



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 that this newsletter finds you in excellent health and high spirits. The year is coming to an end. Time to look back and summarize the year.

We are happy to share some activities that have taken place in the months October - December. We hope you enjoy reading!

Catering at parents-teachers-day

At the end of November the parents-teachers-day took place for standard 5-7 at ASS-school. A lot of parents came to speak with the teachers about their children.



Our India-working group and Arivu-Team sold tea, coffee and cake and little handicrafts to parents and teachers.

India - Club at ASS Nienburg

During the last weeks before Christmas, we did a lot of arts and crafts in the India-club. We also baked little cakes and sold everything during the breaks at our school to raise money for our friends in St. Johns home!



Teatime concert at the ASS

In December many music-groups of the ASS-school invited parents and friends for a little concert, as it has become a tradition by now.

The chorus sang some songs of their new musical project. The bellplates and the wind-instruments group presented some Christmas songs. It was a pleasure to listen to the music.

The India-club and Arivu-team group sold self-made cake, pretzels, roasted almonds and obviously coffee and tea to the guests.



Selfmade Advent wreath of Arivu-Team

As in recent years Arivu team made Advent wreaths and Edda knitted a lot of socks, pullovers and scarfs, which we sold at ASS-school. A lot of teachers bought it, because they like the Advent wreaths and knitted clothes but also because they like the idea of supporting the good work of you, our dear friends in Chennai and Neerpair!



Christmas-Decoration in ASS

As every december, the school community and the classes decorated their rooms and the entrance hall. Every morning when it was still dark outside an illuminated Xmas-tree welcomed all at the entrance hall of both buildings.

Greetings of St Nicolas

Members of the pupils group organized a nice procedure on december 6 th. Pupils could buy a chocolate Santa Clause and sended it with greetings to a class mate. It is always a surprise who gets these nice greetings.



Service at church St. Martin

The start into the winter holidays is always a special one: first the classes celebrate a little bit with their class teacher. Afterwards, the church of St. Martin opens its door for pupils, teachers, parents and staff. We all have a service together which is planned and made by our groups of religious education.





India Club and other activities at Gymnasium Oesede



Gymnasium Oesede multilingual – Language café

On 6 November, our school hosted its first ever 'Language

Café' project – a day dedicated to diversity, exchange and multilingualism in action.

Carefully prepared, an impressive selection of over 15 different languages was presented in the hall. Languages represented included European languages like English, Dutch, Spanish, Polish, Italian, but also Arabic, Thai, Urdu, Tamil and many more. Visitors were able to immerse themselves in other cultures: there were traditional delicacies, typical national clothing, fascinating characters and alphabets to discover. The tables were lovingly decorated by pupils and parents who wanted to present their native languages.

The language café became a meeting place where numerous interesting conversations took place and new contacts were made. Pupils of all ages, teachers and parents organised the day together, contributing to a very special atmosphere.



Chemistree at Gymnasium Oesede



At the beginning of December, the students of Mrs Haase's chemistry class (standard 12) decided to create a "chemistree" to get into the Christmas mood.



Christmas Bazaar 2025 – Creating, Giving and Supporting Together



On 16 December 2025, our school once again hosted its festive Christmas Bazaar, held for the fourth time and marking a joyful start to the final week before the holidays.

In the weeks leading up to the event, students worked enthusiastically on crafts and preparations. As in previous years, the bazaar aimed to support our partner school in India. The afternoon opened with performances by the school choir and orchestra,

setting a warm Christmas atmosphere.

A wide range of handmade products and activities attracted many visitors, including families, alumni and friends of the school. Students sold items they had created in lessons, clubs or at home. Alongside traditional stalls, special highlights such as Christmas karaoke, a quiz, a raffle and musical performances added variety. Food and drinks were also plentiful, from cakes to mulled wine and sausages.



Here you can see some students of the India-Club (Standard 6) preparing some sweets and the students of Chemistry class (Standard 12) roasting almonds. Thanks to the dedication of the India Club and the organizing team, the bazaar was a great success. Around 4,000 € were raised, with all proceeds support-



ing students at our partner school in India. Once again, the Christmas Bazaar showed what can be achieved when the school community works together for a good cause.

“The same procedure as every year?” – A cherished tradition and so much more



Every year again on the last day before Christmas Holidays will start, the entire school community came together for the traditional Christmas singing. Students and teachers alike could be seen leaving the stress of the past weeks behind as the long-awaited Christmas holidays finally began. Only the day before, some students were still sitting

exams. Now, however, the mood shifted to joyful anticipation. Well-known, upbeat Christmas songs were sung together, accompanied by the school band



As is tradition, the event also included words of thanks and recognition. A number of students and staff members were briefly honoured for their special achievements and commitment to school life. After a short look back at the past year with a lot of pictures, the event ended – the same procedure as every year – with the inevitable polonaise to *Feliz Navidad*.

We, the entire school community of Gymnasium Oesede, wish all parents, families and alumni of Dr Arulappa Hr Sec School a joyful and peaceful Christmas season. 🌲

Activities at MARIANO-JOSEPHINUM in Hildesheim 🇮🇳

Visit of St. Nicholas at School



Two days after his feast day on December 6th St. Nicholas stopped by our school to surprise our youngest students with sweets. The angel was once again there to assist him actively. He brought many words of praise along with a few admonishments. Additionally, he presented each class with a voucher worth 100 euros for the class fund on behalf of the alumni association.

For everyone it was an entertaining change during the school day. The tradition of one of our music teachers visiting the younger classes with our secretary has been around for many years. Every year it is always a delightful surprise for the little ones.



German – Spanish Students Exchange program at Gymnasium Mariano-Josephinum

From November 28th to December 5th, 2025, we hosted 12 exchange students from Valencia. On Friday, we welcomed them together with our families in the atrium and spent a lovely afternoon together. Afterwards, the exchange students went home with their host families. During the weekend Many visited the Christmas market, went ice skating, or bowling.



On Monday morning, the students from Spain were greeted by our principal Mr Schweer, and then the exchange students attended a class. Afterwards, we explored the school and made Christmas decorations. After a rallye through Hildesheim, we visited the Christmas market.

On Tuesday and Wednesday, the exchange students visited Berlin and Goslar. On Wednesday morning, we had

previously exchanged views on Christmas in Germany and Spain.

On Thursday, we traveled together to Hannover. After about a 2-hour city tour, during which we learned a lot about the history of Hannover, we had some free time and were allowed to walk through the city in small groups.

On Friday, we said goodbye to our exchange partners at the train station. It was a wonderful week, and we are already looking forward to our return visit to Valencia in February 2026.

Rorate Mass in the Cathedral of Hildesheim with our Bishop



On Wednesday, December 10th, the entire school community had the opportunity to experience a special Rorate Mass in the cathedral, celebrated by Bishop Heiner Wilmer in the candlelight. In addition to us, the other Catholic schools of Hildesheim were also invited – a special sign of our shared connection during Advent. Under the theme “Be Brave and Have Trust,” the service reminded us of the importance of confidence and solidarity in our school life.

Afterward, everyone gathered for hot drinks and fresh pastries, allowing the morning to end peacefully. In a festive mood, everyone went to class.

Dear Nandhini, dear Fr Regis, dear Fr Charles, dear Ambrose,

we send our warmest Christmas greetings and best wishes for the New Year to you and all our friends in India. Please pass on our good wishes to all the children at St John's Home, to the teachers, students and staff of Arulappa Higher Secondary School, and to all members of the WE Group.



As lights shine everywhere and Christmas draws near, we are reminded that this season stands for love, hope and trust. We especially hold Fr John Suresh in our thoughts and hearts. His commitment and kindness continue to inspire us, and he remains an important part of our shared journey.

May the Christmas season bring comfort, peace and renewed confidence, and may the New Year be filled with hope, friendship and strength for all of us.



**Merry Christmas and
Happy New Year 2026!**

*Hilde, Andrea, Nora, Lina, Cordula, Kathrin
and all friends from Arivu-Team and Aktion Indien*