

St John's Campus, Neerpair

NEWS LETTER – October 2025

Rev. Fr. John Suresh Social Projects

Dear Friends and Well-wishers,

Prayerful greetings from Nandhini Krishnan, Rev. Fr. Backia Regis, and Rev. Fr. Charles.

We hope this newsletter finds you in good health, high spirits, and surrounded by God's blessings. It is with heartfelt gratitude that we acknowledge your continued prayers and support, which have allowed us to journey forward with hope and joy.

In this edition, we are delighted to share some of the meaningful events and memorable moments from recent times. We trust that these updates will not only inform but also strengthen the bond we share, keeping you closely connected to our journey and mission.

Independence Day Celebration



The spirit of patriotism filled the air as India celebrated its Independence Day on 15th August with great pride and enthusiasm. Across the nation, the day was marked by flag-hoisting ceremonies, cultural programs, and heartfelt tributes to the freedom fighters who sacrificed their lives for our country's independence.

In our school, the celebration began with the hoisting of the national flag by Mrs. Seetha Mohanakrishnan, Panchayat Leader of Neerpair. This proud moment was followed by lively cultural performances and an impressive march past by our students. The entire campus echoed with patriotic songs and vibrant energy, making the day both meaningful and memorable for everyone present.

Drug Awareness Program

Drug awareness plays a vital role in educating individuals about the harmful effects of substance abuse and the importance of leading a healthy, drug-free life. Such initiatives help people understand how drug use can harm not only the body and mind but also relationships and society as a whole. These programs aim to prevent addiction, encourage responsible choices, and offer support to those in need.

On 23rd September, our school organized a Drug Awareness Program to educate and empower our students. We were privileged to welcome Deputy Superintendent of Police Mr. Ilayaraja, an expert in this field, as the resource person. He spoke not only about the dangers of drug abuse but also addressed crucial topics such as the protection of girls from sexual abuse and the importance of women's education.

The session was highly impactful, and our students gained valuable insights that will guide them to make informed and responsible choices in life.

Teachers' Day Celebration



Every year on September 5th, Teachers' Day is celebrated across India to commemorate the birthday of Dr. Sarvepalli Radhakrishnan, former President of India. Dr. Radhakrishnan was a renowned teacher and philosopher who strongly believed that teachers are the true nation-builders and that teaching is the highest form of service. His humble request to observe his birthday as Teachers' Day reflected his deep respect for the teaching profession.

Across the country, schools mark this day with heartfelt celebrations to honour and appreciate teachers for their invaluable contributions to education and society.

Our Dr. R. Arulappa Schools also celebrated this special occasion with great enthusiasm. The event included various activities and cultural programmes to express gratitude to our dedicated teachers. As a thoughtful gesture, Rev. Fr. Charles arranged new uniform dresses for the teachers, adding a special touch to the celebration. The entire programme was wonderful and meaningful, reflecting the deep respect and appreciation our school community holds for its teachers.

Awareness about planting trees and protecting the earth:



Planting trees is one of the simplest yet most impactful ways to protect our environment. Trees help reduce air pollution, improve soil quality, provide shade, support wildlife, and combat climate change by absorbing carbon dioxide. They also enhance the natural beauty of our surroundings and ensure a healthier, greener future for both the present and future generations.

At our school, we consider it a collective responsibility to educate and create awareness among students about the importance of protecting our planet. Through regular classroom sessions, our teachers encouraged students to actively participate in this mission by planting trees in their homes and villages.

Our students showed great enthusiasm for this meaningful initiative, taking a step forward to nurture nature and contribute towards a sustainable future.

Quarterly Examination:

Examinations play a vital role in evaluating a student's knowledge, skills, and understanding across various subjects. They are an essential tool for measuring learning progress and academic performance, helping both teachers and students identify areas of strength and opportunities for improvement.

As part of the statewide academic calendar, the quarterly examinations were conducted from 10th to 26th September. The corrected answer scripts were distributed to students, followed by a Parents-Teachers Meeting held on 11th October to further support students' academic development. During this session, teachers shared detailed insights into each student's progress and provided constructive feedback, fostering a strong partnership between home and school to encourage continued growth and success.

Repair Work and Painting in R C Primary School:



As many of you are aware, the roof of our R.C. Primary School had been damaged, leading to water leakage during the rainy season and causing difficulties for our children. To ensure a safe and conducive learning environment, essential repair work has been undertaken. This includes fixing leaks and cracks, strengthening weak areas, and repainting the school building, thereby making the structure more secure and welcoming for our students.

With the generous support of our German friends, we have successfully initiated the roofing and painting work of our Primary School. These improvements will provide a safer, brighter, and more comfortable space for our children to continue their education without any interruptions.

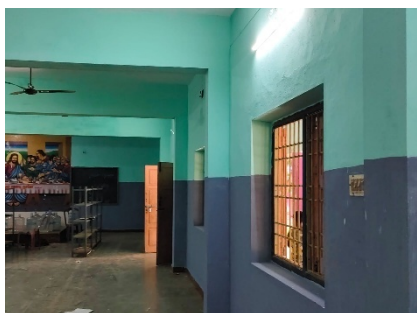
We take this opportunity to extend our sincere gratitude to our friends for their unwavering support and valuable contribution towards this noble cause.

St John's Home for the Children in Need



The admission process for St. John's Home is still in progress. Several day scholar students from our schools, who will be appearing for the government examinations in March, have expressed their interest in joining the home between January and March.

2026. Since many of these students travel long distances to school each day, we have gladly accepted their requests and look forward to welcoming them into our community.



Over the past three months, our team has been actively engaged in student admissions, organizing awareness camps, and initiating facility improvements within the home. As part of this, painting work has begun, though it is currently only partially completed.

The students have now gradually settled into their routines, and our management and staff are providing dedicated care and guidance to support their growth.

To encourage recreation and community bonding, we organized a short outing to a nearby temple last month. The students greatly enjoyed the trip, which offered them both refreshment and a meaningful cultural experience.

True Story



Dear Friends,

Greetings from Nethra, studying in Class XI. I hail from Maduranthakam. My parents work as daily wage earners. I have three brothers, and I am the only girl in my family. I completed my 10th standard at CSI High School, Maduranthakam. Later, my parents came to know about Dr. R. Arulappa Higher Secondary School, which is known for its quality education. Through our parish priest, they learned that the school offers education at a very minimal

fee and provides special concessions for needy and underprivileged children. Because of this, I joined the school and I am truly happy here.

The school management places great emphasis on both academic excellence and discipline. We are given plenty of opportunities to develop our skills and talents. At St. John's Home, we receive excellent care, a peaceful environment for study, and many opportunities to grow personally and academically. I deeply enjoy the nurturing atmosphere here.

It is my dream to complete my school education successfully and pursue my higher studies to become a software engineer. I sincerely thank all of you for your generous support towards our school and home. We gratefully remember you in our prayers.

Thank you very much.

With love and prayers,

Nethra

WE Students Sponsorship Program Update

In June, the fees of 52 students were successfully disbursed through CRDS. Each term, students approach either the WE Group President, Mr. Tamilmani, the Secretary, Mr. Ambrose, or other core committee members. Some students are also recommended by diocesan priests.



The committee collects and verifies student details, including name, course, college/university, year of study, family background, bank account information, photos, and identity cards. This information is submitted to CRDS, which transfers the fees directly to the students' bank accounts via Indian Bank.

Educational Day Celebration in Honor of Rev. Fr. John Suresh



Our group joyfully observed “Educational Day” on 26th October, commemorating the birthday of Rev. Fr. John Suresh, a visionary who dedicated his life to empowering students through education, social awareness, and leadership.

Fr. John Suresh not only opened the doors of higher education for many but also nurtured in them a deep sense of social responsibility and political consciousness. Inspired by his ideals, we continue to follow his path by organizing student camps twice a year, focusing on leadership development and political education to help young minds understand and engage with the realities of our caste-based society.

This year, more than 100 students participated in the celebration. The day began with a heartfelt prayer session, expressing gratitude to all our donors, friends, and well-wishers for their continued support. It was followed by group discussions and theatre-based activities that encouraged teamwork, leadership, and concentration. A PowerPoint presentation about our ongoing project was then shared, giving participants insights into our collective efforts and future goals. The event concluded with a shared lunch, marking a day filled with meaning, inspiration, and togetherness.

On 27th October, a few of us visited Rev. Fr. John Suresh’s graveyard to offer prayers and reflect on his enduring contributions. His spirit continues to guide and inspire us in our journey toward education and social transformation.

Success Story



I am Jeni Evaliya J, from K.K. Pudur, near Maduranthagam. Ours is a family of five with three daughters, and I am the eldest. My father works in the private sector, and my mother is a homemaker. My father's income alone is not sufficient to meet the needs of our family.

My younger sister and I completed our schooling at Dr. R. Arulappa Higher Secondary School. With the generous support of the WE Group, I successfully completed my Bachelor of Science in Chemistry at the prestigious Stella

Maris College, Chennai. My two younger sisters are also currently pursuing their bachelor's degrees with the continued support of the WE Group.

At present, I am pursuing my Bachelor of Education (B.Ed.) at Indira Gandhi College of Education, Nelveli, Uthiramerur. Along with my studies, I am working as a teacher at Vivekananda Vidyalaya CBSE School, Maduranthagam.

I express my heartfelt gratitude to Dear Pappa, dear friends, and offer a special thanks to Late Rev. Fr. John Suresh. From my school days till today, your support has been a strong foundation for my growth and that of my sisters. I sincerely thank each and every one of you for your encouragement, financial help, and blessings. Your support has truly transformed our lives and enabled us to pursue our education and dreams with confidence.

Editor's Desk:

The Indian caste system continues to poison every layer of society, leaving Dalits vulnerable to discrimination and injustice, no matter how educated or accomplished they become. Even as Dalit individuals break barriers and rise to higher positions, they are often met with disdain, exclusion, and subtle or sometimes overt hostility from colleagues and members of upper castes. The persistence of such prejudice is both heartbreaking and infuriating. Two recent incidents, in particular, have shaken me to the core, serving as painful reminders that caste-based oppression remains a grim reality in India, resisting the progress that so many Dalits have fought tirelessly to achieve.



On October 7, 2025, Mr Y. Puran Kumar from Chandigarh (IPS), a senior Indian Police Service officer and member of the Scheduled Caste community, tragically committed suicide. In his detailed suicide note, he described years of discrimination, harassment, and public humiliation by colleagues and senior officials, despite his professional achievements and high-ranking position. The case has drawn attention to the institutional challenges faced by Dalit officers within the police hierarchy, raising urgent questions about accountability and grievance

redressal mechanisms.



On October 6, 2025, Justice B.R. Gavai, Chief Justice of India (Supreme Court), a distinguished scholar and Dalit Buddhist narrowly escaped an attempted attack in court when lawyer Rakesh Kishore allegedly tried to hurl a shoe at him in reaction to his remarks on the restoration of a beheaded idol of Lord Vishnu in Khajuraho temple complex, Madhya Pradesh. The temple is protected as a UNESCO World Heritage site. As Public Interest

Litigation filed under Justice Gavai bench of Supreme Court, Justice Gavai directed any inquiries related to UNESCO world heritage site falls under the supervision of Archaeological Survey of India. Upon this direction and comment on Lord Vishnu, Lawyer Rakesh Kishore belonging to high class Brahmin reported that this act is against the attainment of Sanatana Dharma (Eternal Truth) and hurl a shoe at Justice Gavai. Justice Gavai, a true follower of Dr Ambedkarite Buddhism calmly proceeded this act. This brazen assault, rooted in caste-based hostility, exposes the alarming vulnerability of India's judiciary to targeted outrage, the distortion of judicial statements, an act of contempt of court and the viral amplification of controversies via social media. Such incidents starkly reveal the dual pressures confronting the nation's highest courts, the challenge of upholding justice in the face of societal prejudices and the relentless scrutiny of a reactive public sphere.

Together, these incidents reveal that caste-based discrimination and social prejudice remain deeply entrenched in Indian institutions, affecting even highly educated and senior officials. They highlight the urgent need for stronger mechanisms to ensure professional respect, institutional accountability, and protection against caste- and bias-based harassment.

Visit to Europe – September 2025

During my recent visit to Europe in September 2025, I had the honour of attending the baptism ceremony of my friend Dr. Hannes Datta's son Jonathan, where I was invited to serve as the Godmother. On this special occasion, our friends and well-wishers organized a series of gatherings with our donors, partner schools, and friends across Europe. I was accompanied by my sister Viji, and together we used this opportunity to strengthen our partnerships with Aktion Indien and Arivu in Germany, as well as Mercy Home in Belgium.



Our journey began in Amsterdam, at the home of Dr. Hannes Datta. From there, we stayed with "Pappa" Dr. Johannes Mispagel, who warmly hosted us. On 9th September, we visited Mariano Gymnasium Josephinum, where we were received with great warmth by the Director, staff, and members of the India Club. A special gathering was organized by Mrs. Cordulla and Mr. Mathis, to whom we extend our sincere thanks. In the evening, we also met several school teachers, parents, and friends of Dr. Johannes Mispagel.

Next, we visited Gymnasium Osede, where Mrs. Kathrin Haase coordinated all arrangements. The school's Director, staff, and students extended a heartfelt welcome. We presented our project activities and appreciated their continued support. We then visited Albert-Schweitzer-Schule, spending two days with the ARIVU

team, Mrs. Hilde, and friends. The School Director, along with teachers and students, welcomed us enthusiastically and showed genuine interest in our work.

Another special stop was Gymnasium Buschkids, which we revisited after many years. It was deeply inspiring to witness the strong commitment of the Director, staff, and students to our projects. Although it is a kindergarten-level institution, their involvement remains steadfast. All these schools have active “India Clubs,” where students play a key role in fundraising. On their designated Social Day, students work in different places and contribute their earnings to support our initiatives in India.

Our time in Belgium was equally meaningful. We met Mr. Jacques Vellut, founder of Mercy Home, and spent time with his family. We also stayed two days with Mr. Dirk Portier in Wetteren, where we had fruitful discussions about our projects and shared quality time with Ms. Sara Portier.



Later, we spent two days with Mrs. Ann Sheela and her family. She works at Christu Roi College, where we presented our work to nearly 200 students through a PowerPoint presentation. We also met many friends working at the same school and had an evening gathering with former students and teachers.

A particularly moving moment was meeting Mrs. Brigitt and friends, the sponsor parents of the late Rev. Fr. John Suresh. We concluded our trip with a two-day parish visit.

I am deeply grateful to all our dear friends and partners in Europe for their warm welcome, genuine interest, and unwavering support. Each visit enriches us with new learnings and strengthens our resolve to continue our mission with renewed energy. I carry with me the love and encouragement of our extended family in Europe, which continues to inspire and sustain our work.

We are sincerely grateful and deeply honored to receive your continued and unwavering support for our project. Your trust and commitment have been instrumental in strengthening our initiatives and creating a meaningful impact in the lives of many. We deeply value your partnership and generosity, which inspire us to continue our mission with renewed dedication.

- Editorial team: Rev Fr Backia Regis, Rev Fr Charles, Nandhini Krishnan, Shravanti T & Nivi K