



Dear Friends,

Greetings to you from your big family in India. We hope you had a good Easter season and are doing well. The best thing about what we do is seeing how God is regularly adding to the COF family people who love the children and have a heart for India. We love being parents to these children and are constantly learning how to become better parents. Although raising 130 children is fulfilling, exciting and lots of fun, we must admit that sometimes it can be overwhelming. Everyone—including our children, staff, teachers, and pets—needs attention, and at times there are not enough hours in the day. But there are always special moments that energize us and reinforce our belief that this is where we should be and that we have the best job in the world.

One such moment was on April 2nd, when the children threw a big party for Anand's birthday and gave profoundly heart-touching speeches about what it means to live in COF and call us "Mummy" and "Daddy." This left NO eye dry. It was a joyful and teary birthday. We are very blessed and privileged to be parenting these wonderful children—uniquely created by God—who are our life and our happiness. The growth and success of these children is largely because of your prayers and loving support. Thank you for contributing so much to both their joy and our joy.

In addition, we are continually uplifted and assured that Hope Academy is the Lord's work and His project, and we are seeing marvelous progress. Earlier this year, we were blessed to have site preparation work begin, and we are looking forward to starting Primary Building construction in May (this month!!). We have more fundraising to do, but we have been overwhelmed and humbled by the generosity and the growing support for this cause.

Blessings,

Rosie and Anand

FAMILY VISIT DAY

We had a fun day with various extended family members of the children. The children enthusiastically helped organize the event. During the day, many shared stories of life at COF and passionately spoke about their gratitude to COF and the opportunity it has given them. As they watched the Hope Academy video on the screen, many family members were emotional and said the fact that their children would study in such a school is unimaginable and seems unreal.



WOMEN'S DAY

The children were showered with many blessings on Women's Day as visitors from two companies came and celebrated the day with us. In addition, as part of the festivities, all of the children went to a big restaurant for delicious food and lots of fun. The wives of 300 employees from Laurus Labs hosted this event, which included an hour of jaw-dropping magic. Naveen volunteered to participate with the

magician and was a good sport even as a small bird mysteriously popped out of the once empty bag. The organizers said they were amazed at the abilities of the children and how polite and well-mannered they were.



EXAMS—FINGERS CROSSED

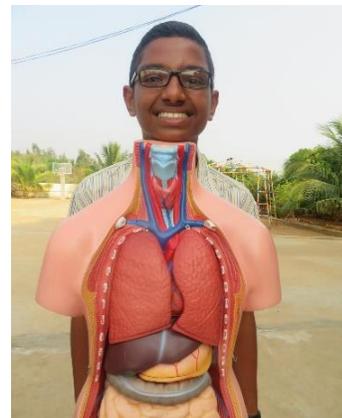
After lots of effort and hours of studying, the 10th grade and junior college students have finished their exams. The teachers have done a great job and the students have worked hard in preparing. The results are expected the first week of May. The students are confident and are eagerly waiting for their scores. These test results determine their eligibility for junior college and college admission, and are also looked at in any job interview.



Our 10th Grade & Junior College Students

SCIENCE EXCITEMENT

Exciting, eye-opening exploration! The kids have been learning and experiencing hands-on science with Laurus Labs and their Mobile Science Lab. Laurus visits weekly, bringing teachers who work with the children based on age-appropriate curriculum. This has opened up the world of science to the children and has sparked their interest and curiosity for science. We are working on building our own science lab for the upcoming academic year.



The education team for Hope Academy is working with several vendors in India (and California) who offer science experiments and math manipulative supplements to engage the students and expand their practical knowledge of academic subjects. These companies offer teacher training in critical thinking methodology, to maximize the impact of these new materials for student-led inquiry in STEM studies.

SUCCESS STORIES

Girish is our first COF child to be working abroad. He lived at COF for 7 years and always had a dream of working abroad. As a welder, he is now working in Malaysia. First time on a plane, first time overseas, first time trying Asian food, Girish says, "I'm living the dream, and I am working very hard."



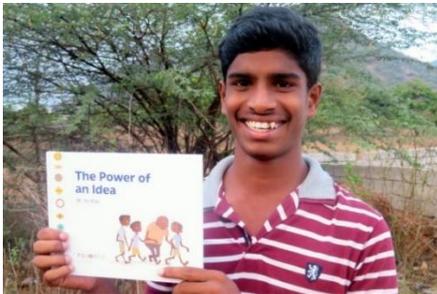
Girish



Vasavi

Vasavi is very happily married and has been blessed with a baby boy. The COF kids gave a warm welcome to the baby, who slept through the entire visit.

Vijay's book (see December Newsletter for details) is published and available at the link: <https://rakontoworkshops.com/library/powerofanidea> He is super thrilled to see his picture in a book and is very grateful. Vijay is now in junior college.



PRAISES

- Progress in Hope Academy Fundraising.
- Healthy children doing well in school.
- Older children's success in their studies and careers.
- Joyful Easter celebration.
- New, larger bus.



PRAYER REQUESTS

- Three more teachers for new school year.
- Hope Academy construction. Learn more at www.hopeacademyindia.com.
- God's protection on the children and the construction workers during the hot summer months.
- Rosie's US visit as she continues with fundraising and networking.

- That God will use our children in their local communities as they spend time in their villages during the May break.

KNITTING WITH CHEREE

The girls have been busy knitting lately. Cheree Bright, a recent visitor from the UK, taught the girls how to knit.



REPEAT VISITORS

We've had lots of visitors during the first few months of the year. In late January, Andrea Cochran and Lise Vilas, spent a week at COF. It was Andrea's third time to COF and Lise's fourth. Each school day, Andrea assisted in conversational English classes with Cheree, while Lise taught ZooPhonics reading lessons at different levels of complexity to four different grade levels. The regular teachers filmed these sessions, so that they could continue to teach with this fun and very effective curriculum.

From Lise, *"The children are so peace-filled, playful, industrious, bright, sweet and positive that it tugs at your heart to return and share their home with them. It is a place where you feel so close to God."*



In late February, we were also visited by COF Board Members, Royce Nicolaisen and John Koppel, who have visited probably more times than anyone else, and we are always excited to see them.

MORE REPEAT VISITORS

In mid-February, Dan and Lynn Menegus also made their third trip to COF. Dan is on the COF and Hope Academy Boards, and is helping support us with the construction of the school. Lynn spent time reading with the children and assisting them in creating Easter cards for their sponsors.



Kicking off site construction with Anand, Dan and our India Hope Educational Society Board Members

On their previous visit, Dan celebrated his 56th birthday with us. It was so much fun, they decided to arrange this trip around Lynn's 56th birthday. The children always love birthday celebrations and there was lots of singing, dancing and good food.



PRAYER SUPPORT GROWS

It was a joy to have Raymond Hudson and Dustin Smith visit from New Life Church in Alamo, California. During their stay, a Pastors' conference of 80 pastors was held. After the conference all the pastors and their wives went to the school site, held hands and

prayed, and then later dispersed over the whole site and prayed. It was a beautiful and powerful sight as everyone prayed for construction of the school and for God's presence and leading in all of it. We are also blessed to have growing prayer support in many churches and among individuals from UK and US.

WE WANT TO HEAR FROM YOU

Please give us your suggestions and feedback on our newsletter. We would love to hear from you. Also, if you have prayer requests, please send them to us; the children would love to pray for you. Send them to Rosie at rosie.anand@gmail.com.



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
Our email address is: rosie.anand@gmail.com.