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## NEWSLETTER

DECEMBER 2020

### CORONA (COVID-19 VIRUS) IN SRI LANKA

At the moment, people in Sri Lanka are very afraid of getting infected with the Covid-19 virus. But the measures, such as keeping a distance of 1½ meters and washing hands frequently, are poorly followed. The restrictive measures are felt most in the cities, because most of the lockdowns are enforced there. In the countryside, normal life continues and more and more people from the city move, temporarily, to their relatives in the countryside. More beggars are on the streets. There is food for sale, but the cheapest rice, for example, is often not available, which makes the cost of living considerably more expensive. Travelling to Sri Lanka is hardly possible at the moment. Should you still find a way, you will have to remain quarantined in a hotel for 14 days. So unfortunately, we will not be able to go on a working visit for the time being.

### LATEST NEWS:

On October the 1<sup>st</sup>, the children celebrated "Children's Day". A holiday for the children. The sisters had decorated everything nicely and invented all kinds of fun games. Of course there was also something tasty to eat and drink. The children had a lot of fun.



Unfortunately, the schools have been closed again since the beginning of October. The girls are back at home, where they do their homework under the supervision of the sisters. The exams that were to take place in December have been moved to January. Every now and then the oldest girls have online lessons. They are now really happy with the laptops we bought for them some time ago.



The sisters come up with all kinds of things to do again. Such as painting hands, gardening, fixing and painting the garden fence, cleaning the walls, sewing clothes and decorating bottles. Of course they also play, sing and dance. They love to dance.



Thanks to extra donations we were able to transfer money so that it was possible to buy a new sewing machine and a new washing machine. (The old one had broken down).

They are very happy with it. Now they no longer need to wash by hand.





## CHRISTMAS

Preparations for Christmas have started. Every year the children celebrate Christmas together. But we don't know how it will be this year. The oldest girls are making "king-coconut" wine with Sister Sarah. "Wine" without alcohol. It is made from, among other things, coconut milk, sugar, lime, cinnamon sticks and cardamom. The bottles of "wine" are sold or given away as a present.



## SISTER AMATHA

Sadly, Sister Amatha is still in Italy. She was just there when the corona epidemic broke out. She would really like to return to Sri Lanka to celebrate Christmas with all the children and the sisters in the homes. Unfortunately, there are hardly any flights. And when one is announced, the tickets are very, very expensive. Upon arrival she would have to be quarantined for 2 weeks. So it still remains exciting!



**THANK YOU  
SO MUCH  
DEAR  
SISTERS!**

For your love,  
care and  
dedication to the  
children.

*(Of course, these  
are not all sisters)*



## LOOKING BACK

- \* The year started so well with giving PowerPoints at a school in Heinkenszand. We enjoyed the nice, funny comments from the little children and the beautiful questions and conversations from and with the older children. They were very enthusiastic and started making all kinds of things to sell at the Spring fair. The proceeds would go to the children in Sri Lanka. But then "corona" came and regrettably the fair was cancelled.
- \* On April the 29<sup>th</sup>, our treasurer, Theo Schouwenaar, passed away, much to our sorrow. We will never forget him. He was so dedicated to the foundation.
- \* All markets and fairs were subsequently cancelled this year, due to corona, so we could not sell our socks, shawls, etc., and therefore we could not generate any extra income. Hopefully 2021 will be a better year! Every now and then we receive extra donations and also churches collect for us for which we are very grateful! We are very pleased with our loyal donors. It is especially now that we really need you!

## POWER POINT PRESENTATIONS:

Would you like to know more about our homes and the beautiful country Sri Lanka?

We would be happy to present a Power Point show.



*Dear donors, and everyone else who has supported us in the past year:  
THANK YOU SOVERY MUCH!*

With kind regards,

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Our four childrens homes  
are situated in

 Pamunugama

 Katupotha

 Kelaniya

 Ja Ela