

PREM DAN NEWSLETTER

Easter 2008

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Dear Friends,

ALLELUIA !!!

In December 2007, we celebrated Christmas Day – the beginning of new life, represented by the birth of baby Jesus. New life, like in the birth of everything. Men and women, the birds and bees, animals, trees and flora. And we remind ourselves of our birth too.

Soon we meet the spectre of death and realise we must die too, as Christ died on Good Friday. But that is not the end. He has shown us that, there is life after death. EASTER morning celebrates this; the coming of gladness after the gloom and sadness of Lent; the Passion and death of Jesus Christ.

Easter means coming back to life, new beginnings.

How do we encompass this new beginning? There are many ways in which we can do this. One is by examining our life in relation to how we can help our deprived fellowmen to a new life of joy and happiness.

We in our own busy life, tend to forget that there are very many, in our country, in Mumbai, especially children, who yearn for a morsel of food, clothing, shelter and love. But looking after our own homes, our problems, and facing up to the challenges of each day, it is likely that we forget those who face the daily hurdles of living. Living like human beings.

We can't put all our daily tasks aside, but surely we can set aside the means for someone else to make a difference. At Prem Dan we help you do just that. Through our regular bulletins you are aware of the activities, all made possible by the generous help and donations from those who sincerely feel that "whatsoever you do to the least of My brethren you do unto Me".

Easter is symbolised the world over by the Easter egg. New beginnings, new life. Come back to life – and LIVE! And peace be with you.



HIGHLIGHTS

On January 26, 2008, Republic Day, we held our Sports day for our five kindergarten classes.



Sr. Felicity was our Chief Guest. We took this opportunity to collectively pray and ask for God's blessings for her, on her 80th birthday!



DECEMBER 2007

- ✘ Champion School Primary Section shared their snacks with three classes of our kindergarten children as part of establishing a bond with them.
- ✘ J.B. Petit School distributed toothpaste to our children
- ✘ Meena and Gunthard from Germany visited Garden School and met some of the children sponsored by their friends.
- ✘ Mary O Neil and Polly Forbes from England spent five days with our children at the boarding in Kharghar. They conducted sessions in Art, Craft, conducted enjoyable games and taught them lively songs.

JANUARY 2008

We appreciate the occasional visits from sponsors benefactors and friends

- ✘ Brigitte Dispret and Veronique from Belgium.
- ✘ Joy Becher and Bob Richardson from U.S.A -
- ✘ Novices from the Carmelite Novitiate – Pune came to Prem Dan for three weeks to have an experience of working with street children.
- ✘ Erin, Jude and Dan arrived here from Manchester England.
- ✘ Bernadette Dome from Belgium.
- ✘ Marina Pamela from Italy.
- ✘ 30 Children from our Reay Road class were given slumber kits by the Rotary Club of Queens Necklace.
- ✘ Other visitors from Lufthansa, Alitalia Crew who came frequently.



FEBRUARY 2008

- ✘ Bindu Seth and Anju Siraj of Rotary Club of Queens Necklace organised an enjoyable entertainment programme with 80 students of Lady's Engineering School of Std. IX and Std.X.
- ✘ Mr. Eddie Moore with Priya and the team of six staff and 25 students of Aquinas College Manchester came to Premdan.

From the 7th -13th they conducted six workshops. Children from Garden School, Slum School at Reay Road and the boarding at Kharghar were present. The workshops included games, art, and craft, story-telling and a number of other activities. *We* are grateful to the staff and students for their wonderful planning and organization and for tirelessly working with our children.

We are grateful for your generosity May God Bless and reward each one of you.

- ✘ Anju Siraj through the Rotary Club of Queens Necklace made it possible for ten children – to attend Paper Sculpting, each obtaining certificates of participation.
- ✘ On 24th we celebrated sponsors day. Our children paid tribute to our sponsors and expressed their gratitude to God for the help they receive from their sponsors.



A gentle reminder to renew your annual sponsorships by the first week of June so as to enable us to pay the fees of children in time.

Our grateful thanks to our staff, volunteers, students from St. Xaviers College, children from Fort Convent and St. Annes High School, for their interactions with our children and for all the help provided to help the children learn and grow. We are grateful for the support of our sponsors, benefactors and friends.

*May the Risen Lord bless you
and your Family.*

With our love and gratitude

*Sr. Felicity Morris, Sr. Patricia Santos
Sr. Asha Ohol, Sr. Juanita Coelho,
& all at Prem Dan*

