

Bombay 400 038

14th December, 1979

My dear Friends,

I am happy to have another occasion to write to you. Since I last wrote to you much has happened in our little Garden School. Many more flowers have blossomed through your kind generosity. Our poor children with their families live on roadside pavements and they have suffered much during the heavy Monsoon-rains. Most of their shanty huts were washed away and the damp round aggravated the suffering of our children and they broke out in scabies, conjunctivitis, influenza and bronchitis. The school became a mini-hospital. Thank God this has all passed and normalcy has returned.

Enclosed is a little surprise in the form of a greeting card addressed to you in English, by your sponsored child. The teachers have helped them. I've just discovered that every child has addressed the card to "Uncle and Amty" irrespective of the fact whether Uncle has a "Amty" or Amty has an "Uncle". If you find new names on your cards the reason is your sponsor child may have left the neighbourhood and sought residence elsewhere, so we have substituted a new child in place of the previous child. If you would like the picture of your new child, I'll be happy to send you one. On the 21st December, we are having a Christmas Party for the children. Each child will receive a school bag, a towel, a comb, a cake of soap and a tin of talcum powder. You will be surprised there are no toys included in the Christmas gifts -- the poor ones have neither the time nor the space to play doing family chores. We have chosen useful articles which will be very valuable for them. The comb and the towel may be the only one in the family. This year each child was provided with three sets of School Uniforms. They do look smart ! The photographs will show you how happy, clean and healthy they look -- thanks to your overwhelming generosity.

1980 is marked the "THE YEAR OF THE FAMILY". We are hoping to reach families of our children in the current year.

At a Thanksgiving Service preceding the Christmas Party all of you will be remembered in a very special way. I take this opportunity once again to sincerely thank each one of

you for your loving co-operation in this effort. I assure you
of a special remembrance in my prayers during the Holy Season of
Christmas. May 1980 bring each one of you God's choicest blessings
--His Love, Peace and Joy.

Yours gratefully in J & M

Sr. Felicity R. J. J.
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