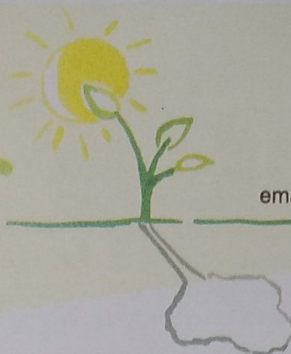


premdan newsletter

August 2021



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Welcome to another issue of the Prem Dan newsletter! The Pandemic and the ensuing lockdown have continued to affect our activities as things are still at a standstill, but we did not lose heart. This report is all about hope and how instead of saying "No activities" we continued to reach out in every way we could in our own small ways. A ray of sunshine has emerged with the Government recently relaxing some of the rules. Trains have started operating and those who have been vaccinated are being issued rail passes so normalcy is returning. And soon we hope our teachers will start attending our school. Our online classes are on with the students attending the online classes. Tabs have been provided to them while they are in school and these are returned and given to them each day.

The lockdown brought with it stories of horror but also stories of joy and this is what we want to highlight in this issue of the Prem Dan newsletter.

While our regular activities will resume, we are sure we will be able to share the report only in our next issue. This seemed like the right time to share with you some of the success stories of our past students.

Testimonies



Dolly the eldest is a marketing executive in Dubai.

Beginning with the **Regvel Sisters**. The four sisters who are pictured alongside are soothing balms and inspirations to our students. They all credit their success to the opportunity they got with Prem Dan and the support of their sponsors. And almost 20 years later, they are grateful for the start in their lives.



Jessy is a successful HR Manager and feels that this would not have been possible without Mother Felicity, the sisters of CJM and their sponsors.

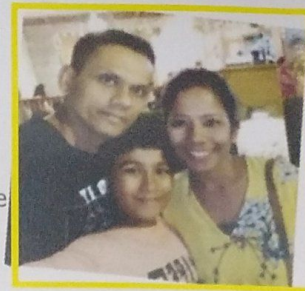


Lavina the youngest is a Quality Analyst with J P Morgan Chase. She credits her success to the love and care bestowed by the sisters who treated her as one of their own and her sponsor Mr. Thomas Feix.



Margaret is a senior analyst at TCS. She describes her time at Prem Dan as a happy place where she learnt kindness. She is grateful that the sisters from Prem Dan kept in touch with them even after they left the place to ensure their continued well-being. And of course she thanks the sponsor because of whom she was able to get educated.

Madhavi Bahadur states "God could not be everywhere therefore He made 'Mothers'. I truly believe this, as thanks to Prem Dan, I have a biological mother and the humble and loving Sr. Felicity. Unconditional love and support including financial aid from my German Sponsor enabled me to study at one of the best convent schools and to attain higher education. I am now happily married with a 13 year old son and working at a reputed firm in a reputable position. Words will never be enough to express my sincere gratitude to Prem Dan and Uncle Tommi my sponsor.



Our entire family is truly grateful to Prem Dan for all the help they extended to our four member family says **Rebecca Kasbe**. Both my parents were unemployed and my mother was offered a job at the garden school. My brother Robin and I were educated at Holy Name High School and I graduated from Sydenham Holzman College of Commerce in banking and insurance. Garden school has touched our lives in every way. Our sponsor Rosemarie Fischer with her friend Mrs. Meena and Mr. Gunthard kept in touch and even visited us in Mumbai. In fact, Rosemarie Fischer always remembered my birthdays and Christmas.



William D'silva is married to a school teacher with three lovely kids. His mother brought him to Mother Felicity and she did not allow him to return home. In fact, he loved the school so much that when his mother visited him with food and snacks, he would rush into school, not looking back. On completing school he got into catering, worked in a Cruise Liner and is now works for a catering unit in Kalyan in the F&B department. Had it not been for Prem Dan and his sponsors he would not have reached the position he is now, he says.

Another grateful heart is that of **Genevieve Houston**. She says that growing up she did not feel she belonged anywhere but she is truly grateful to Prem Dan and Mother Felicity who were there for her every step of the way.



School supplies to boarding school fees and then a secretarial training to enable her to stand on her own feet.

She is now married with three children in Washington DC and she credits her success to the generosity of her sponsor and Mother Felicity.

Dr. Pooja Nair a physiotherapist is another success story. She was associated with Prem Dan since she was five years old. She wrote letters to her sponsor Uncle Hannes throughout her school career and his letters to her are still safe and treasured. "I am so glad I had garden school in my early childhood days, it inculcated values and morals that were influenced by the loving and caring sisters and staff of Garden school."



"Pooja, work hard and make your parents and us proud" has been her mantra to achieve whatever she could and will continue to be her driving force to do better than yesterday!



Prem Dan has been a blessing to me, I remember when my parents were looking for a school and found it difficult to pay my school fees due to financial issues, says **Jyoti Manik Salve**.

Thanks to my sponsors and Mother Felicity who paid my fees, today I am qualified as a B Com B.Ed teacher and work in an International school in Doha Qatar.

A Farewell



Our grateful thanks and prayerful wishes are with our dear SR. ASHA OHOL, she left us to join the Provincial House Community-Pune in June We thank her immensely for helping to reach out to the children and women in Prem Dan during the three years she was with us.



A WARM WELCOME to SR. ROSLIN PINTO who has joined the Prem Dan Team.

Events

3rd February: The Feast of St. Claudine was celebrated with a meaningful prayer service and prayer dance organized by our Prem Dan staff and students at Garden School. They felicitated the Sisters .All enjoyed the sumptuous food prepared by our cook with so much of love.



According to the famous book "Seven Habits of Successful People" by Steven Covey, it is important to sharpen the Saw and it is with that in mind that we conducted an Inservice Training for the staff of Prem Dan.

An Online Orientation talk was conducted by Fr. Peter Michael on the theme "Teachers – Builders of a Better Tomorrow". The teachers found the session very fascinating, insightful, motivating and helpful to become better teachers and the program was appreciated by them.

In a similar vein an online orientation talk was also conducted by Fr. Peter Michael for the support staff on the topic of "Sharpening the Life Skills". It was extremely helpful to face the pandemic situation. An exciting and enriching experience for the staff and they appreciated the training.

26.03.2021

Taj Group organized Online Webinar of Art & Drawing in our Prem Dan – Garden School Children enjoyed participating this activity very much. It was good relaxation for their minds.



The Lions Club Mumbai donated 25 umbrellas for the underprivileged women from the vicinity They also notebooks for 25 of our Prem Dan children. As you can see there were smiles all around at the generous acts of our sponsors.

Lunch was served by Lions Club at the Garden School.



We thank **Mr. Kanuga** for his generosity in donating dry ration for 30 families. May God bless him for his noble gesture.

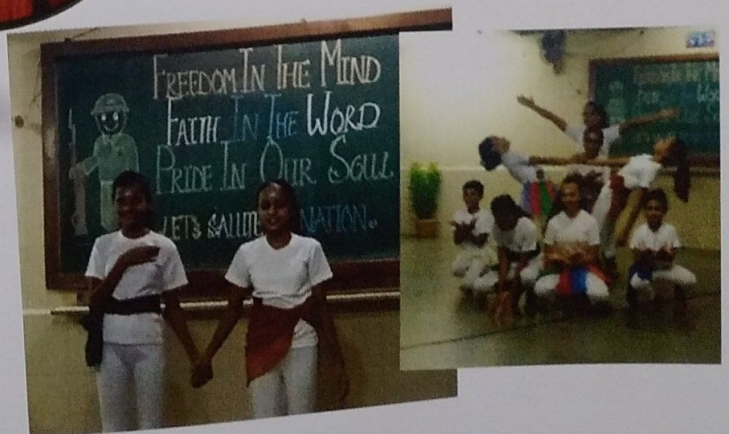
Kharghar Boarding School



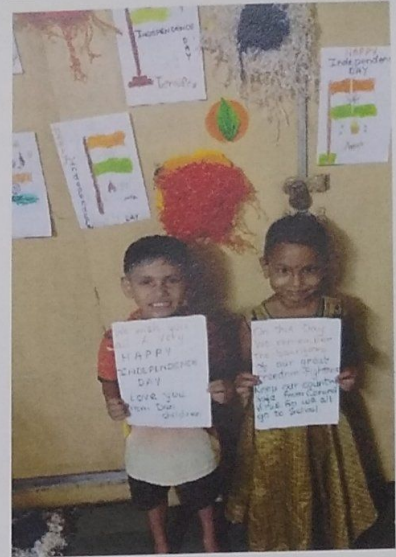
After a restful vacation, our girls were happy to be back at our Kharghar boarding school, when we reopened our doors to welcome them on July 16, 2021.

Some of the activities conducted by us at this facility are attending the online classes of the Convent of Jesus & Mary High School (CJM), Kharghar.

We also equip them with life skills like cooking, gardening and housekeeping. They attend computer classes to learn basic computer skills. They celebrate festivals like Diwali and Christmas and participate in events like the fancy dress competitions.



Independence Day Celebration at Garden School



Independence Day celebration at Kharghar Boarding

Inner wheel of Navi Mumbai Sunrise Jointly with Rotary Club of Navi Mumbai Sunrise organized a Grand Cultural show on Independence Day 15th August 2021. Our Boarding girls Participated in the Cultural Programme on Zoom.

Prem Dan, Geeta Nagar

This is an outpost located in the Colaba slum pocket. We used to have a Bal Wadi (Children's nook) for junior kindergarten students. Unfortunately, right now this facility has been shut because of lockdown rules. However, we continue to supply dry rations to the families of the children since we have sponsored children in the locality and educating them remains our priority.



Reay Road

Just like in Colaba, we also have a Bal wadi (Children's nook) for the tiny tots at Reay Road. Due to the lockdown over here too, we have only been able to reach out to the families with dry rations and other material when and where necessary.

We have also distributed pre-owned clothes, toys and footwear in good condition in both these areas.



WE ARE PROUD to announce the results of our students who appeared for the Board exams in 2021 Grade 10th All the 47 students have passed.

Below are the names of the students :

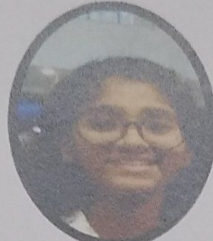
Rehan Khan, Ashish Gullaya, Akash Jaiswal, Krutika Sawant, Shivika Baghwane, Mahenoor Shaikh, Piyush Isai, Ibrahim Ansari, Samntha Mendonca, Alwin Frijith, Unnnati Kashid, Aatika Khatoon, Arjun Anjapuli, Siddant Bandre, Manisha Gupta, Jayaprakash Adhi, Israthnoori Hassibur, Sweta Gupta, Harsha Sardar, Yuvraj Chavan, Prathmesh Tambe, Shifa Shaikh, Raj Kalekar, Pooja Gupta, Neha Jagtap, Ramu Chavan, Alfia Shaikh, Shiva Prajapati, Krish Anthony, Kiffer Kerkatta, Ishwar Chavan, Taiba Mulla, Krish Tandel, Nisha Chintakunta, Prem Rathod, Sakina Shaikh Khatoon, Nitisha Jadhv, Muskan Ansari, Bhoomi Gupta, Rohit Pawar, Belicia Braganza, Kogani Shine, Priya Medekar, Ashish Pawar, Tanish Patil, Sabiya Khatun, Niteesha Pawar.



Bhoomi Gupta 76%



Sweta Gupta 76.20%



Belicia Braganza 89%



Mansi Naikar 72%



Jennifer Fernandes 68%



Neha Naikar 64%

GONE TO THE LORD

We are deeply sad to announce the demise of our long term benefactors and sponsors

Mrs. Ursula Feix beloved wife of Mr. Jurgen Feix and Mother of Tomas Feix – Germany.

Who passed away on 7th August 2021.

Mrs. Jean and Mr. Simone

Rocle – beloved parents of Christine Pelegrin – France.

Passed away in February 2021 and May 2021 respectively.

Sisters of Sr. Felicity Morris –

Mrs. Jean Murphy passed away on 12th April 2021 and Mrs. Marie Narayan passed away on 30th May 2021.

Mr. Laxmen Prabhu –

beloved wife of our teacher Celine Prabhu passed away 12th May 2021.

**MAY THEIR SOULS
REST IN PEACE**

We thank you, dear sponsors for promptly renewing your sponsorship, thus enabling us to pay the children's fees in time. Without your help it not have been possible for these children to complete their education. Many of them have already taken admission in Junior Colleges. A warm welcome to our new sponsors who are now part of the Prem Dan family.

Together we can help our children aim higher to live better lives with dignity and respect. As we take off on a New Academic Year, we thank you immensely and pray for God's choicest blessings on you and your families.

*With love and gratitude,
Srs. Felicity, Helen, Roslin
& all the Staff at Prem Dan.*

