



Dear Friends,

Greetings to you from India! We are amazed at how fast the kids are growing – beautiful and strong, inside and out. Some are now even taller than we are. We are very proud to watch the children grow, excel, and shine, learning to care for and love one another. God is working in and through these children as they step out into the community as confident individuals showing the love they have received in Christ Jesus.

God has been good to us and has been providing for us in ways that are marvelous to our eyes. The kids are doing very well academically and there is a significant improvement in their English speaking skills. The high-quality rice and the purified water have contributed to their good health and growth.

We thank God each day for the big COF family that is growing across the globe with one mission: to bring smiles and share the love of God with children who desperately need love. Thank you for your prayers, love, and financial support. Rosie is looking forward to seeing you in May during her visit.

We celebrated the Annual Celebration of School today as we prepare to wrap up the academic year. There were many performances by the kids including dancing, singing, skits, and speeches. It was a fun evening with great food and music. The kids displayed outstanding talent. :-).



Blessings,

*Rosie and Anand*

## EDUCATION UPDATE

Jim and Donna Wiens spent two weeks teaching and training teachers at COF in March. This was their second visit, with the first visit being just after the school opened. Donna has been working with the teachers with an emphasis on language skills and language arts. Jim has been working with the kids with an emphasis on math. The following is a short report on what Jim and Donna saw at the school on this return visit to India.



*“When we were here last, probably 70% of our conversations with teachers needed interpretation. That figure is less than 15% today. Yes, we need to make accommodations to our Hindi and Telugu teachers, but the rest are almost conversationally fluent. The kids are different also. There are only a few students that we cannot hold a conversation with, and they are mostly the new students. The children that were here the last time are quite conversational. There is a need for an on-site native English speaker to work with teachers and children for the next school year, which starts in mid-June. Mike, a young man from England, is just leaving after working at COF as an English teacher for four months. Having a native English speaker here, immersing the kids and teachers in conversation throughout each day, has had a huge impact.”*

## FUTURE SCHOOL VISION

Imagine a Christ-centered school that is among the most innovative excellent and sought-after schools in all of Andhra Pradesh; one in which children from all backgrounds and economic situations are provided an opportunity to excel. Imagine that it has as its goal to develop and send out students to be compassionate and productive leaders in their communities.

Rosie and Anand have just such a vision, to expand upon their existing school and develop a self-sustaining K-10 school in Vizag. This school will provide an international-quality, Christ-centered education for the COF children, for another 100 of the poorest children of Vizag, as well as for 600 tuition-paying students from their immediate community. The existing COF orphanage school is already serving as a “test bed” for some of the most innovative and effective teaching methods, learning technologies and management practices that can be found in the area. An experienced Ph.D. educator with an international reputation in transformational Christian education, stated that this school “has *high potential*,” and the COFM school expansion is the type of project with which we would be enthused to be involved.” A small team of individuals is currently working with Rosie and Anand to explore this inspirational vision.

## CHANGING LIVES - KUSUMA



“My grandfather is all I have, I have none” said Kusuma when she walked in to COF five years ago. Kusuma lost her mother when she was eight months old due to suicide, and her father at five years due to an accidental electrocution, followed by her grandmother a couple of years later. Kusuma always carries a picture of her family with her. She was severely malnourished and had many health problems when she came to COF. Her grandfather had lost all hope of keeping her healthy and alive. He is filled with joy as he sees Kusuma turned into a happy, healthy, intelligent, confident and beautiful young girl. Kusuma says, “I love staying at COF, I want to become a teacher and come back to teach at the COF school someday.” She is a reminder of the fact that “Our life is in His hands.”

## VIGNAN UNIVERSITY COMPETITION

The COF kids participated in an all-day event organized by Vignan University which included field games like Cricket, Kho kho, and track events, lemon and spoon race, memory test, drawing, elocution, singing, dancing competitions and many more activities. Students from five different organizations participated.



Our children got many compliments from the university students who organized this event. The COF kids were awarded prizes in all categories. It was a good experience and a fun time for the children and at the same time a confirmation and encouragement to us, seeing our children “standing out” in the community through their performances, behaviour and achievements, with confidence and cheerful hearts.



## STUDENT EXAMS

Eight students recently took the Tenth Grade Board Exams in March. They are: Suvatha Raju, Harish, Vinay, Jayaraju, Vasavi, Prathyusha, Asha Niharika, and Jyothi.



In addition, Abishek, Kinnera and Shanthi who passed the Tenth Grade Exams last year took their Junior Intermediate Board Tests in March as well.

## PRaises

- Return to normalcy after the HudHud Cyclone.
- Eight students are taking 10<sup>th</sup> grade exams.
- Purchase of new beds and mattresses for girls.
- The boys enjoying their beautiful new dorm.

## PRAYER REQUESTS

- Funds for the girls' dorm enhancements.
- For teachers and staff. We are in great need of math and English teachers for new school year.
- That the students taking the 10<sup>th</sup> grade and Junior College exams do well.
- Health for all of the kids this summer season.



## CHRISTMAS GIFT

All the kids wore new clothes to Church on Christmas Day. It was a colorful and a fun time worshipping as a big family, all dressed up. The children prayed sincerely for new clothes for Christmas and were overjoyed that God answered their prayers and made it happen. Thank you to some of our support partners who God used to help answer this prayer.



## WINTER & SPRING VISITORS

- John Koppel & Royce Nicolaisen – February
- Helen Vaughan, TeachBeyond – February
- Bay Area Women Team – February
- Jim & Donna Wiens – March

## BAY AREA WOMEN MISSION TRIP

On February 13<sup>th</sup>, five women were blessed to start their ten day journey to visit COF. It was a repeat visit for Melinda McClure and Lise Vilas. For all five, it was an enchanting experience, complete with God's miracles and lovely and productive time with the whole COF family.



Christine Lee led medical checks of the children with Sarah Bolter, Melinda, and Donna Ewart assisting. On the first project day, Lise woke up with a fever and body aches, and was confined to bed. With over a hundred of the COF family praying hard for her, Lise recovered by the next day and taught the four classes of non-readers the donated Zoo-Phonics program that she had memorized before the trip. During the last part of the trip, Sarah, Christine and Melinda oversaw childrens' letters or drawings that will be sent to the sponsors. Melinda beautifully sketched the children. Separately, Lise worked with the teachers on successful teaching methods, such as using the Marcy Cook math tiles packets that Lise saw used in Lafayette schools.



For the mission team members, it was truly an incredible honor and gift to be surrounded by such inspirational, positive, industrious, faith-filled and sweet children, founders and staff and they will cherish their magical memories.

*"I have never been around so many happy, well-behaved children. They are so eager to learn and have such servants' hearts. I returned being stronger in my faith after witnessing and experiencing their "child-like" trust and faith!! Being at COF is like being on "Holy Ground," God's "hand of blessing" is on every part of the ministry! God bless Rosie and Anand for all they do in running COF and their faith in the Lord to meet their needs."*

Melinda McClure



*"I felt truly blessed to be able to spend a week with the children at COF. They actually inspired me to grow deeper in my faith with God. I could see the joy of the Lord in all their smiles and at nightly devotions they would pray with such sincerity and fervency. They seem to radiate with the love of Christ. I will always cherish the memories of my time spent with them."* Sarah Bolter



*"Visiting COF was a life-changing experience: these children have the ability to touch your heart in ways that few things can. The joy that they have in all things, the kindness that they display, their grateful spirits, their servant attitudes, and their faithful prayers are all like droplets of heaven falling to earth; and I had the pleasure of witnessing them. Everyone took excellent care of us - preparing delicious meals, escorting us back and forth between the new boys' dormitory and the original COF building, and praying for our illnesses and needs. It is obvious the Lord's hand is upon COF, and I anticipate many more great things in their bright future!"*

Christine Danielle Lee

## GIRLS' DORM UPDATE

The girls are super excited to know that their dorm is going to be transformed soon. The new beds and mattresses are in, the flooring and painting will be completed in May. The total financial need for the girl's dorm renovation is \$28,000, and we have raised \$13,000. Please pray for the completion of this project.

New Mattresses for Girls' Dorm



A celebration dinner with Rosie, and a fundraiser to support the Girls' Dorm, will be held on Friday evening, May 29, at Walnut Creek Presbyterian Church. More details will be available soon.



To make a monetary donation, please make checks payable to  
"Children of Faith Missions" and mail it to  
"Children of Faith Missions,  
P.O. Box 3453, Walnut Creek, CA, 94598."  
You can also donate on-line at  
[www.childrenoffaithmissions.org](http://www.childrenoffaithmissions.org)  
Our email address is: [rosie.anand@gmail.com](mailto:rosie.anand@gmail.com).