shortlisted for the UK Charity Governance Awards 2023 in the category Improving Impact in Small Charities (0-3 paid staff). We are delighted to have been recognised for our innovative Child Development Programme by being shortlisted.

Deepak Nambisan, who chairs the Awards for the organisers The Clothworkers' Company, said, *"What is of particular note this year is that, aside from the two award categories specifically for the sector's smallest charities, over half of nominees across all categories are small charities employing fewer than 30 people. This shows that even when funds and other resources are limited, if there is ingenuity, foresight and commitment among the people – from the trustees to those 'on the ground' – then any charity can achieve remarkable things."* *"Congratulations to all our shortlisted charities – yet again, the high quality of entries provided plenty of debate around the judging tables, but also plenty of inspiration for the whole sector."*



AWARD WINNING CHARITY

John Bunter OST Chair, Cameron Williams OST Trustee, and Dilanee Bunter Head of Operations went up to London for the Awards ceremony and were delighted to network with other UK based charities .

The UK Charity Governance Awards are organised by the Clothworkers Company. It is one of the Great Twelve Livery Companies in the City of London. Founded in 1528, its original purpose was to protect their members and promote the craft of cloth-finishing within the City. Today, its mission is to inspire and empower individuals and communities through action, partnership and financial support. It is particularly focused on UK textiles, charity governance, and philanthropy – through The Clothworkers' Foundation and beyond.

As Runners up OST also gained a Prize of £1000 as well as a paid one-year membership of the Association of Chairs for their board, and a complementary place on a Cause4 Trustee Leadership Programme for a new member of their board. We are delighted that the work of the Trustee Board has been validated and recognised in this way. A very special day for all of us at Ocean Stars Trust.



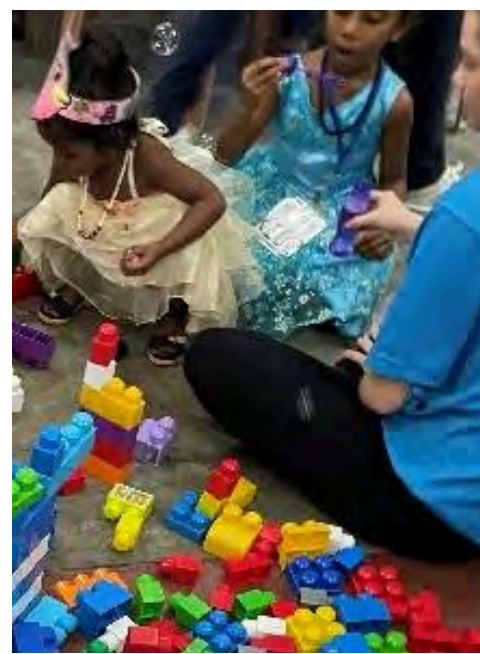
SPONSORSHIP REPORT

2023/2024

SPONSORSHIP SCHEME	NO. OF CHILDREN/ TEACHERS	NO. OF CHILDREN/ TEACHERS NEEDING SPONSORSHIP
KALLADY BATTICALOA	66	3
VELLAIMANAL TRINCOMALEE	65	3
MAHADEVA KILLINOCHCHI	4	0
TEACHERS	36	16



SPONSOR CHILDREN MEETING WITH UK VOLUNTEERS OCTOBER 2023



SPONSORSHIP IMPACT STORY

My life journey, which started with your sponsorship, has led me to a place where I can proudly say that I am actively in empowering the youth of Sri Lanka.

You may not remember me, but I was one of the fortunate children who benefited from your generous support. My father is deaf, and I and other children from similar backgrounds were selected for your approval. Your sponsorship of £10.00 per month significantly impacted my life, and I cherish the memories of those times. I distinctly remember a kind-hearted donor named Mrs Ann Adams who took the time to write letters to me and send thoughtful gifts. As a child, I didn't fully understand the depth of your assistance, but now I comprehend the profound difference it made in my life. After completing my O levels, I embarked on a journey to further my education. I successfully pursued A levels in Engineering Technology. However, my aspirations eventually led me towards the field of media. I joined the Visual Content Makers Program at Dream Space Academy where my potential was recognized, and I became part of their Changemaker program. The challenge-based learning at Dream Space Academy honed my skills, and I eventually established my photography studio in my hometown, employing four individuals.

Subsequently, I joined Dream Space Media Lab Guardian, an organization dedicated to empowering the youth of Sri Lanka through media. I have had the privilege of training over 1,200 individuals in digital media literacy and the visual media field. Together with my colleagues, I co-founded Dream Space Media a digital media startup focusing on constructive post war stories in Sri Lanka.

It is with great joy and pride that I have found Ocean Stars Trust on social media. I tried to express my gratitude for a long time, but my previous attempts were in vain. Now, with the power of social media I have finally been able to make contact.

I want you to know that your support did not end with my school years. It has carried forward into my work today, helping me empower and uplift others in Sri Lanka. I am forever indebted to you for the opportunities and hope you provided me during my formative years. Your generosity has inspired me to pay it forward by making a positive impact on the lives of countless others.

Once again, I extend my sincerest thanks to you, Ocean Stars Trust, and the kind-hearted individuals like Mrs Ann Adams, who played a pivotal role in shaping my life. You have given me the chance to follow my dreams and give back to my community meaningfully. I am honoured and grateful to be a part of this chain of kindness that has profoundly impacted my life.



SOCIAL MEDIA REPORT

2023/2024

	2023									2024		
Facebook	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar
Number of posts	13	16	13	12	13	10	26	13	10	14	7	14
Page likes	586	590	594	597	597	597	628	628	628	630	631	631
Ave likes per post	9	7	9	7	11	15	27	16	12	6	8	9
Shares/Comments	34	28	20	25	39	31	93	33	28	31	7	20
Total reached	3,785	3,511	2,530	2,215	2,895	6,556	14,631	3,980	4,625	3,830	1,675	5,080

	2023									2024		
Instagram	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar
Number of posts	11	11	11	8	10	7	18	9	5	13	5	12
Followers	327	330	332	333	333	333	350	352	352	353	353	353
Ave likes per post	6	5	9	8	6	6	11	8	6	4	1	7

	2023									2024		
LinkedIn	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar
Number of posts	7	10	5	5	4	2	8	4	2	3	0	10
Followers	16	18	29	30	30	30	43	46	46	53	57	57
Ave likes per post	1	1	2	2	1	1	1	1	3	0	0	1

SOCIAL MEDIA REPORT

Website	2023									2024		
	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar
Visitors to the website	431	270	333	419	547	385	734	411	462	492	533	639
Ave session time (mins)	0.42	1.01	1.04	0.59	5.21	1.06	2.15	1.08	2.15	2.09	1.51	0.47

Mailchimp	2023									2024		
	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar
Emails sent	1	0	0	1	0	0	4	0	3	1	1	1
Ave number of opens	221	N/A	N/A	274	N/A	N/A	125	N/A	165	212	199	202

SOCIAL MEDIA SUMMARY

Facebook

161 posts

Reached 55,313 people on Facebook throughout the year

389 shares and comments throughout the year

Ended the year on 631 page likes (+45 from the beginning of the year)

Instagram

120 posts. On average, 7 likes per post

Ended the year with 353 followers (+26 from the beginning of the year)

LinkedIn

60 posts

Ended the year with 57 followers (+41 from the beginning of the year)

Website

5,656 visitors to the website

Mailchimp

12 emails were sent. On average 200 people opened each email

CHILD DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMME

2023/2024

At Ocean Stars, our ongoing commitment to preschool education is centred on delivering a high-quality educational experience for the children who attend our preschools. To this end, the teachers of Ocean Stars schools continue to work with us to deliver the Child Development Programme. This initiative is designed to enhance teaching standards, closely monitor each child's progress, and bolster classroom resources. Our aim is to foster an environment where every child receives the support and tools they need to thrive.

There are three key areas of the Child Development Programme remain:

(a) Teacher Training: We thank Fonthill Foundation for continuing to fund our Teacher Training for the Assessment Tool. We continue to hold regular teacher training sessions where teachers continue to be trained on new curriculum additions, how to use the tablets and share best practices. The tablets have transformed communication between teachers and from teachers to parents, our staff at Ocean Stars Lanka, and Ocean Stars Trust.

(b) Assessment Tool: As part of the CDP, an Assessment Tool tracking each child's progress in key areas of early years development. The teachers continue to see the benefits of using the tool and have given resoundingly positive reviews on the usability of the tool at all recent trainings.

(c) Resourcing: Resource bags were distributed to all our preschools during the July Teacher training.

The CDP steering group formed of Ocean Stars Trustees and Ocean Stars Lanka staff continues to meet once a month to discuss the strategy and outcomes of the programme.



CHILD DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMME

Assessment	Year One (3-4)	Year Two (4-5)
Baseline (Y2)	0	355
Midline (Y2) / Baseline (Y1)	282	381
Endline (Y1 / Y2)	299	438
Total	581	1,174

Fig 1. Summary statistics of Year 1 and Year 2 data collected in 2023 by data collection phase.

2023 Assessment Tool Data

In 2023/24 as the amount of data we have captured throughout our schools has reached a suitable point. The Child Development Tool has now assessed 883 children at least once, with 581 Year 1 assessments and 1174 Year 2 assessments completed in 2023. Of the 883 individual assessment cases we have a division of 49% male to 51% female pupils recorded.

As the teachers continue to use the Child Development Tool diligently to collect data this has allowed us the opportunity to begin taking a more detailed look than ever before at the patterns of evidence captured. We have been delighted to see that the Child Development Programme is proving effective in increasing attainment in schools.



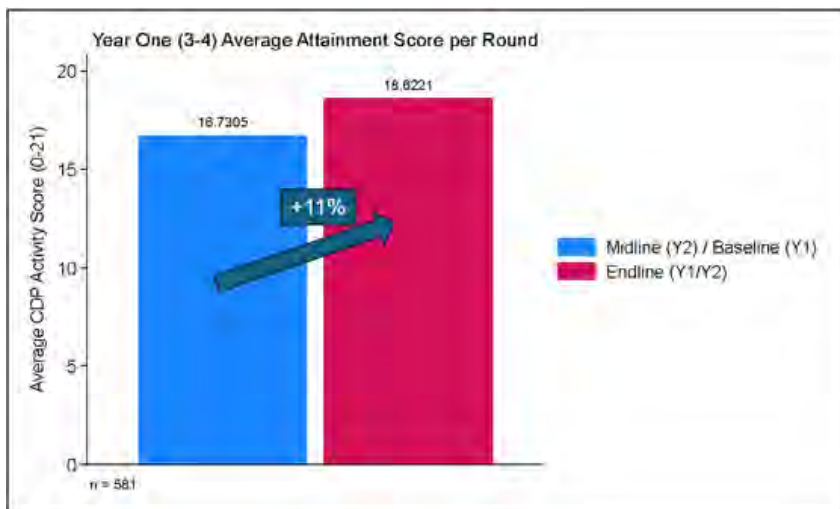


Fig 2. Year One students on average increased attainment levels by 11%. – A statistically significant difference

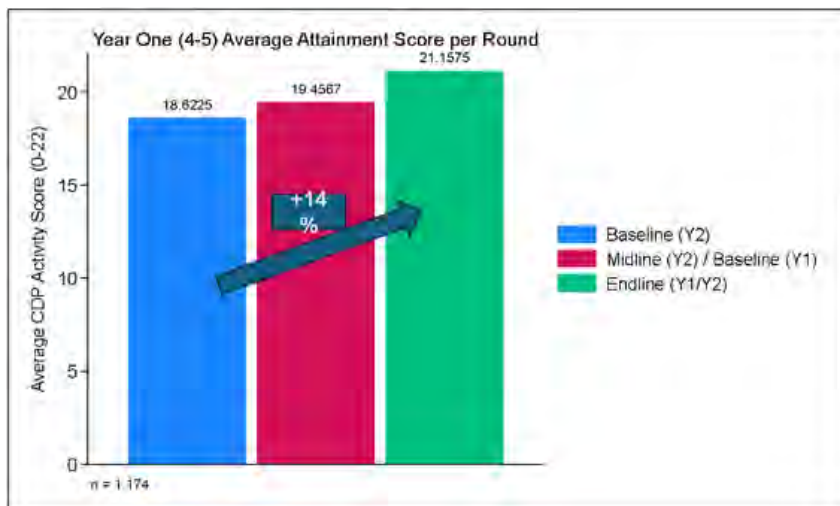


Fig 3. Year Two students on average increased attainment levels by 14%. – A statistically significant difference



CHILD DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMME

The Child Development Programme does not sit still however, as our Mathematical Goals added from January 2023 begin to show positive results we have continued to grow the Child Development tool. From January 2024 we have added further indicators for Communication and Language which have been well received by our teachers. These indicators are made up of three key areas of development – Listening, Understanding and Speaking and we look forward to seeing how the improved curriculum at our Ocean Stars Pre-schools performs.

Collaboration with the preschool bureau

It is also not only the Child Development Tool itself that grows. As agreed by Ocean Stars Sri Lanka staff and the Ocean Stars Trustees, we have collaborated successfully with the Sri Lanka pre-schools bureau, agreeing to provide the CDP tool to a further five non-OSL pre-schools, in a first for the organisation. The Assessment tool for the new preschools will be paper based so that we minimise setup outlay as we trial the feasibility of this new way to be able to deliver the CDP tool, beyond OSL schools. As part of this we will of course collaborate closely with the schools and their teachers to ensure that they are comfortable with the programme and tool, whilst measuring how effective the tool proves to be for the new schools, considering any associated differences.

To make this most feasible as we learn together, the tool used by the new 5 schools will be reduced in size and will focus on just 3 Key Development Assessment Areas:

1. Personal, social, and emotional development
2. Physical development
3. Mathematical development

We will remain in close contact with all of our schools, as ever, ensuring that we are available to listen and to support, so that the CDP tool proves the valuable asset that we know it can be, and in no way proves in any way burdensome or negative to the teachers and schools we work with.



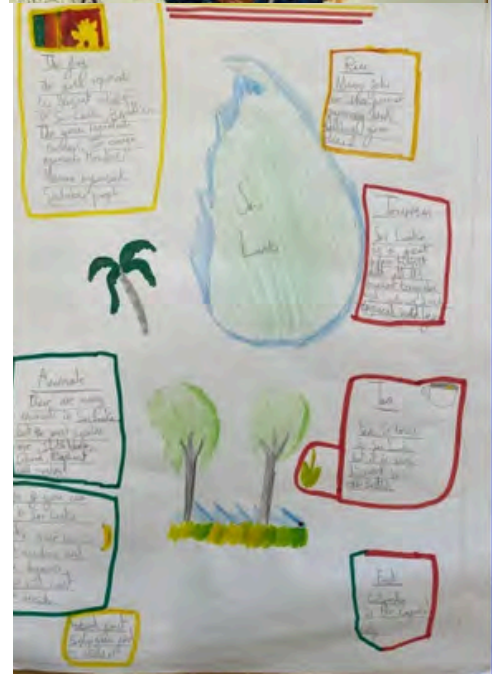
PRESCHOOL REPORT

OUR PRESCHOOL LINK PROGRAMME

Our link preschool programme has suffered post-Covid, and we are working hard to re-establish links.

PRESCHOOL IN SRI LANKA	LINK SCHOOL UK
Samathanam	Crookham Infants School
Chenkalady 1	Calthorpe Park School
Little Stars	Fleet Baptist Preschool
Soruvamunai	St. Luke's Primary School
Ampilanthurai	Heatherside Infant school
Thirukovil 2	Beacon Hill Nursery Hindhead
Yatyanthota St Peters	Fleet Methodist Preschool
Pattipalai	Elaine Hughson
Trinco/Vellaimanal	Buttercups Day Nursery
Sri Murugan	Dogmersfield Primary School
Vigneswaran Maha Vidyalam	Royal Hospital School

PHOTOS FROM DOGMERSFIELD PRIMARY SCHOOL SRI LANKA WEEK FEBRUARY 2024 LINKED WITH SRI MURUGAN PRESCHOOL

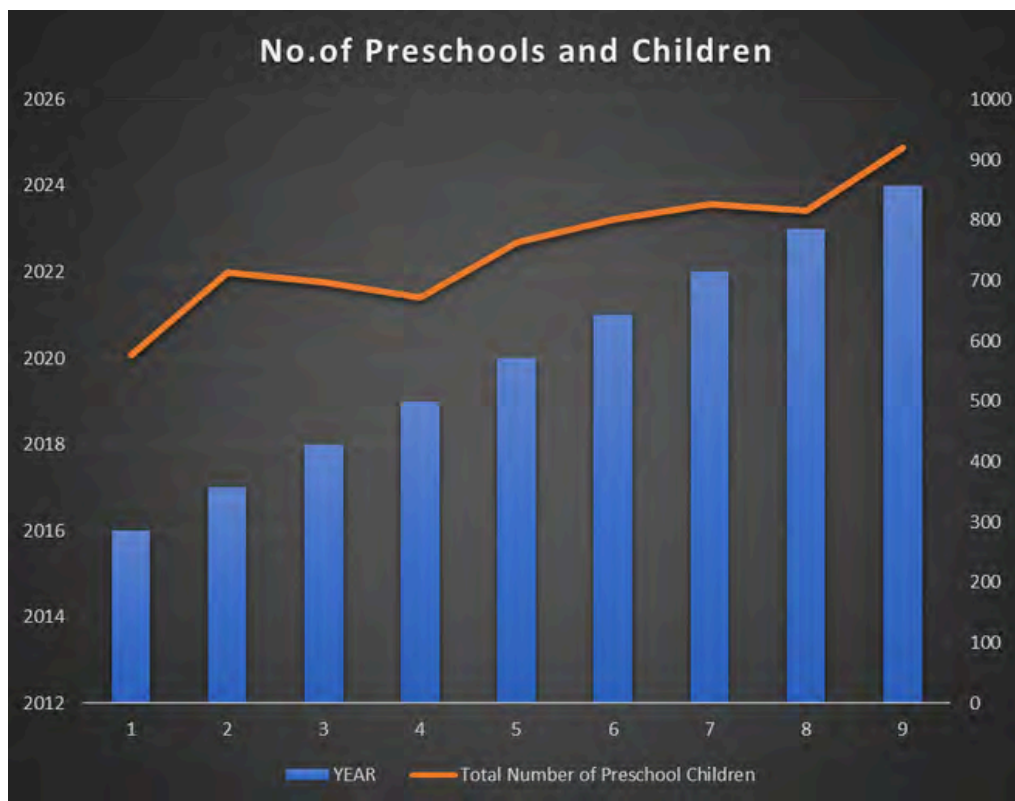


PRESCHOOL DATA

2024/2024

Preschool Children's education supported in past 9 years.

YEAR	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024
Total Number of Preschool Children	576	712	697	672	821	800	825	847	919



PRESCHOOL FEEDING PROGRAMMES

2024/2024

In 2023 Feeding Programmes were launched across our poorest preschools following requests from Preschool teachers, DS Offices and our own local staff. Currently we have 15 preschools on our Feeding programme and over 500 students access a nutritional meal every day. Since the Feeding Programme started in July 2022 over 45,000 meals have been distributed to our students. We are very grateful to individual donors, and Goldranch for supporting our Feeding programmes. We are pleased that data shows that OST preschool students are not as malnourished and are indeed gaining weight. These Feeding Projects are essential for our Early Years programmes. Data from our CDP poll show that students who are well nourished perform better than those who are not. Examples of weight gain post introduction of the Programme are below.

NAGAR

No	Name of Children	September	December
01	J.ANGITH	9.5KG	12.9KG
02	N.SARNITHAN	11.8KG	11.9KG
03	T.ABISHEK	10.5KG	12.4KG
04	P.DILAKSHAN	11KG	12.8KG
05	K.RASHMITHAN	10.4KG	11KG

NAGAR

No	Name of Children	September	December
01	S.JASHVIN	13.4kg	13.8G
02	T.THINISHKA	13.7kg	13.5KG
03	J.JIYANA	14.4KG	15KG
04	R.HARSHAYINI	12.4KG	13.1KG
05	KIRUKSHAN	12.7KG	12.8KG

FEEDING PROGRAMME TEACHER FEEDBACK

- Attendance has improved as parents make use of the opportunity for their children to receive a nutritious meal every day.
- Parents are very happy to be involved in the project by sorting our rotas for meal preparation.
- Parents are more invested in the education of their children.
- The children's concentration and physical well-being have improved.
- The parents use the budget to source the food and make sure they provide a nutritious meal for the children.



MOVING ON FROM PRESCHOOL

In July 2023, OST met up with the Principal and Grade 1 teacher of the Primary School and the Principal of the Secondary School in Amapalanthurai. The pupils who attend our Shining Stars preschool move on to these schools. They all indicated that students who have come through Ocean Stars Preschools carry with them a set of life skills beyond their peers. They are more confident, have good physical skills, are well motivated and are able to access the curriculum. Their attendance is good, and they have a high level of English skills and well-developed social skills. The access they have had to a high quality early years education equips them with the tools they need for their journey through education. They thanked OST for giving the children in their village a solid foundation for learning and developing into global citizens .



OCEAN STARS LANKA PRESCHOOL TEACHERS

Ocean Stars Trust UK and Ocean Star Lanka are indebted to our preschool teachers who do an extraordinary job often under challenging circumstances. OST UK pays the wages of 45 staff preschool staff in Sri Lanka. The teachers receive a saree as their uniform and a work bag from Ocean Stars UK. All the children who attend our preschools also receive a uniform and a school bag. Our teachers value the support they get from us and most of them have been working with us for several years. They value the regular visits from our staff on the ground. They value the teacher training that we offer them. These events give them the opportunity to network with other teachers and exchange good practice. The teachers also value the visits from volunteers from the UK and are looking forward to volunteer visits resuming in the near future.

OCEAN STARS LANKA PRESCHOOL TEACHERS - 2024



IN RELATION TO OSL PRESCHOOLS

HOUSEHOLD INCOME

PRESCHOOL	AVERAGE MONTHLY INCOME (Sri Lankan Rupees)	Average Monthly Income £	NUMBER OF INTERVIEWS
Thirukovil 1	50625	£ 115	16
Kurumanvely	37991	£ 86	25
Kirankulam	33566	£ 76	16
Chenkallady 2	30188	£ 67	24
Amapalanthurai	28817	£ 65	24
Chenkallady 1	26619	£ 60	21
Soruvamunai	25907	£ 59	15
Kanchirankudaa	24143	£ 55	21
Pattipalai	21972	£ 50	18
Thevilamunai	20941	£ 48	17
Ammankulam	20708	£ 47	12
Thirukovil 2	20705	£ 47	20
Karaveddy	19233	£ 44	15
Sri Murugan	18719	£ 43	17
Thantha	16604	£ 38	24
Naripulthottam	16695	£ 38	18
Samanathan	13538	£ 31	26
MM	13,000	£ 30	21
James	11,000	£ 25	11
Selvapuram	11,000	£ 25	42
Kilakkin Oli	10000	£ 23	17
Nagar	7,000	£ 16	14
Ilampirai	6,000	£ 14	9

GIFT CATALOGUE

Our Ocean Stars Gift Catalogue has provided essential items to our communities in Sri Lanka during 2023-2024. Examples of gifts that have been donated are: boats, bicycles, stationery items and a first aid box. Recipients are chosen by the local Divisional Secretariats we work with in Sri Lanka as well as our families involved in our sponsorship schemes. Everyone involved in the process in Sri Lanka would like to thank the UK donors for their generous gifts which transforms their daily lives.





FISHING BOATS

IMPACT: Sustainable

Providing fishing boats so that families can generate an income from the sale of fish. One boat can be used by up to three families.

SEWING MACHINE LOAN SCHEME

IMPACT: Sustainable

Helping ladies to set up and develop a small business to enable them to contribute to the family income.

BUILDING WORK & WELLS

IMPACT: Sustainable

Building preschools, digging wells. Supplying toilets in the poorest rural communities.

COMPUTER CLASSES

IMPACT: Sustainable

Paying for teachers to instruct adults and children in computer skills so that they can communicate and work in the modern world.

TRUSTEE REPORT

DAN HAYLETT

This year feels to have been a significant one for Ocean Stars, both here in the UK and with our partners Ocean Stars Lanka in Sri Lanka. We have expanded the trustee board and have looked to utilise the skill set of trustees and other key volunteers from all over the world. The cost of living crisis has continued to challenge our staff and the families we work with in Sri Lanka, and we have continued to put in place financial support to underpin the excellent work of our team based primarily in Batticaloa.



Significantly we have celebrated the fact that Dilanee was able to lead a trip to Sri Lanka with Calthorpe Park School for the first time since Covid. There was also a volunteer team able to be in attendance during October 2023, which was a great boost to the Ocean Stars Lanka team and of course, to the preschools, schools and communities we continue to partner with and support. This is an important step for Ocean Stars to be able to recommence these visits which are part of our vision to share friendship, hope and joy.

Underpinning the return of the school and volunteer visits is our focus on identifying and overcoming barriers to equal opportunities for children in Sri Lanka. In both the UK and Sri Lanka this is evidenced in our work with our Child Development Programme, where we are able to use data collected by our excellent teachers to assess the impact our projects have as well as targeting future interventions and investments. At the same time we have been delighted to see our governance work recognised as we were announced as runners-up in the 2023's Charity Governance Awards, in the category of Improving Impact in Small Charities. We were pleased to see our work recognised as we seek to manage the donations and support offered by so many of our donors. We are really grateful for your ongoing support and interest.

OUR FOCUS

IN 2023/2024

Strategic Objectives

FOCUS AREA	OBJECTIVE	OWNER	TIMELINE	STATUS
Ambassador Programme	Build an OST ambassador programme with expectations and deliverables.	Jen and Kim	Sept Away Day 2024	In progress
Jaydd	Continue to develop transparency of reporting between JAYDD and OST.	Amali	Develop each report in the year.	On Track
2030 Plan	Define a succession plan with options for the future.	Tim	Sept Away Day 2024	In Progress
Marketing	Progress our marketing and communications on Instagram, Facebook and LinkedIn and increase email coverage.	Jen	September 2024	In Progress
Child Development	Set roadmap in line with new strategic goals.	Cameron	January	Delivered
Marketing and Communications	Explore how we can optimise our marketing and communication channels to 1) to attract new supporters/engagement and 2) maintain supporters.	Jen	March	On Track



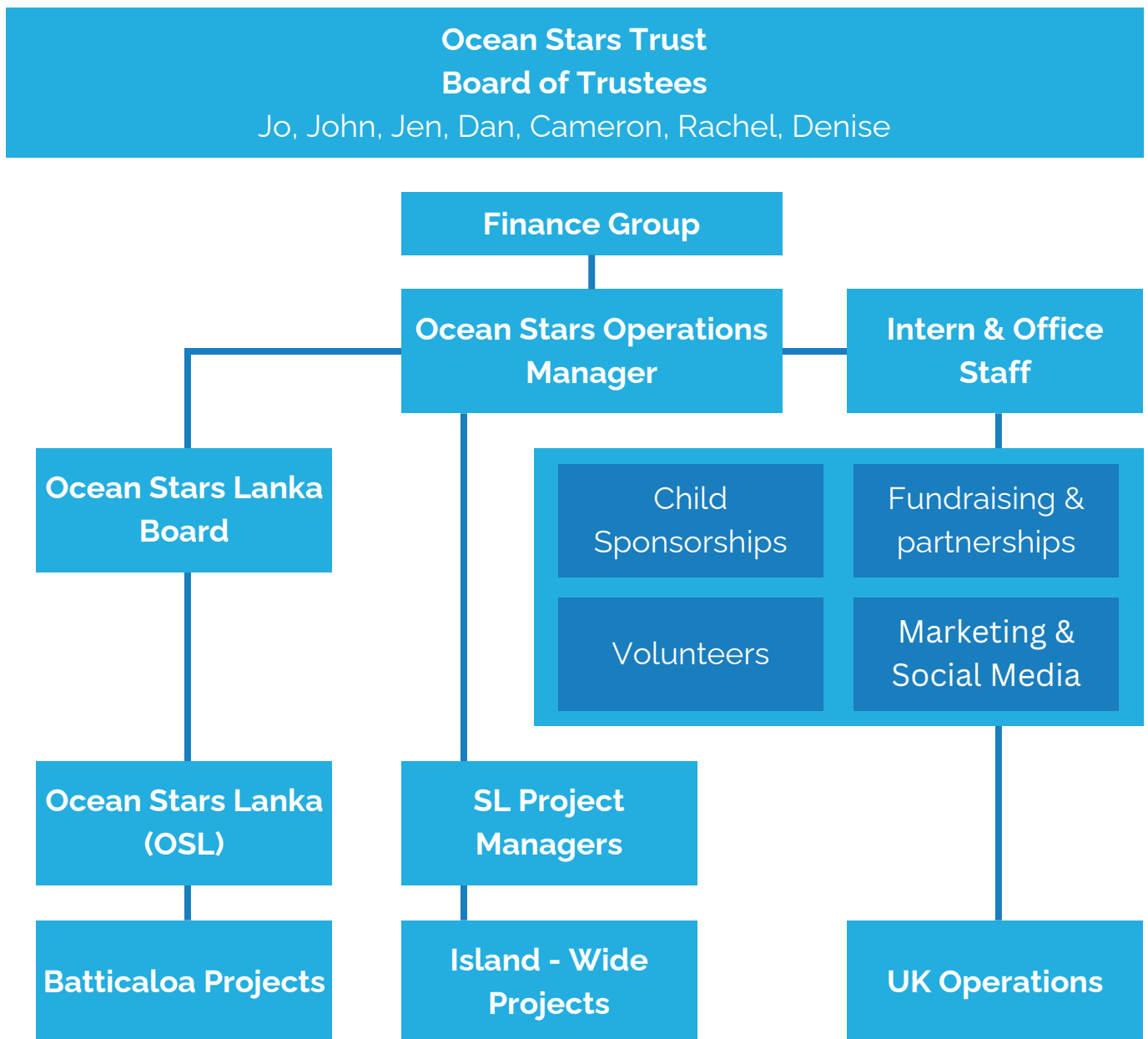
OST GOALS

BY 2030

As well as our strategic objectives the Trustees are now looking ahead and have set goals we would like to achieve by 2030.

FOCUS AREA	OBJECTIVE	Internal/ External	STATUS
PRESCHOOLS	OST will run a network of 35 pre-schools across Sri Lanka (through full and soft support)	External	29
TEACHER TRAINING	OST will provide context-led, transformational teacher training to over 70 teachers	External	TBD
CHILD DEVELOPMENT	OST will engage 2000 children through the CDP tool per year, doubling the reach beyond of OST network	External	919
TEACHER SPONSORSHIP	OST will facilitate sponsorships for 100% of its pre-school teachers in full support schools	External	50%
AMBASSADOR PROGRAMME	OST will have developed a network of 5 ambassadors to promote cultural links & exchange	External	0
CHILD SPONSORSHIP	OST will facilitate 150 personalised & impactful child sponsorships	External	141

GOVERNANCE & MANAGEMENT



OST BOARD

OCEAN STARS UK TRUSTEE BOARD AND FOUNDER MAY 2023

From left to right: Dan Haylett: Trustee, Dilanee Bunter: Founder, Jo Barton: Trustee, Jennie Gilbert: Trustee, John Bunter: Chair and Finance Group, and Cameron Williams: Trustee, Rachel Angel Trustee, Denise Barnes Trustee



OCEAN STARS LANKA TEAM APRIL 2023

From left to right: Salujah: Preschool Manager Nishanthini: Preschool Manager and Sponsorship Supervisor, Chitra: Office Manager, Shalini: Assistant Director and Finance Manager



OCEAN STARS LANKA BOARD APRIL 2023



PRINCIPAL RISKS & UNCERTAINTIES

RISK	MANAGEMENT ACTIONS
GDPR	Registered with Information Commissioner's Office.
SAFEGUARDING	Policy in place.
TERRORISM	High risk insurance policies when organising trips.
LACK OF INCOME	Contingency, reserve funds in place.
LIABILITY CLAIMS	Liability insurance.
LOCAL TRAVEL	Travel with registered tour companies in SL.
TRAVEL TO SRI LANKA	Travel only on advice of FCO.
DAMAGE TO REPUTATION	Accounts are kept up to date, submitted to the Charities Commission and all records are transparent.
FRAUD	Double signatories for bank transactions, (SL and UK), independent counter and banker of cheques and cash.

OST DATA IMPACT

2005-2024

DATA	IMPACT
11,594	Children have attended OST preschools
42	Teacher Training sessions
258,500	Meals provided through our feeding programmes
152	Women have attended a sewing class
120	Children have attended OST Computer classes
280	Children have been sponsored
140	UK Students have visited their link schools in Sri Lanka.
155	UK Volunteers have visited our OST preschools

OST INCOME STATEMENT

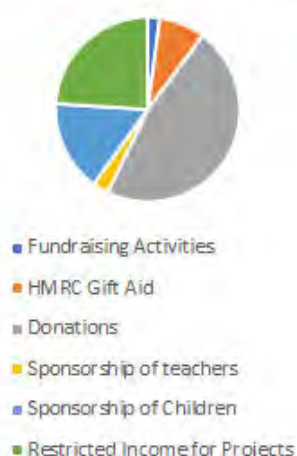
YEAR END APRIL 2024, WITH 2023 COMPARISON

Income to April 2024 (prior to Independent Examination)

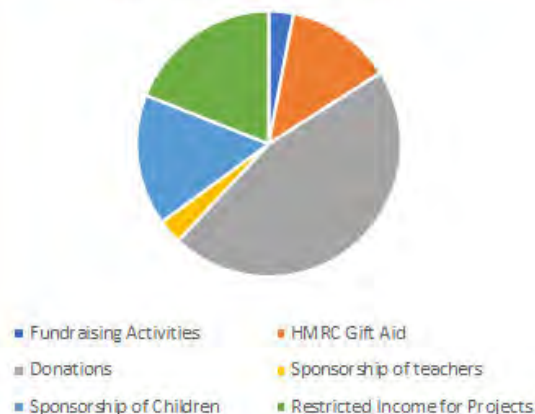
Ocean Stars Trust	2023
(Prior to Ind Ex)	
Income	£120,197.00
	%
Fundraising Activities	2.1
HMRC Gift Aid	8.1
Donations	47
Sponsorship of teachers	2.8
Sponsorship of Children	16
Restricted Income for Projects	24
	100

Ocean Stars Trust	2024
(Prior to Ind Ex)	
Income	£112,269.00
	%
Fundraising Activities	3
HMRC Gift Aid	13
Donations	46
Sponsorship of teachers	3
Sponsorship of Children	16
Restricted Income for Projects	19
	100

OST Income to Year April 2023



OST Income to April 2024



OST EXPENDITURE STATEMENT

YEAR END APRIL 2024, WITH 2023 COMPARISON

Expenditure to April 2024 (prior to Independent Examination)

Ocean Stars Trust	2023
(Prior to Ind Ex)	
Expenditure	£122,344.00
	%
Capital Projects	55
Sponsorship of Children	18
Staff and Teacher Wages*	19.6
Fundraising	0.1
Accountancy	1.1
Publicity/Outreach	1.2
Bank charges	0.2
Postage, stationery, phone	1.5
Travel and Subsistence	2.8
Miscellaneous	0.5
	100
*Includes HOP salary £9.3K	

Ocean Stars Trust	2024
(Prior to Ind Ex)	
Expenditure	£116,805
	%
Capital Projects	55
Sponsorship of Children	19
Staff and Teacher Wages*	18
Fundraising	0.4
Accountancy	2
Publicity/Outreach	3
Bank charges	0.4
Postage, stationery, phone	1
Travel and Subsistence	1
Miscellaneous	0.2
	100



OST ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Ocean Stars would like to thank everyone who supports our work in so many ways. These include:

Our general regular donors

Our child sponsors.

Our teacher sponsors.

Our preschool sponsors

Our link preschools

Our volunteers

Our link primary schools

Calthorpe Park School

Fonthill Foundation

Imperial College Sri Lanka Society

Imperial College Tamil Society

Goldranch

Kiri Ravi and Ghanapathy Temple

Our teddy knitters

Our volunteers who help out at fundraising events

Godfrey Wilson Limited

C.T Services Limited

Fleet Methodist Church

All those who attend our fund-raising events.

Our office helpers

Our Ocean Stars Lanka staff

Our OSL Preschool teachers

Our sponsor children and families

Our drivers for volunteer trips

Our tuc-tuc drivers

Beyond Boundaries Team in Sri Lanka

We sincerely apologise if we have not mentioned you. We thank our extended supporters who help Ocean Stars empower children through education in Sri Lanka.



OCEAN STARS

S R I L A N K A

Empowering children through Education

registered charity 1110022 www.oceanstars.org.uk