

# **World Family Foundation Staying In Touch - Spring 2017**

## **Dear WFF Sponsors and Friends,**

As we spring forward into new life and growth, WFF and Prashanti School are growing too!

### **Construction Update**

Imagine our excitement as we WFF board of directors members arrived at the Prashanti International School building site in January. There it was! The new classroom building taking shape before our eyes! This is truly your love and concern for the future of these children manifesting in concrete!



Over the month, we watched the workers bringing our dreams to life. 5700 square feet of new classroom space for grades 6 through 8. Shortly after we left India, the concrete roof of the building was cast, and the building was ready for the finish work: walls, floors, electrical, plumbing, painting, etc.

We have come so far! The finish work is under way, and it looks as though the building will actually be ready for classes for the new school year!

# Prashanti School (PS) & Prashanti International School (PIS), Puri, India



Sports Day is held each year at PIS in early January. The students are divided into teams (or houses) of mixed ages. The teams are named after the five human values Sathya (Truth), Dharma (Right Action), Shanti (Peace), Prema (Love) and Ahimsa (non-Violence). These values form a core part of the curriculum at PIS and are woven into all subjects. Through competing in a variety of games and activities, the children learn teamwork and good sportsmanship. Everyone is cheered on and the love and camaraderie is palpable.

Later in January, WFF board members Bruce and Leslie Bouché, Martha Lira and Dr. Edie Resto made the trip to India to spend time with the children. The visit was full of love and connection, and great fun was had by all!

Watching the children grow and advance academically, and seeing them develop their language and interpersonal skills, it is amazing to remember that they were so recently living on the streets, neglected and in dire poverty.

They are precious jewels who will bring so much good to the world.









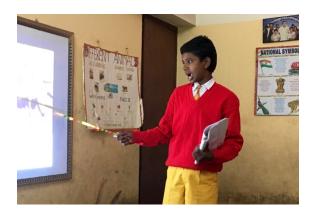
The WFF board members brought clothing, toys for indoor and outdoor play, videos, school supplies, science experiments and lots of books for the children. Dr. Edie also brought special science equipment including a microscope, stethoscope, charts of the human body plus more for our new developing science lab. She spent time training the teachers and the older students how to use them. The science lab will be a part of the new classroom building open for classes in June!





The children of Prashanti had some surprises for the visitors! With the guidance of their computer teacher, the older students had researched and prepared PowerPoint projects on the school's new laptop computers! The laptops were donated by the Rotary Club of Ojai, California in 2016. Good computing skills are an important part of a solid education, and the board members were very impressed by the excellent presentations!





The children also prepared an extraordinary yoga demonstration under the tutelage of their yoga instructor.

This was a perfect blend of the modern and ancient sciences. It is a reflection of the Prashanti model for an education with values, that seeks to beautifully develop the mind, body and spirit of each student.







The children of Prashanti School received a visit from loving supporters from California, Joyce Faber and her son Eric. Joyce and Eric toured the construction site for the new school building, spent time observing several classes at PIS, and interacted one on one with several students. After her visit, Joyce wrote, "The program here is outstanding. I have taught in Los Angeles public schools for 20 years and appreciate the work



put into this program. The children are thriving...teachers obviously were dedicated, prepared and holding positive visions...I have great gratitude to all the staff and support groups for making an outstanding school that also embodies the practice of the Human Values. Thanks to all for their love, care and patience to help grow these beautiful children to adults who are equipped to live fulfilling lives and be of help to their families."





### **Prashanti School in the News**

Photo-journalist, Carmen Smyth from Ventura, CA, visited Prashanti School for several days in January. Carmen came to Puri to interview Elizabeth Burnett, director of PS, to photograph the children and to write about Prashanti School. Her marvelous story on the school was published upon her return to the States in the VC Reporter.

It was the cover article! Read the article HERE.







Only 3 weeks left to buy tickets and take part in WFF's fundraising Raffle!

Help the children get an education and have a chance to win a beautiful trip to Catalina Island, plus many more great prizes!

Click <u>HERE</u> to view the prizes and buy tickets.





Your love and support make a world of difference for these needy children, giving them a happier childhood and a chance for a brighter future.

You are truly changing the world, one child at a time!

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Sending love around the world....





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