

"I will put my trust in him." And again he says, "Here am I, and the children God has given me." Heb 2:13



October 2019

Dear all

The new school year is well and truly underway in India - in fact, they are having a short term break at the moment, with most of the children able to return home or to relatives for the holidays.

The 2019/2020 school year sees 55 children return: a number have now graduated (2 doing nursing degrees, 3 trying to decide what they want to do but probably also nursing) and this academic year sees another 9 completing their school education.

Unfortunately, as is sometimes the case in India, some of the girls around the ages of 15-16 did not return and instead, their parents or legal guardians are looking to marriage as their next step. We trust that the love and care that Neil's Home has provided them over the last few years, will hold them in good stead as they go forward.

The young lad who had open heart surgery has also returned. He has missed much of his education and so the team/school have realised that catching up and expecting university/ college as the next step is probably not possible. We look to see what kind of trade we can help him be trained in, that will continue to take care of his health challenges. In the meantime, he remains at the home as a helper - where he has friends, company of his peers, healthcare and good food.

The 'rainy season' brings with it the usual typhoid and other fevers associated with excessive rains. Whilst the home itself has clean water, they cannot always control what the children drink outside the home (at school, with friends, visits home etc.). So, there have been a few who have been hospitalised with 'fever' etc., but they are on the mend. It seems that hospital is the only way for treatment to be received - rather than a dose of good medicine and recovery at home. Sometimes it sounds alarming when a child is admitted into hospital, but we realise that had they been in the UK, for most of them, it would have been a (good) doctor visit, corresponding tests/medication, and staying at home.

Otherwise, the home continues to function fairly well, and children are doing well in their respective studies. As we look back over the last 10 years of supporting this home, we now need to start looking towards the future and what that looks like. As a charity, our aim has always been to enable the local charity to get on its feet and be able to move forward on their own. So, over the coming year, we will be looking to see what that looks like and what the best timings are for that.

In the meantime, we remain focused on the welfare of the children and their futures!

Thanks for taking an interest and your continued support.

Warm regards & heartfelt thanks

God bless

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