

March 25, 1980.

Dear Friends,

I'm sorry I have to begin this news-letter with a very big apology - your Christmas mail reached you only in February due to my lack of foresight. Philippa did inform me about her trip to Perth but I hoped the mail would arrive in time. It didn't! I am happy to know you have seen the promised Pictures at last! We had hoped to have a T.V. Programme but it didn't materialise.

We've had an exciting term since Jan 8th - more admissions - this is a daily occurrence now - the fame of the Free Garden School has spread and so no one gets NO for an answer. But, many drop by the wayside - they attend a few days - drop out - return etc. when they have a regular attendance for 3 months - they are enrolled - given a uniform and a set of Books. So you see how these blossoms in the dust are nurtured and cared for. Many are planted some bloom others are transplanted - we never see them for months. Their parents will bring them back after months and expect readmission - as a right - reason - they had to go to their mother village and they were delayed.

As we approach the Holy Season of Easter, though most of them don't understand what Easter is. I find it an opportunity to send you a little greeting from your child. It's our way of saying Thanks for your very special T.L.C. without which this Programme could never continue.

On the 19th of April we will have our first Prize Distribution with a modest variety entertainment - Dances - Songs. P.T. (Physical Training) display for Parents, Friends and Benefactors, 15 of them will leave us to continue their Class IV schooling in a recognized School. They will continue to come here for meals - study etc. and we will continue to sponsor them. I cannot believe that they have reached the IV grade. This has been an exciting experiment.

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I marked each of you a gift made by the children "Macrame Pot Hangers". We paid the children as they completed each article - and banked the money they earned. I sent 10 parcels (sea mail) to 10 sponsors. Philippa will help to distribute them. Some of them are very good other are their first attempts but you will see that they have tried. I've asked Philippa to decide how the distribution is to be made.

I take this opportunity in wishing each one of you A Very Happy Easter with God's choicest blessings for you and your families. I always remember you in my prayers and I count on your prayers too.

With renewed thanks for all your kindness to God's children in Our Garden School.

Yours gratefully in J & M.

Sr. Felicity
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