



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

We hope you are all doing well. Here everything is going smoothly since summer holidays started some days ago. Since our last newsletter many activities – especially in Nienburg – have taken place that we like to share with you. Enjoy reading our Newsletter.

Social day at the Albert Schweitzer School

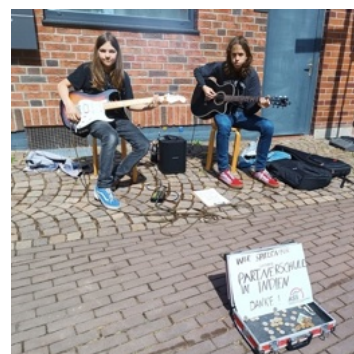
This year, the Social Day was held again at the ASS. On this day, usual lessons don't take place, but the students engage in social activities. Some students help out at a social institution, while others look for ways to earn money, which is then donated.



For example, Joscha and Mischa Brodowski organised a small concert in the pedestrian zone in Nienburg and donated the proceeds. Others helped friends or relatives with gardening or housekeeping, thus raising money.



The student council and the school board had previously decided that the donations received this year should be used for a new school bus for the school center in Neerpair.



Anniversary Celebration at the ASS - Ceremony in the Theater of Nienburg

There has been a school since 1525 on the place where our school is located today. Therefore, we celebrated the school's anniversary this



year. There was a ceremony in the theatre in Nienburg with many performances by our school's music and theater groups and a panel discussion

with former students. Connie Philipp, the daughter of the last Jewish student to graduate from our school before the persecution of Jews during the Nazi era, also visited from America. Ms. Philipps gave a powerful speech about the life of her mother, Lucie Rose.





The India Working Group was also present in the theatre with an information booth about the projects in Neerpair. What's special about this is that the India Working Group is also celebrating an anniversary this year! The collaboration between our school and the projects in Neerpair and Chennai has been going on for 20 years. The collaboration began in 2005 when students from our school wanted to help the victims of the tsunami (Christmas 2004). Kathrin Haase was a teacher at our school at the time and

established contact with Mr. Mispagel and Father Suresh's team. In the years that followed, this developed into the friendship and partnership that exists today.

The students from the India Working Group created a poster with photos from the past 20 years of the partnership and a board with information about the projects in Neerpair. The India working group also welcomed guests with tea and gave the possibility to get a mehandi painted. Students of the working group spoke with many guests in the theatre about the situation of Dalits and the lives of the students in Neerpair.

Anniversary Celebration at the ASS - Project Week and School Festival

The school anniversary was also celebrated at the school. There was a project week, which culminated in a large-scale school festival. During this time, regular classes were replaced by various projects focusing on the school or the city of Nienburg, either in the past or the future. Students also prepared activities for the festival. Class 5e took photos of objects in Nienburg that resembled letters, which they then sold at the school festival and the city's anniversary celebrations. They also informed guests at the festival about the Neerpair projects and the need for a second school bus, raising donations for the cause.



During project week, the Year 6 classes repainted the school hall, which now looks absolutely fantastic!

The school festival was attended by many guests. There were various games for the children, and many classes presented the results of their projects. A project group organised a sponsored rally for the projects in India. There was also a short video conference between the school festival guests and Fr. Charles and the students at St. John's dormitory.



1000 Years of Nienburg Anniversary



Our town of Nienburg is also celebrating an anniversary this year. The town is 1000 years old! There were various celebrations, in which our school also participated. On a Saturday in June, there was a 1km-long banquet table through the town. Various groups served food and drinks to the guests at the tables. At

the Table of the Albert Schweitzer School, the India Working Group sold cakes and provided information about the partnership, and the 12th grade students sold drinks.



The next day, there was a large parade through the town. Our school also participated with a group.

Noras report about project week an anniversary of school and city of Nienburg



The grades eight to twelve had different possibilities for the project week. Every student could choose for him or herself what they wanted to do from a number of different possibilities, such as making a movie about the life at school, building huge letters which spelled the initials of the school (ASS), learning about the past of the school, being creative or preparing for a performance at the parade to celebrate the 1000th anniversary of the city Nien-

burg. At the parade our school was represented by a group of 5th graders and a Samba group which was a part of the project week. The Samba group performed a number of rhythms which they had rehearsed and together with the 5th graders, a couple of teachers and numerous other groups who took part in the parade celebrated the anniversary of the city and the 500th anniversary of the school. It was a very impressive parade and an amazing event to be a part of!

Target shooting



Every year, this special festival is celebrated in Nienburg on Monday after Johanni day (24th of June). For ages, this tradition was only for men, but two years ago they opened it for women as well. In the morning, all participants meet in front of the town hall and walk to the place where the shooting on the target takes place. In the evening, they march back into town, while marching bands accompany them. Most of the groups called citizen companies are fancy-dressed instead of their uniform and many people spend applause when they come back into town in the evening.



Abi VegASS – ready to poker for each and every point!



Wednesday, 25th of June was the day of Abi-fun (A-level fun). It means that the pupils decorated most of the rooms in the school building one day before. The day itself, the lessons were interrupted and the pupils of standard XIII offered little games for the younger pupils outside and an open air show „on stage“. Besides, a teachers band and a pupils band played and sang famous songs.



As every year, quite many pupils of standard XIII followed the old tradition of ASS and jumped into the pond right in front of the school. Because this pond is not too deep, they finally stand in the water and sang their A-level-song. Even people who just came the way along had fun to watch the bathing pupils.

Time to say good bye!“



27th of June, the farewell ceremony for the pupils of standard XIII has taken place. 83 pupils passed their A-levels at ASS in our jubilee year (500 years ASS). Some like Frida-Lotte Beck (India visitor 2024) finished the A-level exams with excellent results. The Friday afternoon started with a mass in the church of St. Martin in Nienburg. Teachers and pupils prepared the mass with the motto „AbiVegASS!“. This year, we had a special effect according to the bible text: paper raindrops with quotations and good wishes fall down from the ceiling of the church and could be collected as a memory of the day.



Later on, 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.

Saturday 28th of June, the last event has taken place on a wonderful summer evening: the dancing ball with parents, family, friends and some teachers. Everybody dressed up and all guests celebrated till late at night in a very nice location.



Start of summer holidays

The academic year 2024/2025 in Lower Saxony came to an end. 2th of July, all other pupils got their reports as well. This day was the hottest day so far this year and we had 37°C in Nienburg. Summer holidays started on 3th of July. All pupils, teachers and staff have five and a half weeks time for holidays and recreation till the beginning of the new academic year on 14th of August 2025.

Weather in Germany (by Edda)

Summer is coming. All ist green and the flowers are blooming. Sometimes we have rainy day and the snails come out to enjoy the wet gras. It's a pity our summer is very short!



Activities at Gymnasium Oesede

Like the students at ASS, the high school graduates of the Gymnasium Oesede also celebrated their graduation at the end of June.



On 26.06.2025, the graduation certificates were handed over in a festive ceremony. In addition to the principal, the parents' representatives and two

students from the year group as well as some politicians also gave a speech in which they emphasized the significance of the moment and looked to the future with hope. Beforehand, we celebrated a church service together. The motto was: With God we take off and soar. We wish all graduates good luck and success for the future.



“Join in, help & win!” - This was the theme under which committed pupils registered with the India-AG to win a prize for the school's most creative workplace on the India 2025 Action Day.



The four best workplaces and the collected impressions of the participants were then presented to the two India-AG reporters Maria Simonenko and Dominik Heidenreich (10D) and summarized in an interview on site.

1st place - Amelie Zill (8D)

Amelie spent the action day in the practice of veterinarian Sarina Köhler in Himmelsthür. There she told the reporters that she labeled medication, wrote letters to customers and was even allowed to work in the operating theatre. She showed great interest in working with animals and said that she would like to become a vet herself in the future. She particularly liked the fact that she was able to get to know the “basics” of the profession. As she has her own animals treated by this very vet, she was familiar with the faces of the staff and the workplace. Amelie said she would do this job again at any time and found the India action day very useful, as you can learn about new professions and help at the same time. Her special commitment was rightly rewarded with first place.



2nd place - Daniel Gorte (7A)



Daniel got a taste of the optician's profession. He was employed for a day at the optician “Eyedentiy” in the center of Hildesheim. His tasks then included checking the cornea and testing the quality of glasses. He really enjoyed the work - especially because of the variety and the contact with customers. Above all, Daniel gained experience in communication and teamwork within the company. He came to the profession because the company is his own optician, in which he developed a great deal of interest. Daniel would also like to do this job permanently and praised the India Action Day as a great opportunity to make a big contribution to the partner school in India through small work. The reporters were particularly impressed by the open nature of Daniel and the company's employees and are delighted to have awarded a well-deserved second place.

3rd place - Viktoria Gorte (5E)

Viktoria worked in the dental practice at the Vinzentinum, sorting x-rays and preparing dental instruments. She was particularly impressed by the medical side of the profession. She learned a lot about the instruments used and the processes in a dental practice. She was introduced to the profession through positive experiences with her own dentist. Viktoria liked the fact that the team worked well together and that everyone helped each other. She also praised the purpose of the day of action, as one contribution can make a big difference. Viktoria particularly impressed the reporters with her mature view of professional life and her interest in dentistry.



4th place - Rebekah Hiltner (6A)

Rebekah spent her day on a farm in the district of Hildesheim, where she looked after animals such as horses and plants. She learned how much care animals need and that you have to take care of plants from an early age. She got the job through personal contact with the farm owner. Rebekah emphasized how much she enjoyed the work and that she would like to repeat the day. She particularly liked the fact that you can support people in India on this day.

As always, the main thing is not to win competitions, but to set an example and be there. All of our applicants did this this year. A big thank you for the numerous applications in the first year of the India Day competition!

In conclusion, the India Action Day was a great success. Not only for our participants, but for everyone who was able to expand their skills and especially for our partner school in India. A Chinese proverb says "Many small drops make an ocean." Through our accomplished work on this day, let us be the drops that fill the ocean of hope and help to our partner school.

We would like to thank everyone who contributed to this success and look forward to offering the competition again next year!

On behalf of the India-AG,

Maria Simonenko and Dominik Heidenreich

Strong team performance brings Mariano-Josephinum first place!



Our team put in an impressive performance at the WK 3 girls' soccer tournament, Jugend trainiert für Olympia. With great commitment, team spirit and tactical skill, the players secured first place unbeaten, without conceding a single goal! The strong defensive work, combined with an effective attacking game, made the team a cohesive unit and



deserved winners of the tournament. As a reward for their strong performance, the team will travel to the district finals in Hanover.

*Dear Nandhini, dear Fr Regis, dear Fr Charles and dear Ambrose,
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!*

Cordula, Hilde, Nora, Lina, Andrea, Edda, Kathrin and all Arivu-Team