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NEWSLETTER

MAY 2016

LATEST NEWS ON THE CHILDREN:



At the beginning of March, the children completed the first examinations of the new school year. Following these they enjoyed a two week holiday, during which they all celebrated the Easter festival. Both the Sinhalese and the Tamil New Year was celebrated. The Buddhist



New Year is a three day feast which always takes place at the first full moon in April.

Throughout the country, people dress in traditional attire and enjoy a wide range of sporting events and a variety of festivities. During these activities they eat traditional food, such as special milk rice made from “Ghee” (buffalo milk) and “Jaggery”, which is a kind of sugar. The children find this absolutely delicious!



Needless to say, our children all take part in these celebrations, as it is important that they learn both the traditions and the different religions of their own country.

SISTER AMATHA:



At the end of January, we received some very disturbing news. Sister Amatha was taken ill, and following a series of tests, it was discovered - to our great shock - that she had developed a brain tumour. It was decided that she would go to Italy, to be operated on in Milan, after which she would be able to recuperate in Naples. Fortunately the surgeons were able to remove the tumour entirely. During her revalidation in Italy two of our committee members went to visit her. She was very pleased



and touched by the attention! The representatives of our committee, Elsbeth and Tanja, were warmly received by the sisters. Much to her joy Sister Amatha was allowed to return to Sri Lanka in early May. She had missed the children enormously... and they had missed her just as much! Needless to say, we are all delighted that Sister Amatha is recovering so well... but for the time being, she must be careful and take things easy!

.....Whoever saves a child, saves the world.....

WEDDING BELLS!:

We received an e-mail from sister Amatha, with the following photograph, proudly announcing the wedding of one of the very first children that she took into her care. It is so nice to see that the girls, even as a 'blushing bride', still keep in touch with her!



BIRTHDAY PRESENTS:

Four ladies who recently celebrated their 80th, 95th, 97th and 100th birthday requested that, instead of giving presents, their guests should present them with 'an envelope'. They donated the contents of these envelopes to our foundation: "For the little Children in Sri Lanka". What a generous gesture! And our sincere thanks for these kind gifts.



FLOODING IN SRI LANKA:

Last week we were shocked to learn that Sri Lanka had been hit by floods and landslides. We immediately contacted sister Amatha who could report that the children and sisters were safe and were in no immediate danger of these natural disasters, although in Kelaniya there was one area close to our orphanage, where the river banks had been breached. To be on the safe side, the children are staying on the second floor of the building. Should water levels rise still higher, arrangements will be made for temporary alternative accommodation. Needless to say, we hope that this will not be necessary.

RECENT ACTIVITIES :

At the festivities on the Dutch king's birthday, the foundation was present at the 'King's Market' in the town of Goes. Here we distributed folders, provided people with information on our activities and sold a wide range of items on behalf of the organisation. Michel made and sold candyfloss while Jikke applied beautiful glitter tattoos to children. In this way we all contribute to collect funds for the children of Sri Lanka. At the Mothers' Day Fair in Kloetinge, and on Whit Monday at the Wool Market in Ouwerkerk we were also represented. In July and August we can also be found at the Tourist Market in Oostkapelle.

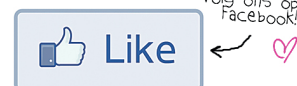


POWERPOINT PRESENTATIONS :

For interested parties we would be happy to offer PowerPoint Presentations with detailed aspects of the history, religions and economy of the beautiful island of Sri Lanka... and of course, our three orphanages. Should you wish to organize a presentation at your school, association, church, service club etc. do not hesitate to get in touch with us. We will be happy to come and arrange one.

DONATIONS AND THE TAXMAN:

Since 2014 the opportunities for claiming tax allowance for donations have been altered. You can find more information on this subject on our website: www.stichtingnetherlandssrilanka.nl or you can contact our treasurer.



**OUR SINCERE THANKS FOR YOUR DONATIONS,
GIFTS AND SUPPORT!**

With kind regards,



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