

premdan newsletter

Christmas 2024

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We have come to the end of yet another year. With Christmas just round the corner we can see and feel the festive season. Our children too are caught in the thrill of Christmas. Thank you for being the light in their lives. It is because of your love and concern today that they are able to hope and perceive a better world for themselves. And that is what Christmas is all about. Not just festivities and celebration but making Christmas come alive for someone who is less fortunate. In the midst of our preparation to welcome the light of the world, may we continue to radiate this light which has touched us and spread happiness, joy and above all peace to everyone.

SEPTEMBER 2024 Teachers' Day

4th September 2024: In anticipation of Teachers' Day on 5th September, the students of the school organised a special program for their teachers. The children's enthusiasm was palpable as they showcased a series of splendid performances, making the event truly memorable for everyone present.



AUGUST 2024 Independence Day

14th August 2024: In honor of our freedom fighters, a heartfelt program was organized for the staff, students, and helpers of Garden School. The celebration took place on the 14th of August, as a prelude to Independence Day.

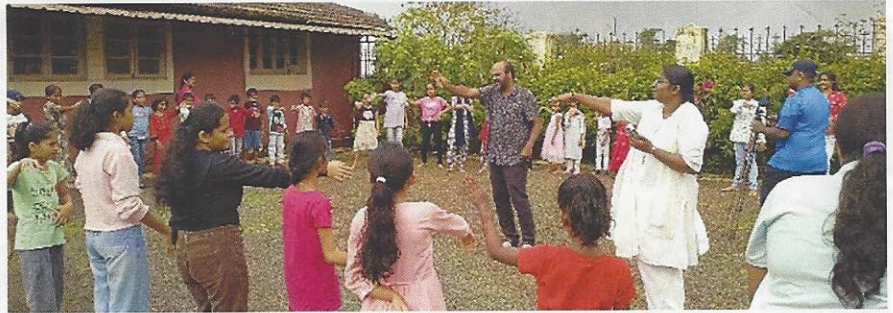
The event was marked by the children's spirited performances, including a rendition of the National Anthem and the inspiring song 'Hum Honge Kamyab.' (We shall Overcome) The occasion brought everyone together in a shared sense of patriotism and pride.



Fresh Air Camps

Primary section and Girls of Grade 5 to Grade 9

9th September 2024: A refreshing camp was organised for the 28 sponsored children of Prem Dan. The primary children from Grade I to IV enjoyed a one-day camp, while 55 girls from Grades V to IX participated in a two-day camp.



Fr. Peter Michael C SSR served as the resource person, delivering enriching sessions that focused on practical aspects of daily living. The children returned home on 10th September 2024, filled with new experiences and valuable insights.



Boys of Grade 5 to Grade 9



16th September 2024: A one-day fresh air camp was held for the boys of Grades V to IX at Prem Dan, Khandala, with 33 children in attendance.

The resource person, Fr. Neville Fernandes C SSR, delivered an inspiring session on soft skills, motivating the boys to dream big and pursue their goals with determination. Drawing from his own experiences, he emphasised that obstacles are temporary and can be overcome with perseverance. The day was both enriching and enjoyable for the children, leaving them with valuable lessons and cherished memories.



Fun with Colours!

23rd September 2024: In collaboration with the 'SMILZ' NGO, which has been actively conducting activities for the children of Prem Dan, organised an engaging drawing session at Garden School.

Meant to encourage creativity and self-expression among the children, each child was provided with outlines to color, and they eagerly transformed them into stunning and vibrant works of art, showcasing their unique imagination skills.



The activity was enjoyed and also boosted their confidence as they proudly displayed their creations. It an enriching experience that left smiles on everyones faces.



OCTOBER 2024 Rangoli



24th October 2024: The 'SMILZ' NGO, continuing their efforts to engage the children of Prem Dan, organized a vibrant Rangoli activity at Garden School.

This creative session involved the children crafting beautiful Rangoli designs by sticking colored papers. The activity was met with great enthusiasm as the children immersed themselves in the process, showcasing their creativity and teamwork.

The experience was both enjoyable and educational, fostering a sense of artistic expression and cultural appreciation among the children. It was another delightful initiative that added joy and color to their day.

T-Shirt Painting Competition

1st October 2024: In collaboration with the Lions Club Bombay Host, Prem Dan organised an exciting T-shirt painting competition for its sponsored children to commemorate Gandhi Jayanti.

Each child was provided with a white T-shirt and acrylic paints, allowing them to express their creativity through unique and captivating designs. The event showcased the



children's talent and imagination, as they turned simple T-shirts into eye-catching works of art.

Prizes were awarded for the best paintings, adding a competitive and celebratory spirit to the occasion. All participants were treated to snacks, making the day enjoyable and memorable for everyone involved.

Our Children's Reality

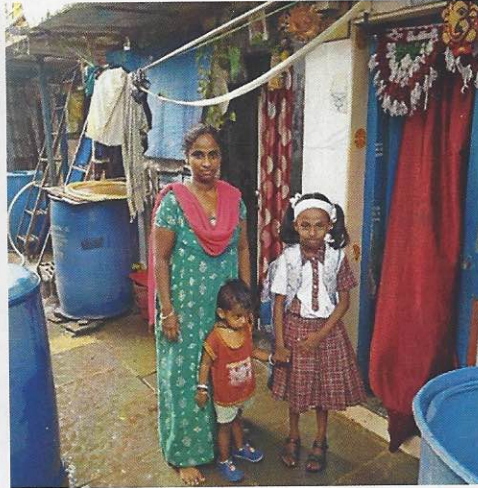
The world is evolving at a rapid pace, with new technology shrinking distances and making the world more interconnected and powerful. However, amidst this progress, many of us remain deeply rooted in our own realities. Parents, who once relied on farming as their primary source of income, have been forced to give up their land—not by choice, but due to heavy loans they struggle to repay. Unpredictable weather patterns and other economic challenges have pushed them to seek better opportunities in the cities. This has often led them to settle in unsafe, dilapidated, or unsuitable areas. Our children come from such backgrounds.

These parents, along with their children, harbor dreams—dreams of having an identity in society, whether as teachers, doctors, engineers, or even IAS officers. These aspirations can only be realized through access to quality education. At



Prem Dan, we are committed to helping these children secure a brighter future by providing them with the education they deserve. However, to continue and expand this work, we need your support—whether through donations of kind or financial assistance.

With your help, we can empower these children and their families, giving them the opportunity to build a better future for themselves and break the cycle of hardship. Together, we can make their dreams a reality.



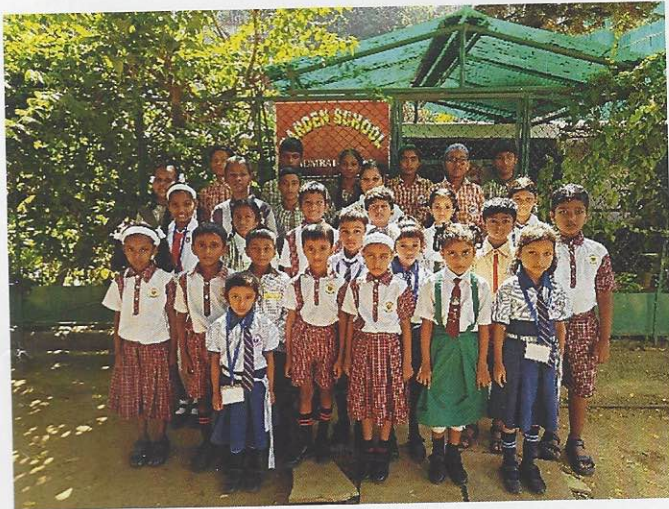
Here's a glimpse of our Prem Dan sponsored children, proudly wearing their school uniforms, as they thrive in the various schools they attend. These children, supported by the Prem Dan sponsors and benefactors are making strides in their education and personal growth in their respective schools. Through their hard work and dedication, they continue to make us proud, and we are grateful for the opportunities these institutions provide in shaping their futures.



Holy Name High School (89 children)



St. Joseph High School (41 children)



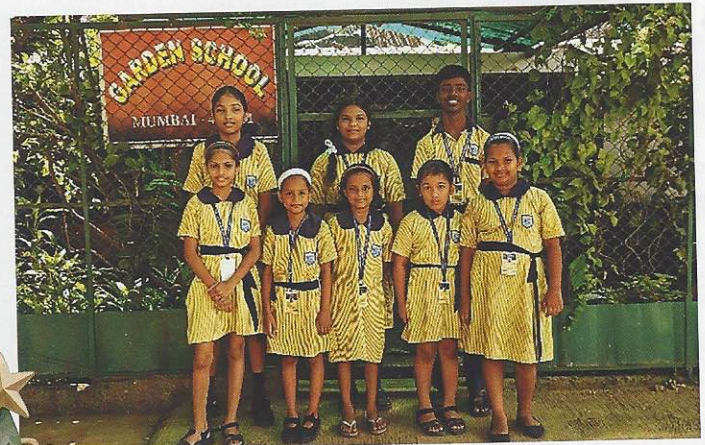
Students from Reay Road (39 children)



Students from Other Schools (29 children)



Kendriya Vidyalaya School (27 children)



Little Flower High School (33 children)





CJM Kharghar Boarding School (35 girls)



Bai Kabibai School (8 children)



St. Stephen's School (25 children)

A Christmas Message of Hope and Gratitude

Christmas is a time of giving, hoping, sharing, and above all, a time of living love every day. As we celebrate this joyous season, may peace be the essence of our celebrations. When there is peace, love flows abundantly and it brings us closer to one another.

We would like to extend our heartfelt gratitude to you, our dear sponsors, benefactors, and well-wishers. Without your generous support, it would not have been possible for these children to complete their education and enrich their lives. Many of them have now enrolled in colleges and are on their way to further growth and success.

As we prepare for Christmas, may we experience the true meaning of this season—following the star of hope, peace, and love in our hearts.

Wishing you and your families a very Merry Christmas and a Happy and Prosperous New Year 2025. May the blessings of Christmas fill your hearts with joy and peace.

God Bless You All!

Srs, Helen, Sylvia and Staff at Premdan
Sr Philomena and Srs at Kharghar

