

MUDHIYOR BALAR KUDUMBA GRAMA PANNAI

Family Village Farm

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NEWS LETTER
September-November
2004

Dear Friends,

*'For to us a child is born to us a son is given, and the government will be on His shoulders' **Isaiah 9:6***

We cannot all do great things, but we can do small things with great love. --Mother Teresa

The Children, Grandparents, House Mothers, staff and students of the Home and the King's school join me in wishing all of you a "Merry Christmas". It is our prayer that the Joy, Peace and Promise of Christmas remain with all of you throughout the New Year

We thank and praise God for all His blessings, mercy and guidance bestowed on us throughout this year. We thank each one of you for your prayers, greetings and support. Your prayers have brought us so many blessings and it gives us great pleasure to share with you all the happenings at the home and school through this news letter.

Visitors:

The visits of Volunteers and Sponsors bring us great joy as we share our ministry with them. The time spent by them with us is greatly appreciated and valued as they bring so much joy and happiness into the lives of our children with their many skills and talents

We look forward to having more of you to visit us and share in our ministry

We now look forward with great excitement to welcome to our midst the Clyde Work family (5 grand children!!!)

We thank Rev. Augustin of the C.S.I. Vellore Diocese for having brought the theological students from the U.S. as part of their exposure programme. We were very happy to have Charlie Smith and Jenila Smith with us soon after their marriage. They dropped in to see their sponsored child and to treat us all to a sumptuous dinner. "Thank. You" Charlie and Jenila "Our Best wishes to both of you for a very Happy Married life" We were happy to have David another sponsor with us for a couple of days. He was very happy to see his sponsored child and old friends here. It was a very joyous moment for us to have Rev. Herb and his great grand niece Jessie and Grand nephew Mathew to visit us. In the midst of their busy schedule they made it a point to see the sponsored children of their church and spend some time with them.

We are very happy to have with us Marie White from the U.K., Marie is the sister of Mr. John Field an old good friend of the MBKGP. Marie is a retired teacher, librarian. Counselor and a sportswoman. It was a joy and blessing to have Marie with us sharing her love and talents with us.

Home:

Admission: We have admitted eight new children in the Nursery during this period; altogether we have admitted twenty two children in the nursery this year

At present we have 186 residents at the Pannai comprising of 164 children 11 mothers and 11 aged grandparents. 34 of our children are staying in various hostels to pursue their higher education or professional courses.

Discharge: We have discharged David Raja who has completed his technical training at Tindivanam and is working in Coimbatore.

Mothers: We have appointed two new mothers for the nursery. We still need two more for the nursery and three more for the cottages. Please pray for this urgent need

Community Health Worker: We have appointed a Community health worker to give health care to all at the MBKGP.

Warden: Our nursery warden, Mrs. Premavathy Raja met with an accident and had a crack on her hip bone and is under treatment. Please pray for her quick and total recovery.

Retreat: During the quarterly holidays some of our boys attended the youth retreat at VRV Girls' Higher Secondary School. Some of our girls attended the youth retreat at CSI Central Church, Vellore.

Lamp Lighting Ceremony: Rajeshwari is doing her 1st year diploma nursing at Oddanchatram. Mrs. Prema, our nursery warden attended her lamp lighting ceremony in September.

Gifts from VIT students: We are thankful to the final year Vellore Institute of Technology students who gave lunch and note books, pens and some play things to Pannai children before their final exams.

Educational Performance: Sudha and Kasthuri who are doing secretarial course at Coimbatore stand first and third in their respective classes. Sathish Kumar has completed his B.Pharmacy course and is working as a lecturer in a Pharmacy College at Bangalore. Soon he will be joining his Masters course in Pharmacy.

We are happy that three of our boys who have joined professional courses have given a part of their earning to support their brothers and sisters at Pannai.

Our children have finished their Quarterly exam and II Mid-Term test. After analyzing their performance we are planning to give special coaching to the slow learners.

Activities during Quarterly Holidays: Children had different activities during Quarterly Holidays, such as study hours, conversation time, reading time, campus cleaning, kitchen cleaning, cottage cleaning and book binding. Memory verse competition and Bible quiz were conducted and prizes were given. On October 2nd which was Mahatma Gandhiji's Birthday we distributed chocolates to the children. Basket Ball, Volley Ball and Throw Ball matches were conducted for boys and girls. Mr. & Mrs. Walter our chief guests distributed the gifts for the winners. Children were taken for an outing to a small dam called "Raja Thowppu".

Children were shown video shows during their free hours.

Deepawali is a festival of lights, celebrated in India. New dresses were given to our children. They burnt crackers and had a talent evening where they sang some songs and danced. They had special eatables and briyani prepared by the mothers and cooks.

During the harvest festival of our local church our home child Latha got prize in the memory verse competition.

News from the Units:

Garment Making Unit: We are thankful to Christian Medical College Hospital, Vellore for their increased orders which keeps us busy at the Garment Units. It helps to improve their efficiency too

Bakery: We continue to make bread, buns, biscuits, cakes and puffs for sale. There is a great demand for almost all the products of this unit and we are making some profit. If we could promote the bakery sale further, and control it carefully, we can earn better. Our hostel boys are interested in this work, and spend their free time in the bakery and learning baking skills.

Gratitude:

A big Thank you from all at the MBKG Pannai to Mrs. Clyde Work and her family for their generous donation for the purchase of a new gas heated oven for the bakery and for the computer facility at the King's Matriculation School. We thank Mrs. Lynette Pickering and her family for their generous donation for the new Computers at the King's Matriculation School computer laboratory.

We thank and praise God for the following friends and Churches who came forward to sponsor our Children during the last three months. This is a major concern and we are praying that God opens the hearts of more Sponsors for our many UN sponsored children

SI.No	Child Name	Sponsor Name & Address
1	Geetha Kamaraj	United Church of Christ P.O. Box 158 Granville IL 61326-0158
2	Kaviya.G	St.Paul's United Church of Christ 626, Williams Grove Road Mechanicsburg PA 17055-7510
3	Santhosh. M	Dudley Christian Church % Lib Brannom Outreach and Service P.O.Box. 859 Dudley, NC 28333
4	Raghul	Ms. Mary Kathryn Krumrei TCV Box 293934 Fort worth, TX 76129
5	Ajeeth Kumar	Mr. Steve Gibbin 2, Beech Avenue Harrogate HG2 8DY England
6	Atchaya	Ms. Jessica Astor
7	Priya	Mr. Samuel David Assistant Manager- Personnel Christian Medical

College Hospital

Feed Mixing Unit: We are producing eight to ten tons of Cattle feed every month for the use in our dairy. The excess of four to five tons is sold to local farmers.

Dairy: Our Dairy is progressing and moving forward step by step. We hope that by June 2005 the Dairy would become profitable. Milk yield also has increased considerably. After covering the requirements of the home we are selling out the surplus milk through the Hatsun Chilling Center. We are expecting 6 animals to calve between January 2005 and May 2005s. We are fully concentrating to develop our heifers to improve our milk production. We hope to have three to four heifers by June 2005. We have worked out that if we have 20 milking animals, at all times we can run the dairy profitably. So, instead of buying new cows we hope to develop our own good heifer stock.

King's Matriculation School:

Examination: Our children have finished their Quarterly examination and had their holidays. The kitchen garden and the Botanical gardens are maintained well, which add to the beauty of the campus.

Teachers' Day: September 5th, our late President Dr. RadaKrishnan's Birth day is observed as Teachers' Day. The little Kids of the primary section greeted their teachers with flowers Their songs and dances made them feel that they are loved and cared for by the children. Video shows were arranged for senior section students.

Computer Classes: Computer classes are conducted regularly. During Quarterly Holidays VIII, IX and X standard students had computer classes. Report cards have been issued – Feedback – II Mid-Term tests were conducted in November.

Children's Day: November 14th, the Birth day of our late Prime Minister Jawaharlal Nehru is celebrated as children's Day. A nice tea was given to all the King's Matriculation School students. The staff of King's Matriculation School entertained the children with their speech, poem, songs and dances.

Thank you from the depths of our hearts:

To our dear friends Anna Hunter and her daughter Laura of Belgravia Gallery in London (www.belgraviagallery.com) for their continued support to the Home and the school

The Rev Phillip Collins Rector of Saint John the Baptist Church, Alresford. U.K. Miss Win Hubbard of the Christian Aware group

We thank the Lord for His faithfulness and the wonderful way He has blessed our Institution through many sponsors and friends and the wonderful ways of fulfilling our needs. We praise and thank God for opening the hearts of our sponsors and friends who have been of great support throughout the year. Only through your support and prayer we are able to bring about changes in the lives of so many who come to us. **We thank the Global Ministries especially Rev. James Vijaya Kumar and Linda Lawrence for their love and concern for our Institution and for all their support to us during the past year**

Prayer Concerns:

Furniture for Dining Hall: We are building a common dining hall at the home for the residents and need nearly Rupees. 1.75000 Or approximately USD 4000 towards equipping and furnishing the dining hall with Table and Chairs

Scholarship endowment fund for King's Matriculation School children:

The majority of the day students who attend the King's School are from very poor families. Their parents are mostly laborers and many are illiterate and unemployed. The continued drought in this part of India has caused widespread poverty. We are looking into ways of supporting these children. By giving them scholarships and subsidizing the cost of their education

We thank the Global Ministries for the first very generous contribution we received towards the Scholarship endowment fund. We also thank the many individual donors who have

contributed this year in providing scholarship for over 100 children

The need for growing the scholarship endowment fund continues and we would gratefully accept any donations to help this fund grow. To sponsor a child's education at the Kings School costs an average of USD \$ 130 per year

We are very grateful to the following friends and well wishers for their generous contribution to the King's school scholarship fund

Mrs. Annu Mammen from the CMC Hospital Vellore. Ms Susan George an ex volunteer, U.S.A.

The Waukomis Christian Church USA Ms Carolyn on behalf of her Sunday school

White washing and painting of the cottages: We need nearly Rupees 1, 25,000 or approximately USD 2750 towards the white washing and painting of the cottages, which is due after a period of four years

More sponsorship for children We continue to get requests for fresh admissions from deserving children and guardians. We consider each application for admission prayerfully and give admission when ever possible. At present there are 48 children in our Nursery and we do not even have sufficient number of Mothers to look after these children. We are however sure that God in His mercies will provide us our needs. We are always thankful to the Global Ministries for the new sponsors that they find for us from time to time We continue to pray for this very urgent need to find more sponsors for the children we have admitted, and for the many more who are waiting to join the family. Please do keep this urgent need in your prayers

Grand Parents and house mothers Sponsorship: At present there is no financial provision for the elderly residents of Pannai (the grand parents) and the housemothers who are destitute women who help in looking after the children and grandparents. As mentioned in the last News Letter, we would like to start a grandparent and house mother sponsorship programme. **Sponsoring a grandparent or a house mother for a month would cost US\$ 30.**

Endowment fund for Higher Education:

On the sponsored children reaching 18 years of age they are moved out/aged out of the Sponsorship programme.(i.e. their sponsorship ceases)

However we continue to support these children through their higher education or professional courses. We have a major crisis in this situation as these children do NOT get any sponsorship money and we are burdened with funding their higher/professional education which is turning out to be very expensive. We are in urgent need of funds to support them. We would like to build up an endowment fund for the higher education for un-sponsored children at Pannai. We seek your prayers and support to build this endowment

Request for Computers: We received money to purchase four computers from the Clyde Work family and Lynette Pickering. We are very grateful to these our friends for their generous gifts. We need to furnish the new computer laboratory as we are very keen to give the children in the school an opportunity to learn Computer skills and make them Computer literate with hands on experience in using the computer. We have NO funds to buy the computers and are looking for DONORS to equip the computer laboratory. **The Cost of one computer would be approximately USD 650.** Please do keep our requirements in your prayers and help us if you can

email ID

- Those who have email ID's please send us the same we would love to put you on our email mailing list.

Conclusion: As always my senior colleagues at the school and home Mrs.Vatsala Vijakumar the Principal of the King's School. Mr. Kiruba Daniel, The Administrative officer of the MBKGP and Mrs. Sheila Mahima Rufus, the Superintendent of Homes at the MBKGP send their greeting to all of you and join me in sharing the above newsletter. We look back at the year gone by and see again how marvelously God's hand has guided us. We look forward` to the new year with hope and expectations to do great things for His Glory. With confidence and hope we go forward and trust that our loving heavenly father would lead us in every step in moulding the lives of his

beloved little ones that he has left in our care. Thank you again for your prayers and support.

Thank you all for your support and prayers.

Tharyan Koshi

Director.

We wish you all a

MERRY CHRISTMAS

&

*A BRIGHT AND PROSPEROUS
NEW YEAR*