

Mudhiyor Balar Kudumba Grama Pannai

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News Letter
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"Make a joyful noise to the Lord all the lands. Serve the Lord with gladness" Psalm 100:1-2

IMPRESSIONS

"A boy traveled slowly along on an oxcart, chatting into his mobile phone. This is one of the sharpest memories that Rosemary has brought home from India. We four, Rosemary Young, Mo Dening, Pat Jackson and I, Eve Kirby, have just returned from a two-week trip to Pannai, near Vellore.

"We were very well looked after. Everyone was helpful in guiding us to find work placements for next year... [and we] are very grateful for all the support....

"When we weren't out finding work placements, there were lots of opportunities to chat with the children and play with them. Always, always, the children were ready for our company. They were incredibly friendly. Mo explained, 'They are so keen to find out about life in England, to listen to our ideas and share their own views.'

"For me, personally, it was heart-warming to meet up with friends in India again, who invited us out for meals and made us feel so welcome. We agreed with Pat when she commented how humbled she felt by the people in India, how they had such a positive outlook on the future. We felt full of admiration for their hope and generosity inspired by faith in God."

- Mrs. Eve Kirby



THOUGHTS FROM THE SECRETARY :

On behalf of all of you friends and well wishers of the MBKG Pannai family, I would like to say a big "THANK YOU" to Dr. Earnest Dhanaraj for his selfless and committed service to the MBKGP during the two years he held charge as the Director of the Home and Correspondent of King's Matriculation School. He led us with wisdom and faith, and we will long remember Dr. Dhanaraj's unflinching devotion to God. We wish him well in all his future endeavors, and we assure him that we will continue to pray for him and his family. May God richly bless all that he does.

It is with God's abundant grace, your prayers and support together with the dedicated work of the staff at the MBKGP and the Principal and teachers of the King's Matriculation School that we continue to serve the children and elderly people who God has placed in our hands to look after and care for.

I am repeating my appeal to of all you, our well wishers in and around Vellore, that as much as the children need your financial support, they also desperately need your love and affection. We have 45 children below the age of five in the nursery who want to be carried, cuddled and kissed. This, dear friends, is something that you can do which will cost you nothing. Mr. The older children need friends with whom they can share their lives and who can guide and advise them on how they should plan their futures. We invite you to join with us in our family and be a part of our ministry to the children. We need your continued support in our effort to improve the quality of the lives of the children in our care. Please drop in when you can and build friendships with the children in the home. This is the need of the hour.

HOME NEWS

New Beginnings

We started off the New Year with an all-staff retreat on 2nd January. Mr. Anbu from Hagai Institute in Chennai came and spoke to us on "Faith in Action," our theme for this calendar year. During this gathering, the staff discussed ways in which we as a community can put our faith in God into action.

Founder's Day and Alumni Celebration



Dr. Pauline E. King was remembered on 20th January, the anniversary of her death. She founded MBKG Pannai with the vision of creating a community to provide a family for the destitute and abandoned. She leaves behind a legacy of children who have been brought up by Pannai and have entered society to become successful and responsible citizens. On 21st January, Pannai's alumni reunited to celebrate Dr. King's life and work. They shared their stories with the current residents of Pannai, describing their own struggles and achievements as well as the opportunities offered them by Pannai. The day had the air of a family reunion with speeches, good food, games and entertainment.



COME NOI

Come Noi, an Italian non-profit organization, has sponsored children at MBKG Pannai since 1992 and presently sponsors 26 of our children. It was founded over forty years ago by a young couple that, returning from a trip to India, realized the need to uplift the most poor in developing countries around the world. As well as supporting organizations such as MBKG Pannai in India, COME NOI also contributes to projects in Central and South America and Africa. We are grateful to COME NOI for their continued support.

Emerging Star

E. Rajeshwari is currently doing the 3rd year of a nursing degree at Christian Fellowship Hospital School of Nursing, in Oddanchatram, where she currently holds the first position in her class. The Principal of King's Matriculation School describes Rajeshwari as a "vivacious, sociable and quietly confident" young woman, who "is capable of being a great success in the field of work which she has chosen."



A young woman of faith and integrity, Rajeshwari is a role model to all. We are very proud of her and pray that she continues to be successful and blessed in all her endeavors.

Thanks

We extend our thanks to Sarah and Tyler Moriss, who have given MBKG Pannai US \$5000. For their Bar and Bat Mitzvahs, the Jewish coming of age ceremonies, Tyler and Sarah requested that instead of gifts, friends and family give them money which they promised to pass on to support our work here at MBKG Pannai. We are overwhelmed and inspired by these two young people's generosity and pray that God will bless them abundantly.



Tyler and Sarah Morris with their cousin

KING'S MATRICULATION SCHOOL NEWS

Republic Day and Sports Meet:

26th January

Mr. Samuel Abraham, Legal Advisor of CMC Hospital, opened our Republic Day celebrations by hoisting the National Flag. Mr. Samuel David, Personal Manager of CMC, declared open the Sports Meet, and his brother, Mr. David, lit the Olympic Torch. Junior school students performed a scintillating, colourful dance. Senior students marched house-wise past the stage, and select students performed a mass drill. Two 9th Standard students spoke eloquently about our country. Students also competed house-wise in a variety of games.



Mass drill



Mr. Samuel David

"King's Success"

We released the school magazine, this year entitled "King's Success," in which we recalled the year's accomplishments and showcased our students' writing and artwork. We are indebted to Mrs. Eve Kirby for her generous gift sponsoring this year's magazine. She, along with her friend Mo Dening, also contributed to the school by holding a workshop to enhance the skills of our teachers. We thank her and her friends for their continued support.

Mrs. Anna Hunter's Visit

We welcomed Mrs. Anna Hunter and her friend Mrs. Allison in an Indian fashion with a Guard of Honour when they came on 30th January. Students performed a cultural program for her, and Mrs. Anna Hunter responded with words of encouragement. We extend our heartfelt thanks for her visit as well as her continued support.



School Annual Day: 2nd March

Mr. Hari Gopalan was the Chief Guest at our School Annual Day function, and his wife Mrs. Thanga Prakash, presented the children with Certificates of Merit in General Proficiency. Mr. Hari Gopalan's speech was an inspirational one, and spoke directly to current educational trends. Delivered in Tamil, the speech won the parents' rapt attention.

As part and parcel of School Annual Day, we held the graduation ceremony for tenth standard students. We gave outgoing children a burning candle representing light of their education that they carry with them into the world.



Following the graduation ceremony, students gave a cultural program that included dances, songs and skits.

2007 Year of Faith in Action

These children are in need of sponsorship.
Join us in putting our faith into action by sponsoring a child!



Yuva shagar
3 yrs



Anitha
1 1/2 yrs



Dhanush
3 yrs



Bhuvanewari
4 1/2 yrs



Raghul
3 1/2 yrs

Visitors and Volunteers

Visitors and volunteers refresh and renew us, reminding us that our MBKG Pannai community extends beyond our walls, and indeed beyond the borders of our nation. Mrs. Anna Hunter, a major supporter of our children and school, paid us a visit along with her friend Mrs. Allison on 30th January.



Mrs. Anna Hunter, Mrs. Allison and Miss. Thandiwe visiting the nursery

We welcomed Santhosh, a long-time friend of Pannai's, for his visit of a few days in the middle of February.

Mrs. Eve Kirby, another long-time friend of Pannai, spent two weeks here researching placement opportunities for older women from the U.K. to come and serve the wider community here. She brought three other women with her: Mo Dening, Rosemary Young, and Pat Jackson. (Read about her experiences on page 1

"Impressions")

Two young women from the United Kingdom, Jo Garrett and Rachel Fine, stayed with us for a month during which they jumped right into working with our children both at home and at school, exposing them to English and assisting with English and Biology classes..



Jo Garrett and Rachel Fine

Janice Work Memorial Dining Hall

We are putting the final touches on our new centralized dining hall, in memory of Mrs. Janice Work. Through God's steadfast grace and the generosity of our supporters, especially Global Ministries in the United States and the Clyde Work family, we have been able to build this facility for our children! Please join us in grateful prayer!



Yes ! I want to put my faith into action by :

- Sponsoring a child for Rs.1350/US\$30 per month.
- Sponsoring a grand parent for Rs.1350/US\$30 per month.
- Helping in white-washing and painting of the cottages and Nursery for the amount of Rs. _____.
- Making a special gift of _____ to be used for _____.

I wish to make my gift by Credit Card (Overseas)

Type of card: _____
 Name of Bank: _____
 Card No: |_|_|_|_| |_|_|_|_| |_|_|_|_| |_|_|_|_|
 Name (as on card) _____
 Date of Birth: ___/___/___
 Card Expiry Date: ___/___/___

Signature _____

Personal Details :

Mr./Mrs./Ms _____

Address : _____

Phone : _____

Off : _____

Email : _____

Cheque/DD

For Rs. _____

(Make gifts out to M.B.K.G. Pannai)

A CONTRIBUTION TO MBKG PANNAI IS EXEMPTED UNDER SECTION 80(G) OF INCOME TAX. ACT 1961