



Dear Friends,

It has been yet another great quarter, filled with God's goodness, provision, protection and great joy. My recent visit to the US was a great trip. It was fun meeting many sponsors, visiting churches and schools, and making new friends. It has been humbling to experience the love of supporters in so many ways, including the open homes and the generous hospitality of COF's friends in the USA.

Anand stayed back in India in order to get things done with the girls' dorm enhancement. It has been one of the fastest projects – with a deadline of five weeks to complete the plumbing, electrical, painting and tile work. The extremely hot summer weather didn't help. But due to God's grace, the contractors and workers did an outstanding job to finish the projects on time before the kids came back from their short summer break. The hard work paid off; the kids stepped into the dorm with wide smiles and big eyes. We also opened up the facility for families of the children to have a look. There were many tears of joy and gratitude from the relatives who said there is not even one proper bed in their home, but here their children have their own bed and locker.

We are so thankful that we were able to raise the full amount needed for the girls' dorm enhancements. There were three fundraisers during my visit to the US, including a dinner at WCPC, an Indian cooking class and a photography exhibition. God is so good.

We thank you from the bottom of our hearts for your prayers, love and generous donations, which are the reasons for bringing smiles and great joy to the children and their families. The children are praying regularly for you all and are very thankful to you for what you do for them.

Blessings,

*Rosie (and Anand)*

## EDUCATION UPDATE

After operating our own school for three years, it is a joy to see the children's increased interest in learning. Reading, writing and math skills have significantly improved. Kids like Ajith, Prem, and Pradeep, who thought school was not for them (and did poorly), are now very excited to discover they have the ability to learn.

The new approach of teaching that includes interactive and engaged learning, projects, questioning, and critical thinking, is definitely working well. We had a record of 100% pass this year. ALL the students have all been promoted to higher classes.

We have been praying for new English and Science teachers for lower classes and a Math teacher for higher classes. By God's grace we have hired four new highly qualified teachers this year who all have two things in common: a passion for teaching and a passion for kids.

A note from one of our teachers – Kesibhai says, *"The children look more interested and happy with the new facilities. I have taught these kids for three years and I have seen steady improvements each year. This is my driving force. Teaching has become more fun and easier. The student desks and benches create a more studious environment. The children are more focused than before. I have also learned a lot through the training of Jim and Donna Wiens and I am growing as a teacher."*





## STUDENT EXAMS

All eight of our 10th graders passed with high scores and have started junior college. We had many colleges ask to admit our students. Two months into college, our kids are doing well and we are getting very good feedback from the college administration. Our kids say that they get compliments on their English speaking ability and their classmates often ask them to help them learn English better.

The three of our students who are continuing junior college are also performing very well. We are filled with joy to see each of these students grow up and head out to the community, standing out in every way as testimony to Christ.

## FUTURE SCHOOL VISION UPDATE

We are moving forward with the project to create a self-sustaining, English-medium, Christ-centered, international-quality school for our children and other children in the community. We hope to provide full scholarships to 25% of the students. We are setting this up as a separate project from the Children's Home. We are currently negotiating on property for the school and beginning to solicit donations from major donors (land is very expensive in Vizag) who share our vision. More to come in future newsletters.

## CHANGING LIVES - KOTESWARI



Koteswari comes from a very poor family. She lost her mom at 3 and her dad at 6 years old due to sickness and lack of medical care. She then lived with her grandmother, who died several years later because of illness. Koteswari was brought to us by a person

from her village, since she was in desperate need of shelter and food. She was quiet with a very sad face and always kept saying, "I have nobody." She is now growing to be a beautiful, healthy young girl.

Koteswari loves to sing, dance and is working really hard in school. Now, she says she loves her BIG family God gave her. "I had nobody, but now I have everyone. I did not have a chance to go to school, now I'm happy that I am getting an education. I want to become a teacher."

## PRAISES

- Four new teachers.
- Outstanding results on college exams.
- Completion of girls' dorm renovation.
- New borewell supplying water for boys' dorm. It will also provide water during blackouts and lower our electricity bill.
- New printer and copier, which is a hugely beneficial new resource for the school.



## PRAYER REQUESTS

- Rosie's mom, who is not feeling well due to arthritis.
- New teachers getting familiar with COFM school, learning styles and the children.
- Finding a music teacher.
- Kids continuing to grow physically, mentally, emotionally and spiritually.





## GIRLS' DORM UPDATE



The girls have been patiently waiting for their turn. The smiles on their faces have simply been priceless. As the girls came in after their summer break, they were surprised with the painted building, and were spellbound when they entered the rooms that are furnished with new beds, mattresses, lockers along with remodelled bathrooms and new sinks. Here's what some girls had to say . . .



Mary (10<sup>th</sup> grade): I'm glorifying God for His goodness . . . I love the colours of the walls . . . and it is unbelievable to see the transformation. I like to be here forever (with a smile).

Rushmita (3<sup>rd</sup> grade): I love the painting and the white floor. I am happy. I like the lockers the most to store my things. I have never seen such lockers. I have my own.

Anusha (3<sup>rd</sup> grade): I love my own bed . . . my own!

Vijaylaxmi (6<sup>th</sup> grade): I am so happy. We all have our own beds and lockers. I am thankful to God for giving us all these things.

Krupa (4<sup>th</sup> grade): So much has been done in such a short time. I was surprised.

Rinky (4<sup>th</sup> grade): I like the beds, lockers and benches for school.

Rani (6<sup>th</sup> grade): Girls' dorm is so beautiful and colourful. I like it.

Lahari (1<sup>st</sup> grade): The bathrooms and sinks are very nice.



## GIRLS' DORM WCPC FUNDRAISER

A fundraiser and celebration dinner with Rosie was held at WCPC (Walnut Creek Presbyterian Church) on May 29<sup>th</sup>. Over \$20,000 was raised to provide new beds, mattresses and lockers for the girls' dorm, as well as tables and benches for the school and a new well for the boys' dorm. Stories told by Rosie and WCPC member/COFM visitor Melinda McClure were inspiring, the Indian food was awesome, the turnout was great, we met our fundraising goal, and the event was a true celebration of what God is doing at COFM.



New Plumbing



Tiling the Floor of the Girls' Dorm





## A RECENT VISITOR'S PERSPECTIVE

Steve Price recently finished a nearly month-long visit. He had been to India twice before, in 2006 and 2008, with WCPC Mission teams. He helped teach English, and had a lot of fun with the kids. Below is what he had to say to Rosie on the trip to the airport.

*"It has been wonderful spending time with the children and being loved by them. Each of the children is so special. There are wonderful things going on in India. Anand and Rosie do a great job with all of the kids. The kids feel blessed to be at COF and they are all working hard to do their best. I am very impressed with the college kids. All of them are working very hard and are determined to do well.*

*I am thankful to have spent 25 days with the children. I stayed every night in the boys' dorm and all of the boys were wonderful to me. They looked after me and cared for me. I am thankful for all my new friends and thankful for all their prayers. I will certainly be back to India soon."*



## PATXI PIZZA FUNDRAISER

For those of you who live in the San Francisco Bay Area, and particularly the Diablo Valley, we hope you can participate in the Patxi Pizza Fundraiser on Wednesday, September 30. Patxi will donate 10% of the entire day's sales to COFM.

Anand, who is visiting the US in late September and early October, will be at Patxi's from 5:00-6:30pm for a meet and greet.



Patxi is located at The Clocktower, 3577 Mt. Diablo Blvd, in Lafayette.

## LETTER WRITING TO STUDENTS

The children love receiving letters. They recently received a package of letters from their pen pals at LOPC (Lafayette-Orinda Presbyterian Church). The children got to know them during their high school mission trip last year. The letters provide a bridge that keeps them connected.

So if you are a pen pal or sponsor, please keep those letters coming. Besides being a relational bridge, letters remind the children that they have many friends throughout the world who are thinking about and praying for them. Reading and writing letters also helps the children improve their English language skills.



*To make a monetary donation, please make your check 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 online at*

[www.childrenoffaithmissions.org](http://www.childrenoffaithmissions.org)

*Our email address is: [rosie.anand@gmail.com](mailto:rosie.anand@gmail.com).*