

News bites from Yuvajyoti Children's Home (YCH), Nagpur August 2016

Dear friends,

Namaste! Hearty greetings from YCH!

I wish to take you on a little journey into YCH life here! Thirty eight boys and 8 team members make YCH energetic and bubbly. Eleven girls are taken care of in a boarding school for girls, run by the religious sisters in the Providence school in the city. The last couple of months have been very busy with



school related work – admissions, purchase and distribution of educational material, shoes and uniforms and other issues. Admissions are taken in different schools in the city such as Vinalaya Primary School, Tidke High School, Matoshri Parvatabai Vanjary High School, Krushi Vidyalaya, Dayanand High School, St. John's High School and Providence Girls School. The children are regular in attending school and the daily routine has set in.

The YCH welcomed a new member on 27th July 2016 namely Ashraf Khan, a ten year old boy whose mother is dead and father has deserted him. He was found by a YCH team member living on the streets with his older sister. He too has been admitted to Vinalaya Primary School in class IV. He has adjusted well to the YCH and school environment.

Three of the boys namely, Vikrant, Nadeem and Raja have begun their college studies after completing their schooling successfully. Vikrant and Raja have also completed their computer hardware course during vacations and Nadeem has completed a vocational course of three months in air conditioning and refrigeration. Pankaj was unsuccessful in 10th class public exams and preparing himself for the winter exams. Kiran is pursuing her college studies in home science from St. Joseph's Girls' Junior college. She also completed a fashion designing course during the college vacation. Sushant Markan has admission in Vidharba Junior college for commerce studies after a gap of a year during which he completed a vocational course in air condition and refrigeration and worked with a firm.



About 20 Make A Difference (MAD) volunteers continue with weekends educational and experiential activities, making YCH life more vibrant and interesting.

Child Parliament of the house met on 6th of July 2016 to discuss issues of discipline, health and hygiene, schooling, home study and responsibilities in the house.

The visit of Robert shepherd and Rita Shepherd was very heart warming for all the members of YCH in the second week of July 2016.

A number of festivals such as Ramzan, Pola and Raksha Bhandan were celebrated meaningfully and with zeal.



The YCH children visited St Ann's School in the city, played football and had lunch with the school children on 23rd July 2016.

The Indian Independence Day was celebrated with great fervour on 15th of August 2016. Saket, Ashwin and Rohan gave inspirational speeches and a group of boys sang patriotic songs.

It was a wonderful moment of joy for YCH on 25th August 2016, when the naming ceremony of the child of Geetha (formerly under the care of YCH and who had married last year) was held at YCH. It was a new experience for the YCH boys – 38 proud uncles! It was a traditional tribal ceremony.



Another new attraction for YCH during the past months has been the kitchen garden the boys have initiated under the leadership of Fr. Philomen Raj. They are experiencing the gradual and continuous process of germination and growth of the plants. They are learning to care for the creation by

regular watering and keeping the garden free of weeds.



The YCH experienced a couple of sad moments when Kailash Kambli and Sahil Meshram decided to leave the house due poor adjustment with other boys. Kailash now lives with his friends in another city and Sahil has gone back to his relatives.

A YCH street outreach team comprising of Fr. James Juvani, Margret Kujur and Prajkta Buradkar has been formed in order to keep regular contact with children on the streets in the city. They are also supported by the YCH volunteers.

Friends, thank you for accompanying us on this journey. I hope that you liked it. We will continue to update you about the life in YCH every month.

Take care. God bless you all.

With warm wishes,

Fr. Harry