

NEWSLETTER

December 2017

THE LATEST NEWS ON THE CHILDREN



The older girls have recently been busy showing the younger ones how to use the computer... and they really enjoy it! During the month of October, the school focussed on literature and the sisters encouraged the children to spend lots of time reading at home. They also read stories to the 'little ones' and as well as being important, it is also a lot of fun!



In mid-November all sorts of prizes were awarded at school. Among others, awards for good leadership and for the pupil who was the most friendly and helpful. It was a very enjoyable and festive day and afterwards, the children organized their own party back at the orphanage. They were treated with an extra delicious dish for lunch and then played games together.



The children are all very helpful in caring for the plants, preparing food, tidying up their rooms, sweeping the floor, etc..... after all, as they say, many hands make light work.

Over recent weeks the children have been busy with their exams... just before the start of the holidays on December 1st. The school year was rounded off with a special Christmas celebration.

On the first day of the holidays they took a trip to a 'swimming paradise'... and, needless to say, they all enjoyed it immensely!



On December 12th the children started building the 'Christmas manger' and on Christmas Eve they will all attend the midnight mass. On Christmas Day the sisters will prepare a special Christmas dinner and then some modest presents will be handed out to the children. At the end of the meal everyone will have a piece of their own homemade Christmas cake!



After Christmas, preparations for the new school year will begin. Wrapping books, checking and /or mending the uniforms, etc... and on the 2nd or 3rd of January, the new school year will begin.



A wonderful water feast!

A VISIT TO THE KELANIYA ORPHANAGE

Now and then people, who are going to tour around Sri Lanka and are interested in our work, ask us whether they might visit one of our orphanages. Needless to say, everyone is more than welcome! Just to illustrate, a section of a very nice letter that we received from one of our visitors!



"I Enjoyed (with a capital letter E!) my visit so much! What a marvellous, warm welcome. Sister Amatha must have, at least, four hearts... what a sweet, amazing and wonderful woman. You can be absolutely very proud of her. And, of course, the children, they stole my heart away and now have a permanent place in the centre of it! There is such a nice, pleasant atmosphere in the home, where the children can grow up happily and safely. They proudly showed me their writings and drawings, which, bit by bit, indicated how they view their lives and what they think that the future holds for them. A future, which has now become feasible, thanks to your endeavours."

WE'LL SOON BE VISITING OUR FOURTH ORPHANAGE

The end is near! In January our fourth orphanage will officially be opened. All our board members are going to attend the official opening ceremonies. We are all so looking forward to it! (Needless to say, we will bear all the travel and accommodation costs ourselves!) In the next newsletter we will provide an extensive report on the festivities around the opening. Of course we will include quite some photo's! Whilst we are in Sri Lanka, we will also take advantage of the opportunity to

visit the other orphanages. Due to the increase in material costs, the building expenses have ended up higher than foreseen. Fortunately, due to the proceeds after our Power Point presentations and the results of our attendance at various Christmas markets, plus your gifts and donations, we may find ourselves in the position to be able to meet these unexpected extra costs!



... our sincerest thanks for your support over the past year!

DONATIONS AND THE TAXMAN!

Since 2014 the rules for tax deduction on periodic gifts have changed. Our treasurer will be happy to provide more details, or you can look for the information on our website.



POWER POINT PRESENTATIONS

Would you like to know more about our orphanages, as well as the history, religious culture and daily life in Sri Lanka? Just let us know. We will be pleased to come and offer you a Power Point presentation.

If you would like to find out more and/or see other photographs... simply go to our website:
www.stichtingnetherlandssrilanka.nl

HELP US MAKE SAVINGS!

If you would like to receive our Newsletters by e-mail, please let us know. It would mean that we can then save on postage costs... after all, every little bit helps!



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With kind regards,



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