



PREMDAN NEWSLETTER

JULY 2009

15 Nathalal Parekh Marg, Mumbai - 400 001 . INDIA Tel: 022 22841975

"Teach this triple truth to all: A generous heart, kind speech, and a life of service and compassion are the things which renew humanity."

Dear Friends,

As our children embark on a whole new academic year, it provides us all chance to reach out and touch their little hearts and fill their life with new hope and meaning. The feeling of hope and meaning although is a mutual one, as helping the children not only heals our lives but also makes us happier and fulfilled individuals.

We are happy that all our sponsors, are part of this **mission of love** in this incomprehensible world.

Thank you all and God Bless.

Our grateful thanks and prayerful wishes are with our dear Sr. Asha Ohol, who has left us to join the Premdan boarding in Kharghar. We thank her immensely for helping to reach out to the children in Premdan during the two years she was with us. May God bless and reward her.

We also extend a warm welcome to Sr Vidya Pathare, who has joined the Premdan team.



New Admissions June 2009

Admissions were held on June 8 -9, 2009. A total number of 210 students were admitted in the six kindergarten classes which include the Garden school, The Reay Road school, and the Geeta Nagar school.



Results declared in June 2009

We are Proud of our SSC Students!

35 students appeared for the Secondary School Certificate Examination and all were successful.

Distinction: Arvind Pandey, Joana Lukas, Cynthiya Alphonso.

First Class: Ashish Rathod, Kailash Jadhav, Salim Sayyed, Sujjadalli Shaikh, Sunita Rathod, Masrin Khan, Shamim Ansari, Sheela David, Jacintha Gomes, Siddharth Adsul, Kunal Kanojia,

Second Class: Ayesha Khan, Karan Pardesi, Lizel Rebello, Soniya Gildiyal, Punam Deepchand, Fabian Velankanni, Heena Shaikh, Kavita Naidu, Mangesh Chavan, Nishant Ghadge, Sujata Rajan, Suruti Golekar, Jyoti Salve, Sandesh Khadka, Lavina Regvel, Sharon D'souza, Larissa Fernandes.

Pass Class Linet D'mello, Lucy Fernandes, Arti Jadhav, Jyostna Gounder.

Emma and Mark from Aquinas College, Manchester England write about their experiences at Premdan

Our college helps raise money to support the Premdan organisation and sponsor children so we were lucky enough to have the opportunity of coming to India to meet these children and to offer our help. We were so excited and nervous before arriving and we didn't know what to expect, but everyone at Premdan made us feel so welcome.

Our first impression was how big and noisy each class was and what a struggle it must be for the teacher! We were amazed at the good work done by the teachers, since the children were writing, reading and speaking basic English, which is more than a five year old in England. We really loved the atmosphere of the garden school, everyone was so happy and more importantly the children seemed to be having fun learning.

Throughout my time I was mainly helping a boy called Sidharth. He did not know his alphabet and was lagging behind. Now, he seems much more familiar with the letters and he knows lots of English words, anyway we had a lot of fun learning! I spent a lot of my time playing with the children, hide and seek, catch etc and they were all so cute. It was funny having ten children hanging off each arm! They are very poor children but are very happy with what they have, The children back home could learn a lot from them. I thank the Garden school for the amazing time I had.

Emma

I was helping a boy called Daniel, and a girl called Shamika. Daniel really didn't enjoy writing the alphabet but his knowledge of animals, fruit and transport was amazing. Shamika loved to draw, it would be hard work doing anything involving a pencil unless it was drawing and colouring, i think one day she will be a famous artist. All the children in Ms Vela's class were so much fun and cheeky, I enjoyed watching their spontaneous dancing whenever Ms Vela left the room. The Garden school was a peaceful sanctuary from the busy streets of Mumbai. Thank you to all the staff and children at the Garden school and for making us feel so welcome.

Mark

We thank you, our dear sponsors for promptly renewing your sponsorships, thus enabling us to pay the children's fees in time. A gentle reminder to those who have yet to send their sponsorship money.

A warm welcome to our new sponsors who are now part of the Premdan family. You will receive regular information from Premdan and letters from your child during the year. Together we can help our children aim higher to live better lives with dignity and respect.

We also thank our benefactors and sponsors for donating all the useful items, sponsorships towards the feeding programme

Don't Anticipate Just Participate

"Don't Anticipate Just Participate" was the theme of the Khandala Camp held from the 21st to 24th April 2009.

The journey started on the 21st of April at 7.30 a.m. from The Premdan Garden School by bus. There were 13 boys from class 8th & 9th from different schools who participated. They were accompanied by 4 animators and a cook. Each day the programme introduced a new variety of workshops that the children participated in enthusiastically and whole-heartedly. Our motto of the camp was "Don't anticipate just participate".

The 4 day programme included different methods of prayer, group games like dum sharade, fixing 'T', mind hunting etc as well as outdoor games like pig tail dodge ball, human basket ball, French cricket, etc.



Value based sessions like 'Who am I', photo language, aims and goal settings, cleanliness, personality development, and lateral thinking were some of the key highlights of the sessions. Team building included group formation, slogans, skit, creativity, drawing competition etc. The children were also taken trekking up the scenic hills and for a swim in the nearby lake. Apart from this every evening was a fun filled evening that included sing-song sessions, action song, mimicry, skit, music and jam sessions.

The camp was an enriching and fruitful experience. The active participation from the students and whole hearted support of the animators brought joy to each one of us. Each animator contributed their expertise to make this camp a real success. This experience would definitely help us to reach new avenues in our lives as we move along our journey.

Thanks to the Sisters at 'Premdan' for giving me the opportunity to animate this camp. God Bless you.

Br. Godwin Fernandes
Animator

Our Sincere thanks and Prayerful wishes to you and your families...

Sr. Felicity Morris, Sr. Juanita Coelho, Sr. Vidya Pathare & all the Staff at Premdan

