



*Dear friends in India, dear Nandhini, dear Fr Regis, dear Fr David,
best wishes to all of you from Arivu-Team Nienburg, Germany!*

We hope that this newsletter finds you safe and sound. In India the new academic year has begun several months ago. Here we are enjoying the summer holidays after the end of the academic year 2021/22. Since the Covid-19 restrictions have been greatly reduced, many activities are possible again at school. We are happy about that and want to share that with you. Like in our last newsletter we also include some of the activities of Aktion Indien in our newsletter. We hope you enjoy reading!

Some impressions of Edda's wonderful garden



The month of May was cold and wet. We didn't like, but for the azalea it was a good time. Then summer was coming, the temperature got higher and the flowers in the garden were blooming. In June there was very less rain, so the deers from the woods came into my garden for drinking. The beginning of July was a bit cold and rainy, but since four weeks we have a lot of sunshine.

Activities at the ASS

In June and July, at the end of the academic year, many concerts and other activities have taken place at the ASS. Many of them had been cancelled before or had been postponed due to Corona-crises. Many classes went on a one-day-trip to sights in the surrounding towns.

In addition, the whole school celebrated a summer festival together. At the summer festival, the classes do different challenges against each other. Many classes and their teachers dressed up for it – so it was quite funny and everyone liked that day!

Concerts and performances at the ASS



In addition to the activities mentioned above, several concerts have also taken place in recent weeks. There was a concert of the advanced music course and a performance of the theater course. The girls- choir even sang together with the well-known women's capella group Sjaella in St. Martin's Church.

Several music groups of the younger students gave a concert at the school together. At this concert the India-Club sold cakes, lassi, ice cream and other snacks.



Partnership with St. Johns Home

Some classes and the India- Club sold cakes and cookies in the schoolyard to raise money for India. Due to Corona the Cafeteria at the school is closed. So students and teachers were quite happy to buy that cakes and cookies.

The India-Club and the Handicraft-Club made postcards and other little things and sold them at the school for the projects in India.

Garbage – Project



This year, the “garbage - project” took place for the first time. For one day the 5th graders worked on different topics related to garbage. For example, they have investigated the impact of waste in nature on animals and humans. They learned, for example, that plastic breaks down into smaller and smaller pieces but never completely disappears and that the small Microplastic-Particles get into the food chain and harm the health of humans and animals.

In addition, the 5th graders rehearsed and performed a piece of music with instruments made from rubbish. But the most important activity on that day was that the students and their teachers spent 2 hours collecting rubbish in the area around the school. In the end, the mayor of Nienburg came and thanked everyone.

Arivu meeting July 7th as online Video Conference



With our Arivu-Team, most meetings have taken place online over the past two years. The picture shows the last meeting of the Arivu Team on July 07, 2022 as a screenshot. Our big topic was the upcoming visit of Nandhini, Viji and Ambrose in September. We are all really looking forward to seeing our friends again! We are sure that we will spend some very nice days together!

Exchange-Program with School in France

This spring the 10th and 11th grade of our school did an exchange with a french school in the Normandie, called Lycée Raymond Que-neau.

We visited them in their hometown Yvetot and stayed for 10 days. Each student had an exchange partner, with whom he/she stayed and did the activities together.

All students where very friendly and both sides tried their best to try to communicate in English, French and German with each other. Sometimes there where funny misunderstandings, but all in all it worked pretty well.



The program was varied and every day was different. Rouen and Paris, where the cities we visited. Rouen is an old city with beautiful architecture and a famous baked good was invented there, the macaron, a small and very tasty pastry.

Paris also left a big impression. The view from the Eiffel-tower was wonderful and Montmartre was interesting but a bit too full of tourists.

The nature of the Normandie is beautiful too, a great example is Etreta. A town on the see side with big chalk cliffs.

Luckyly the weather was beautiful the whole ten days. An other good thing was the food, that we had a lot of. The french have other eating rituals then us, which was interesting to learn.

It where ten days of joy. All of us are excited to welcome our new friends in September in Nienburg.

End of the academic year 2021/22

Wednesday, 13th of July the academic year in Lower saxony came to an end. Summer holidays started. All pupils, teachers and staff are on holidays and have time for recreation till the beginning of the new academic year on 25th of August 2022.

Abifestival 2022 – Abifun at ASS



It is a long tradition at German schools that the final year students celebrate their A-Levels with a day of joy and games. Especially the younger pupils are longing for the day of Abifun (A-level fun). On that day the lessons end a bit earlier and the

pupils of standard XII offer little games for teachers and pupils and an open air show „on stage“. This year, a teachers music band played and sang for the first time. Accompanied by the famous song „99 red balloons“ with personal wishes found their way towards the sky.



At the end, quite many pupils of standard XII followed the old tradition of ASS and hopped into the pond nearby the school. Because this pond is not too deep, they finally stand in the water and sing songs or shout for others to hop in as well.

Time to say „Goodbye school!“



30th of June, the ceremony for the pupils of standard XII has taken place. Despite the difficulties because of Corona during the last two years, 65 pupils passed their A-levels at ASS and some reached it with excellent results. The afternoon started with holy mass in the church of St. Martin in Nienburg. Teachers and pupils

prepared the mass with the motto „I'm off“. This motto was originally the title of a book written by a very popular German actor and comedian who decided to leave all this behind and walk the pilgrim's way of St. James in France and Spain.



Later the absolvents got their A-level- testimonies in a ceremony held „on stage“ in the theatre of Nienburg. The mayor of Nienburg, Mr. Jan Wendorf and our headmaster Mr. Dr. Sebastian Wegener directed their speeches to the auditory as well as some others did, before the testimonies were handed out.



Two days later, the dancing ball with parents, family, friends and some teachers was the final event for the boys and girls of standard XII. Everybody dressed up and all guests celebrated till late at night on a lovely summer evening.

India Club and other activities at Gymnasium Oesede



In our school Gymnasium Oesede we had a lot of

activities similar to ASS Nienburg: We also had a farewell ceremony for our final year students and a day full of joy and games organized by the final year students. On July 11th we had a wonderful summer concert at our school. Many students showed their talent in music by singing or playing an instrument. Our India Club with students of standard 5 and 6 met regularly every week. We played games like Pachisi (which the students liked very much), we wrote our names in Tamil letters (Thanks to Ms Nandhini for her kind help!)



மரியா - Maria,
அனா - Anna,
மேரிட் - Marit, சலோமி - Salome,
யோனா - Jonna, லியா - Lea,
லியோனா - Leona.

We also created some posters about different topics: a comparison of data about Germany and India, food, especially Mango, various



aspects about life in rural areas like housing, families, social structure or child labor. The students decided by themselves what to mention and how to design their posters.



Action day for India at the Gymnasium Josephinum Hildesheim



Every year in May, when our teachers are busy with the final exams, there is one day without lessons at our school. We pupils decided to use this day to raise money for people in India. Every student of our school looks for a job he or she can do for a day. The money we earn is donated to different



projects in India, for example to the students' home in Neerpair or to evening schools in and around Makkampalayam. The students' council organizes this day. They also help students find a job if necessary. Sometimes there are reporters who visit students during their work and in that way reports for our website are written. There are all kinds of jobs students do.



In the last few years someone helped in the stables on a farm, someone else supported a vet during her work and some younger students simply did the shopping or mowed the lawn for some elderly people. The amount of money raised in that way kept growing during the last few years. We are happy to be able to help children in India.

Summerholidays

On July 11th summerholidays started and all schools are closed for six weeks. Especially the younger children love this time full of joy and freedom. Despite the parents have to go for work many families spend a lot of time together. The following pictures show some impressions of Inga's family. They went for camping, playing tabletennis with the whole family (even grandma is involved), sleeping in a tent in their garden with beautiful flowers, a trip to the beach in denmark, picnic in the garden and cooling down with sparkling water.



Dear Nandhini, dear Fr Regis, dear Fr David,

we send our special greetings and wishes to you and all our Indian friends!

Please convey our wishes to all children in St John's home, to all teachers, students and staff of Arulappa Higher Secondary School and all members of WE-Group!

Edda, Hilde, Inga, Andrea, Lene, Kai and Kathrin for Arivu-Team