

# PREM DAN

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March 11, 1997.

Dear Friends,

We are fast approaching the end of the Academic Year 1996-97. All our Schools will close in April. On the 18th of March, the High School Public Examination will commence. This year the following children are appearing for this examination.

1. Vaishali Padekar
2. Madhavi Bahadur
3. Evon Nadan
4. Geeta Khandka
5. Manisha Sose
6. Priya Singh
7. Anand Abaji
8. Raju Kotian

The number of girls who are completing their studies are also increasing. It is an indication that both their parents and the children have seen the need for education. I'm sure all of them will do well.

We are proud of four of our children who were elected Prefects in Holy Name High School. They are Anjali Sose, Reshma Jadhav, Soni Kotian and Poonam Issai. As you can see, they are shining examples of what the down-trodden can achieve if they are given the opportunity. I congratulate all their Sponsors.

## MY DREAM PROJECT :

Prem Dan's Social Service Centre at New Bombay has come off the ground. The shuttering for the first floor is complete and by the time this Newsletter reaches you, the first floor concrete slab will be complete. The contract for the electrical work has already been awarded to the selected contractor, and the work of laying the conduits completed to enable the casting of the slab.

We propose to complete the outer shell of the building before the onset of the monsoons; during the rains, the inside plastering and fitting of fixtures will continue; hoping that the building will be fit for occupation by Christmas of this year. I thank all our sponsors who have already sent in their contributions towards the building fund.

At the end of this academic year, we will have to bid farewell to one of our oldest teachers, Mrs. Susan Mathews, who will retire after 17 years of dedicated service. Susan joined the Garden School when we had no funds and she took up the challenge, without any remuneration. A million thanks, Susan, for your generosity and loyalty, to Prem Dan and her various needs.

Wedding Bells will ring on the 10th of May, for one of our teachers from Reay Road Slum School, namely Ms. Vela Joseph. We wish her God's choicest Blessings and Graces in her married life. We also thank Vela for being a pioneer in our Reay Road School which is now flourishing.

May I remind our sponsors to let us know when there is a change of address. We had a few Newsletters returned to us, due to this change. Thank You.

This week, all the children from our three Schools will be going for their Annual Picnic with their teachers. They are really looking forward to this event.

The beautiful season of Easter is almost here and I am happy to share a few thoughts with you. Jesus himself is the way, the light and the truth, and during his life on earth, he showed us by word and by deed, the way to God, gave us the light, insight and understanding, and told us the truth about God and God's relationship with us. While He loved all and everyone, His preferential option was for those who were rejected by the society and the established religion of His time, the down-trodden, the destitute, the suffering, those who found it difficult to adhere to the many laws with which they were burdened or those who somehow did not fit in with the righteous of his time.

It is your privilege dear friends, to share in this particular Mission of Christ, namely to participate in the uplifting of Christ's poor through Prem Dan. I take this opportunity to thank each and everyone of you for your involvement in this Mission.

I wish each one of you a Very Happy and Holy Easter. I assure you a special remembrance in my prayers. With renewed thanks for all you do for Prem Dan.

Yours gratefully in Jesus and Mary

(SR. FELICITY MORRIS)