



# PREM DAN NEWSLETTER

Christmas 2006



Dear Friends,

- In June, we bid farewell to Sr. Maria D'Mello who was transferred to another house in Mumbai and welcomed Sr. Asha into the Prem Dan family.
- July was a month of tragedy in Mumbai with floods in the first week and 7 bomb blasts on the 11<sup>th</sup> of July. Many people lost their lives and many more were injured and maimed. Fortunately Prem Dan had no casualties of any kind and was able to reach out in a small way to families who had lost everything.
- The Rotary Club of Bombay Hills South took 4 one-hour sessions for the children in the month of July to mark Literacy month. On the last day they distributed crayons and chocolates to the children.
- The NSS Unit of HR College spent an hour a day for the month of September to interact with the Garden school children as part of their literacy drive.



- The children who attend the tuition classes every evening went for a picnic on 3<sup>rd</sup> September to **Bhivpuri waterfalls** at Karjat.

- Teachers Day was celebrated on 5<sup>th</sup> September with a meaningful prayer service followed by games and lunch.

- The Sewing class at Reay Road completed its first batch with an exhibition of the work accomplished on 13<sup>th</sup> July. 25 students received their **certificates** from Jan Shikshan Sansthan.



- On 9<sup>th</sup> Sept, the students from HR College came to interact with and teach the Garden school children.

- Prem Dan Staff celebrated **Sr. Maria's Golden Jubilee of Religious life** on 17<sup>th</sup> September at Convent of Jesus and Mary, Byculla. It was a day of joy for all of us.

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- Come October and there's just one feeling all over. A feeling of joy & happiness. A time for dance, music and devotion. Dandiya-Raas is played with wooden sticks (dandiya). In keeping with Navaratri celebrations in Mumbai, the Garden school children enjoyed doing the dandiya dance.

Yes, the most awaited festival by people from all walks of life –Navaratri lasts nine days and nine nights and is celebrated in different styles throughout India. The word "Navaratri" actually means nine (Nava) nights (ratri). The tenth day, also known as, Dassera is significant to launch new activities or beginning of learning. It signifies the good winning over the evil. It is believed that on this day, Lord Rama had killed the demon Ravana. So, on Dassera, effigies of Ravana are burnt all over India



- Children's Day celebrated on 14<sup>th</sup> November, the birthday of Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru.

Wishing you and your families a Christmas filled with God's blessings, peace and joy.

*A  
HAPPY  
CHRISTMAS*



*A  
HAPPY  
NEW YEAR*

With love and gratitude,

**Sr. Felicity Morris and Sr. Patricia Santos**

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