

DAYA Newsletter

Sept. 2011

Loving greetings to all sponsors, supporters and friends of DAYA Orphanage!

We are happy to report that all our children are doing good. They are presently busy in their studies and preparing for examinations.

During the summer break a two week training program on terra cotta work was conducted in the orphanage by an experienced teacher. The children were taught how to create things from soft clay collected from the riverbanks. They made statues, toys and decorative things for the house. This program was carried out with a view to enable the children to help them become self-sustainable in future.

After the summer vacation schools reopened the middle of June. The children were very excited and happy to go back to school, to start with new lessons and meet their friends again.

The orphanage kitchen garden was plowed and planted. Seeds of many vegetables were sown. Now the youngsters are happy to have enough vegetables like brinjal (eggplant), tomatoes, corn, beans, lady's fingers (okra), etc. Peanuts were planted also and it will be a while longer before they can be harvested.

Towards the end of June and beginning of July the rainy season began in India. The children experienced difficulty getting to and from school as they had to walk in the rains. They wore raincoats and carried umbrellas. Some suffered from colds and fevers.

On July 1, Amar, son of Shantipriya Basiston who is the founder of DAYA Orphanage married Anna of Norway. The wedding ceremony took place in Bhubaneswar in completely Indian style. The children of DAYA enjoyed the ceremony and also the feast given to them by the bride and groom afterwards. All the children wore new clothing for the occasion.

A hospital is being built near the orphanage. They promised to help the orphanage with food items such as rice and lentils every month and began doing this in June. It has been a big help and a blessing.

This is our news for now.

Much love to you all from the children and staff of DAYA Orphanage.

