

22nd July, 1979.

Dear Friends,

Greetings to you from your Carden children who no longer look at a fragment of life but life itself. Praise the Lord! and thank you all for your warming love.

The school reopened on the 6th of June, and since then it's been humming with life.

We have decided to keep a day of Thanksgiving every Wednesday. During this service each child prays aloud for his or her sponsor.

Heavenly Father,  
We praise you,  
we thank you, and  
we bless you  
for this wonderful feeling  
of oneness and wholeness.

Bless all our fathers and mothers,  
brothers and sisters  
in far away Australia.

Bless Father Barry,  
bless Aunty Philippa,  
bless all our benefactors.

O Father,  
bless all of them, and  
bless us, too.

We love you, Father,  
we love you  
with all our hearts...

Contd.....2/-

2.

Prayers like this and petals of flowers were offered to the Lord last Wednesday afternoon.

Philippa send us a thousand dollars from your contributions, and we have launched, as planned, our project of a semi-boarding life for the children.

They come to school at 8 a.m., have a shower (they have so very little water where they live - mostly on the pavements- their uniform, breakfast, and get off to their classes at 9.30 for their Three R's. The instruction is in English and the regional language, Marathi. We follow as far as possible the standard textbooks. At 1 p.m., they get back for a hearty hot meal of rice and curry, and fruit or sweet.

The afternoon session, from 2 to 4, that is, is reserved exclusively for vocational training. Boys and girls of 8 to 14 have a rage for Earn-and-Learn programmes. They have already shown their skill and craftsmanship in their hand-made Pot Hangers and bags, which we hope to sell to credit the money to their individual bank accounts. Already credited to the account of each child is Rs.5/- from your scholarships cash. The children now know that there is more life in the Garden than in chasing butterflies. Before going home at 4, they leave behind their uniforms and get into their own clothes.

Your donations have helped us to give them stationery, daily meals and two sets of uniforms.

Phillippa asked me to let you know what gifts you could send. Since a Gift Tax has come into force lately, I suggest that you send in some useful books and teaching aids, or just money with which we can buy them clothes, toys ....

Right now, what we need very badly for the Garden Community is a fridge and some audio-visual teaching aids which we can buy locally.

The trees are swaying in the breeze,  
Their branches gently nod;  
And all of nature seems to place  
Its confidence in God.

Why not we GARDEN CHILDREN do  
The same.....

Do we? Of course, we do.

With all my love for all you love,

Your grateful

Sister Felicity R.J.M.