



Dear Lovedale Supporters,

We are very excited to be launching the first edition of the Lovedale Newsletter. It is going to be a very interesting year for Lovedale and the children of Lovedale! We have an excellent crew of international volunteers and a lot of great activities lined up.

In this newsletter, you will read about our upcoming events, past events, and profiles on our children and volunteers and our quest to purchase the land to build the Littlewoods children their own home. We hope this newsletter will keep you connected and up-to-date on the Lovedale community and will inspire you to get involved!

We can't wait to see you at our upcoming events at the new Lovedale home and around the city.

Sincerely,
Jeny and Rajesh
Founders

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LOVEDALE
NEWSLETTER

Great fun on Sports Day

Lovedale Foundation's first out-door event, Sports Day, was held on February 12th at Littlewoods (the premises where the Lovedale children currently reside) in Anagalapura. The day brought the 19 children from the Littlewoods and the 15 children from Home of Grace orphanage together with the Lovedale volunteers and other international supporters to enjoy a fun-filled day of sports, games, prizes and a picnic. The children had a terrific time and were thrilled to make new friends. For us volunteers, the day proved to be very gratifying after witnessing the endless laughter and smiles from the kids throughout the day and into the next week!

The children were divided into teams according to their age. We had four teams, Superman, Spiderman, King Kong and Batman. Within each team, the children competed against each other to gain points. The children thoroughly enjoyed the three legged race, the wheelbarrow race and in particular the sack race. Initially some of the new games were a little difficult for to comprehend but once the kids got started, they were quick to learn and immerse themselves into the activities. While some kids demonstrated their athleticism others showed their wit and good-nature while playing with volunteers and other children.

At the end of Sports Day, there was a prize ceremony where each child was recognized for his or her achievements and contributions that day and received a prize. The kids were so proud of their prizes because they were a reflection of the day's efforts. The prizes included stuffed animals, pencil boxes with supplies and bangles.

Sports Day taught the children the importance of teamwork and camaraderie. The same sentiment, which is found in the Olympics games.

We would like to say thank you to Rajesh and Jeni for coming and a special thank you to the Lovedale supporters who came all the way from city, Christina Friedt, our volunteer coordinator, and her fiancé Fitz Peters for giving us great support to organize Sports Day and providing the wonderful picnic meal.

Taka, aka King Kong



The Things Kids Say & Do!!

Four year old Sweety mimicking a volunteer - "maybe baby"

The kids amazement over a volunteer's belly and naming it "a food baby" and now proudly sticking out their stomachs and referring to it as a food baby.

THE UPCOMING LOVEDALE MOVE!!!!

At the end of March, Lovedale Foundation is moving the children's home from its current location in Angalapura to its new location in Horamavu, which is off of Ring Road. The volunteers are spending a great deal of time making this site ready for the children. It will be a place where any kid would love to live. Surfers, skydivers, animals and a fairy princess and prince will surround the kids. Due to this move, we are currently fundraising for some necessities such as sheets, pillows, and a fridge. If you would like to help please let us know. Please come and see the new house! All visitors are welcome!

Shurthi Gouda



Shurthi is the oldest of 19 children currently living at Littlewoods. She is 13 years old and is studying in standard 6 at St. George's school. She has two sisters who still live at home and one brother, Manu, who also lives at Littlewoods. She is originally from Deshavalli, a small village near Mysore but has been at Littlewoods for almost two years.

Since, I began volunteering at Littlewoods almost one month ago; I have had many opportunities to sit and chat with Shurthi as well as to simply observe her interact with all the other children. Being the oldest child at Littlewoods, Shurthi shoulders a lot of the responsibility that an older sister would or even those of a parent. On a regular basis she assists Mary, the cook, in the preparation and serving of meals, cleaning the kitchen and washing the dishes and often does not get to bed before 9:30 or 10:00pm. In addition to helping in the kitchen, when a volunteer is not here Shurthi helps take care of all the smaller children ensuring they are ready for school or church and that their home work is completed the night before. But no matter what Shurthi does its done with a smile.

Even though Shurthi helps out a lot around the orphanage she is still a very good student and takes her studies very seriously. She often stays after school to work on the computer or to do home work. Recently, I had a chance to peak in one of her notebooks and saw that her English grammar teacher had written the following "Hey, did you hear about Shurthi? Yes! They say she is the brightest student in the village. " Shurthi's favorite subjects are Kannada and math and she does very well in both of these.

When asked what she wants to do when she grows up Shurthi quite confidently states that she wants to become a pilot and travel the world. She even said she would visit me in Canada. I can't wait to see her flying in the big, bright, blue sky.

Leanne, the energizer bunny

Quick facts:

Favorite colors - Orange and Purple
 Favorite film actors - Shivaraj Kumar
 Favorite books - Hagboor and the Bible
 Country she most wants to visit - America
 Favorite meal to cook - Upma



Volunteer Quotes about India and Volunteering

Taka – "Everything is difficult before they are easy"

Leanne – "You never know what is going to happen next in India"

Silpa – "I never knew that I was capable of doing even half of the things I do every day at the orphanage"

Brandon – "Less talking more eating"

Erica – "I now know that I love being with children but I definitely know I don't want 20!!"

Christina – "Quick Somu, put the puppy in the car!"

Meet the Volunteers of Lovedale

Lovedale Foundation hosts foreign volunteers from all corners of the globe. Currently, there are volunteers from **Canada, the US and Japan**. **Taka**, from Japan, has been with Lovedale for the last month. The kids enjoy using the new phrases and songs they have learned in Japanese. There are 3 volunteers from Canada: **Erica** and **Leanne**, who are twin sisters, and Leanne's husband **Brandon**. The children love trying to guess who is who and Erica and Leanne love trying to trick the kids. Brandon is just a big kid himself so he fits in very well at



Lovedale. **Silpa** is from the US; she spends most of her time at another orphanage supported by Lovedale Foundation, Home of Grace, and has spent many hours fundraising for Lovedale Foundation. **Jasmin**, our beloved volunteer from Switzerland recently finished her two months at Littlewoods. She was always doing fun, challenging things like taking all the children to the circus by herself. Her boyfriend **Lee**, from UK, left his mark at the new Lovedale



location by helping Brandon and Taka paint a "surfs up scene".

Lovedale has a new volunteer coordinator, **Christina Friedt (Peters)**. She is a great asset to the volunteers since she has lived in Bangalore for the last 9 months and can offer practical advice about India and its people. She also keeps the volunteers very busy coming up with new activities and projects.



And the volunteers *are* very busy. Their activities vary from week to week. Foremost is the daily care and education of the children. The rest of the activities, such as painting, fundraising and writing newsletters, are only done once they know the children are all tucked safely into bed.

The biggest benefit the children get from having so many volunteers is the exposure to the different parts of the world and the variety of languages and traditions. All of the volunteers speak English and therefore the children get to practice their English on a daily basis and even pick up phrases such as "you know what I mean".



Lovedale also welcomes local volunteers from the community to help with fundraising and other events such as sports day. We also welcome people who want to teach the children or just come and play. We are always looking for new volunteers. The

children love having visitors (Even ones their own age!).

There will be 2 new foreign volunteers joining the group on March 10. Tune into the next newsletter to find out more about them!



FUNDRAISER "RESTAURANT NIGHT"

Our first fundraising event "Restaurant Night" was a huge success. The exact amount raised from this event is still unknown as we are still waiting for some corporate match funds, however, approximately 70,000 RS were raised. A big congratulations should be sent to all those involved. Restaurant night was held at two great locations, Fiorano and Sunny's. The night began first at Fiorano, a fabulous Italian restaurant in Koramangala, with a 7:30 reservation and continued until about 11:30 when the last and largest group left. The dinner at Sunny's began a little later but quickly turned into a fun party as the individual tables were pushed together and made into one large table so that all attending could sit together, make new friends, enjoy great food, amazing wine and fabulous conversation. This resulted in a lot of laughs, a good time for all, significant donations and most importantly the promotion and advertisement of Lovedale Foundation and its children.

On behalf of all the volunteers, we would like to extend a big thank you to Rajesh and Jeny for attending the event; the owners, management and staff at both Fiorano and Sunny's; without them we would have not succeeded. Most importantly we would like to thank all those who attended and gave not only their money but their time to this very important and worthwhile cause. A big thank you and a pat on the back should also be extended to all the volunteers who participated in organizing this event.

Brandon and Leanne, the crazy Canadians



UP COMING EVENTS

Cultural Day

It is time to step out of the world of Anagalapura for a few hours and into the rest of the world. This up coming, Sunday March 19, The Lovedale Foundation will be hosting its first ever Cultural Day. At this event, the Lovedale children and their friends from Home of Grace will be performing songs, skits and dances from countries around the world, including the USA, UK, Canada, Korea, Japan and Switzerland. This will be a fantastic opportunity for the children to gain exposure to the traditions of a variety of countries. We here at the Lovedale Foundation believe that it is critical for the children to understand that there is a world that exists outside the village that they currently live in not only because they will one day be entering the workforce and might work with people from various cultures but also because it makes for stronger, well rounded individuals. Come join us on March 19 at 1:30pm. For the first ever "Cultural Day".

Salsa night

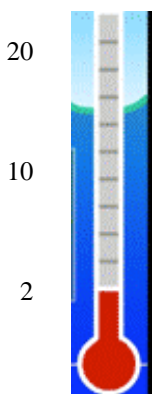
Break out your dancin' shoes because it is time to Salsa, Salsa, Salsa!! You certainly do not want to miss out on this exciting fundraising event. It will be a fun filled evening that includes a salsa performance by the Lovedale children, professional salsa lessons for guests, door and raffle prizes, welcome drinks and loads of music and good times. Salsa lessons will be given by the same salsa instructor that holds events at Spark, Casa del Sol and Taika and of course one of our own Lovedale volunteers. Don't worry if you don't have a Salsa partner because there will be plenty of partners for you to choose from. All proceeds raised will go towards the children of Lovedale. Details of time and location will be announced soon on our website, check it out.



Future Plans

Lovedale Foundation currently operates its home on a rental property. It has identified the need to build its own house to provide a more stable and structure environment for the children and have started fundraising for the purchase of property near Bangalore. The property will cost 23 Lakhs. We are well on our way with 2 Lakhs having already been raised. Please support our efforts. More details to follow in the next newsletter.

Our Goal
23 Lakh



Silpa, west meets India

PICTURE KORNER

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The double trouble team

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Taka, Christina, Leanne, Erica,
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