



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

We hope this Newsletter finds all of you in good health and in a good mood. All over the world people are effected by the Corona-Pandemic. This is also the main topic in our thoughts at the moment. Here in Germany we benefit from our good health care system. So we are confident that we will manage the crisis. But we are aware that this is not the case all over the world. Our hearts and thoughts are with our friends in India. Despite all schools are closed for four weeks now, a lot of activities have taken place earlier in the year. We want to share this with you. Kindly read this newsletter.

### Members assembly of Arivu (Annual meeting)

10th of march, it means a few days before the general lockdown of schools in Lower-Saxony, we had our annual members assembly. The members who have taken part in the meeting got a review of what Arivu did in 2019, how the financial situation is and an outlook on upcoming events and plans in 2020. Due to the worldwide pandemic of Corona, Arivu team also has to cancel or to postpone some of these plans.

At this occasion, Edda presented the new donation barometer that she did on her own. The idea is to fix it on a wall in the school building for the classes 5 -7. So especially the younger pupils, teachers and staff of ASS can have a look on and they can see how the amount of donated money is growing monthly.



### Presentation about German-Indian-Partnership at ASS to new 5th-Year-students

In the end of January the Arivu Members Janne, Mareike and Hilde spoke to the new students of standard 5 about the Partnership between ASS and St. John's home. The students also saw a PowerPoint presentation and a short film. They were very impressed and asked a lot of questions. After this presentation four classes decided to be a "Partnership-class" to this project. So the students will regularly collect and donate money for St. John's Home.



## Winter in Germany is over – Spring is coming

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Two weeks ago – at the last weekend in March – all clocks in Germany were changed to “summertime” which is one hour ahead. Now the difference to India time is 3.5 hours only. For many people this is the moment when we believe that winter is over and spring will come. Many people are tired of the dark and cold weather during wintertime. Now all the new plants start to grow and you can see a gentle, light green everywhere. New leaves will grow and even some early flowers start to blossom.



## School pond at ASS

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In 2011, Indian and German ENSA-team built a new little pond in the inner courtyard of our main building. Years went by and unfortunately, the pond wasn't in a good condition after the winter. Last week, the facility manager worked hard and has shown his „green thumb“, because he cut many of the bushes and grasses. Besides, he changed most of the water and now



you can see the result. Even a duck has already found its way to this pond and it will probably start breeding with a partner. It's not the first time that we maybe have little ducklings soon as temporary guests of ASS.

## Students learn about India in Geography

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Under the syllabus of standard 11 the students have to work on India as a rapidly developing country. At our school we take the opportunity to add some aspects that might not be in the focus of our syllabus.



We seek to raise awareness of the complexity of the Indian society and to focus on the marginalized. Due to this all higher secondary students look into the work of Arivu and have to deal with it in a creative way. One thing they have to do is to make a presentation, write some information or make some advertisement. Here you can see some of the first ideas of the 11d.



## Corona – Easter-holiday



At the moment we have two weeks of easter-holidays here in lower-Saxony. But holidays are not much fun this year. Because of Corona we have to stay at home. We are not allowed to meet friends or go to public places or something like that. So everyone has got a lot of “family-time” this year. Hilde’s family made a lot of



music and some Easter-decoration during that time.

Usually in April our school opens the doors for students of standard IV (which is the last year in primary schools). In the afternoon a lot of activities take place to present our school in the best way possible. On that occasion the India club presents some information about St. John’s home and about the situation of Dalits. But due to the lockdown and the closing of all schools it has been cancelled like many other activities in sports or music concerts

*Dear Nandhini, dear Fr Suresh, dear Fr David,  
in this difficult times we send our special greetings and wishes to  
you and all our Indian friends! Please convey them 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!*



*We wish you a very happy Easter!*

*Hilde, Andrea and Kathrin for Arivu team*