



Dear friends in India,

best wishes to all of you from Arivu-Team Nienburg, Germany!

We hope you are all safe and sound and doing well. Here we are just enjoying two weeks of holidays as a break in the middle of first semester. Schools reopened on end of August for the new academic year. Since then several activities have taken place that we like to share with you. Enjoy reading our Newsletter.

Jumble sale at the historic-town-festival in Nienburg

In the end of September, the annual historic-town-festival and the traditional flea market took place again in Nienburg. Arivu-Team sold used books, clothing, etc. in front of Andrea's house. A lot of people came by and bought a few things. And it was nice to speak to the people about the projects in India.



Newborn Arivu member



In August Inga from the Arivu-Team gave birth to a little Baby-boy: Tjelle. The family and all of us are very happy about the birth of Tjelle. As you can see in the picture, Tjelle is very cute.



India-Club at the ASS



This academic year many new children, especially from standard 5, have started to take part in the India Club. First, we talked about the projects in India and spoke about ideas what activities we want to do during the academic year.



In the last meeting we went to the BUND children's- wilderness together and picked and collected apples, because the apples were ripe just then After that we made apple juice from the apples and next meeting we will make apple jelly from this juice and sell it at school.

Teacher training – first aid



At the beginning of October all teachers at the Albert Schweitzer School were trained in first aid. We learned in theory and practice how to react correctly in various medical emergencies (e.g. sunstroke, shock). It was good and important training and apart from that we had a lot of fun. 😊

India Club and other activities at Gymnasium Oesede


In almost all German schools, it is customary for the parents of a class to meet with the teachers at the school shortly after the start of the academic year. There they are informed about the upcoming activities and goals for the school year.



At the first meeting of the Year-5-parents, Kathrin Haase gave a short presentation to the parents about the school partnership. The parents listened very well and showed great interest.

Unfortunately, the project days in standard VII cannot take place as planned, so that the planned project on India is cancelled. Mr Ambrose, together with Nandhini Krishnan, has set up a group with students from standard IX and X and sent us profiles. We have also founded a group at our Gymnasium Oesede. The students are now also creating profiles, which we want to send to India after the autumn holidays.

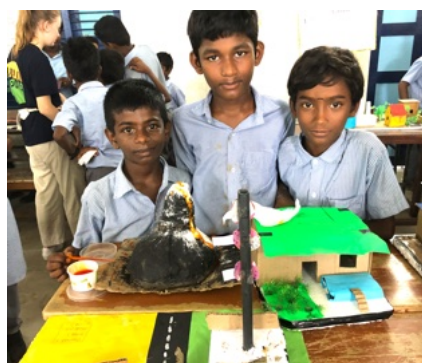
India Club at MARIANO-JOSEPHINUM in Hildesheim

Kanavu  - Dreaming allowed (by Corlula Witte)

Kanavu is the Tamil word for dream and it is the name of our India-Team at Gymnasium Mariano-Josephinum. A dream was our trip to India from 9 to 22 July. Our colourful travel group consisted of 13 people, including 3 teachers and 4 students from our school and the founder of Aktion Indien, Dr. Johannes Mispagel.



One of the special highlights was the visit at Dr R Arulappa Higher Secondary School in Neerpair, near Chennai, which is our partner school. We were overwhelmed by the warm welcome and the varied program that had been prepared for us. We were impressed by the eagerness to learn and the dedication of the teachers and staff. Despite the simple conditions, we felt the special spirit of the school. It was wonderful to interact with the students, p.e. at the science exhibition or by playing games.



The next day in Chennai, we were invited to "CHEER", a social center run by Ms Nandhini Krishnan. A wonderful place that offers both: space for living and opportunities for undisturbed study. Here, students who are particularly gifted are given the opportunity to receive support for studies. The atmosphere at CHEER is impressive. We met hard-working students, but also graduates of the university: among others, we got to know a professor for mathematics, a female IT specialist and a female chemist. In a well-prepared lecture, we learned a lot about the culture in India, but also about the difficulties in society. Among other things, we heard that the Indian constitution is in danger.

At the end of the trip we got a guided tour in an innovative start-up IT company "Facilio". Facilio is founded by Mr Prabhu Ramachandran, a relative of Ms Nandhini Krishnan. Facilio is a very modern,

ambitious, worldwide operating company. Here, some graduates of our partner school are gladly offered jobs. The social class is irrelevant here; only performance counts in the company. The modern and prosperous India we encounter here is in contrast to what we have seen and experienced before. CHEER is a link between these two worlds. Here it becomes clear to us that the dream can come true for India.



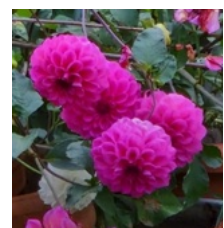
Another aspect of our trip was the contact with the Jesuits in Chennai. After a visit to Loyola College, we went to Kadambur in Erode District. The Jesuits take care of the Christian communities here and do social work. They run 50 evening schools for the children in the surrounding villages. Here they get help with their studies and homework. Many children come to class because there is a small meal here, e.g. a glass of milk and some nuts.

After 12 eventful days we returned to Germany. Our hearts are filled, our horizons clearly broadened. Kanavu - the dream continues...

Back in Germany, we planned an evening to share about our experiences on the trip. This took place on September 21st. We invited parents, teachers and students of the Gymnasium Mariano-Josephinum and told them about our trip, about the projects in India, their meaning, what great and special people we met and with what dedication they work to improve the living conditions for many people. The visitors listened with great interest. It became clear to everyone how important the work in India is. We would like to continue to support them. Our partnership with India has again become a bit better known and more alive.



On September 22nd our India-Team prepared some homemade biscuits, cakes and snacks. They sold them to their classmates as a fundraising activity for the projects in India.



Dear Nandhini, dear Fr Regis, dear Fr Davidnesan,

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!

Hilde, Kathrin and all Arivu-Team