

2014 Edition

Newsletter

KINGS WORLD TRUST FOR CHILDREN – INDIA



KINGS

www.kingschildren.org

The 10th Annual Day Celebration of *Kings School*

Kings School celebrated its 10th Anniversary on 8th August in a very grand manner. His Excellency, Mr Bharat Joshi, British Deputy High Commissioner, patron to Kings World Trust for Children, India was its Chief Guest. Mr Joshi actually arrived at the School the day before the Anniversary, in order to have the opportunity to meet all of the students and answer any questions they might have and tour the Kings campus.

His Excellency, Mr Bharat Joshi, made a fine speech in which he expressed his appreciation to all connected with the School for the excellent work which they carried out. He emphasised that Kings World Trust for Children and Kings School have achieved the goal of imparting a high standard of education to the students without regard to their parents economic status and they have received a good balance between academics, sports and other cultural activities as well. The children, who have had the good fortune to be educated at the school, will make excellent future citizens. Mr. Joshi distributed the prizes to rank holders in the Public exams of year 10 & 12 and proficiency winners of year 1-9 & 11. This ceremony was followed by a series of cultural programmes in which the students demonstrated their talents in a multitude of ways. The day came to an end with a delicious supper in the swimming pool area.



Pictured beside is Headmistress of Kings CBSE School, Mrs Anu along with her Students.



KINGS

Opening of KINGS CBSE SCHOOL

The new Kings CBSE School was initiated in the current academic year as a result of the demand for the CBSE curriculum from the student and parent community. KINGS CBSE SCHOOL has a new approach to education focusing on the interests, abilities and learning styles of each individual student, with the teacher acting as the facilitator of learning.

The main objective of CBSE is to develop the overall personality of the students. CBSE differs from many other learning methodologies in that it recognises the individuality of each pupil and allows the students to choose the direction of their education. The school encourages the students to be active and responsible participants in their own learning process. Every teacher follows different teaching styles which provide the ideal learning environment to allow the latent talent of each child to blossom and flourish. The students at Kings CBSE School are encouraged to be capable, competent and responsible members of modern India.

The CBSE syllabus is more student-orientated than the standard one and helps the students to better prepare themselves for the competitive examinations they will face at the national level. The curriculum is based more on reasoning and analytical abilities than memorizing facts. Students of CBSE will have an advantage in national competitive examinations such as IIT(Indian Institute of Technology), IIM (Indian Institute of Management), Bits Pilani (Birla Institute of Technology and Science), Medicine, Engineering colleges as the CBSE curriculum is similar to the one followed by the boards conducting the Admission test.



KINGS SCHOOL LOCATION

Kings School is located on a 55 acre estate in a poor rural area close to the western ghat mountains which are a haven for wildlife and endangered species such as the Bengal Tiger. Wild elephants often come down to the plains and eat crops and cause damage in the local villages. Different species of Monkeys roam the hills and find refuge in buildings and woodlands. Tigers are now becoming increasingly rare in India but some can still be found in the tiger sanctuaries and in remote forests.



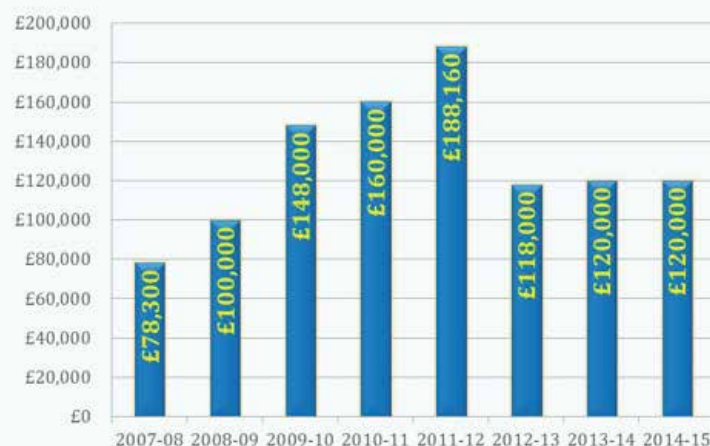
How The Financial Crisis has Affected KINGS

The global financial crisis has had a devastating effect on money donated by individuals, Trusts and Companies in the UK to Kings World Trust for Children (India) who work with children and young people who are orphaned, homeless, disadvantaged or disabled. Since 2011 this income has fallen by 40% and has created real challenges in the support that KWTC (India) can give to the projects and programmes operated by the Trust. Aid to individuals has been cut back and community aid programmes have been put on hold pending a recovery and increased funding. Less money from the UK and staggering inflation in India have seen our spending power greatly reduced.

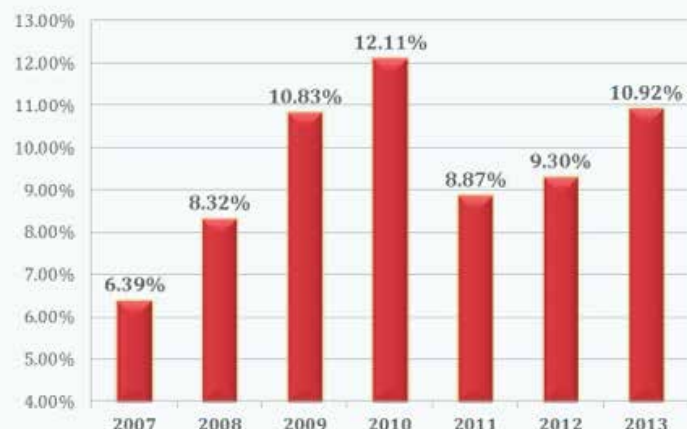
Inflation in India

Inflation in India has averaged 10% annually for the last 5 years. This is 50% inflation in 5 years for basic costs of food, vehicle fuel, salaries, building costs & materials, clothing, sandals & shoes and all essential needs of children and young people in full time education. Coupled with the reduced income from the UK, the combined financial effect is 90% less spending power by KWTC in India during the last 5 years.

Funds Received Annually from KWTC(UK)



Historic Annual Inflation in India



Uncle Colin receiving a cheque for a sum of £, 3,786.70 in Haslemere from the Amesbury School for Kings World Trust for Children, India with various fund raising events.

CHILD SPONSORSHIP

We have closed our children's homes, for practical reasons, and KWTC in India is now focussing on providing a first class education, in English, at Kings School, for children who are disadvantaged, marginalised and poor or who have physical disabilities. We currently have 206 such children who attend Kings School. If you are not already sponsoring a child at Kings World Trust for Children please do so. It costs only £25 a month to sponsor a disadvantaged child. This includes excellent teaching and all extras in our modern and well resourced school. Your generous sponsorship will give a poor child a real opportunity to become a responsible and well educated citizen in modern India. Please ring Anne-Marie on (0) 1428 653504 for more details.

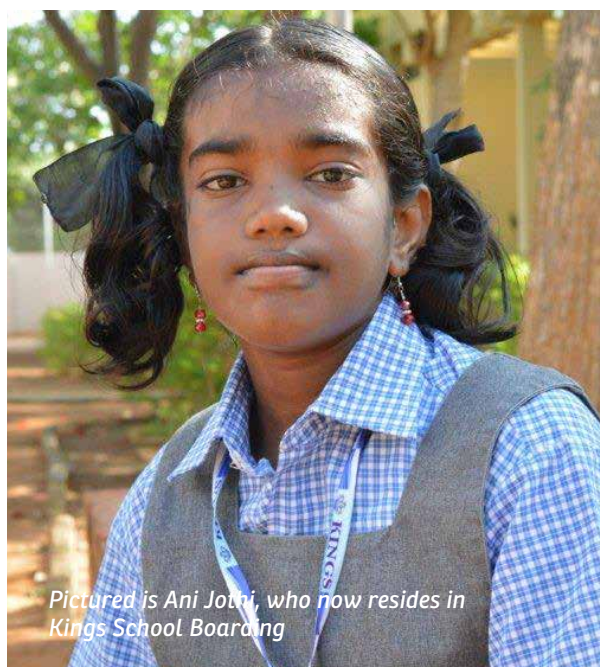
Children who benefit from the Bursary Programme

This year we have taken 40 students under the Bursary Scheme. These children are either orphan or semi-orphan and keen to study, but due to a poor family background and uneducated parents are left without any basic elementary education. Kings World Trust for Children has tried to find families which despite having such stories are nevertheless still able to smile. It has tried to change their lives by treating them impartially and providing them with an education. They are not differentiated from fee paying students with whom they enjoy all facilities on equal terms.

Iwan Angel a 4 year old girl was abandoned by her father before she was born and by her mother soon after her birth. She was then cared for by her maternal grandparents who, because of their age found this very difficult. On hearing about KWTC's Bursary Programme they approached us for help. After studying Iwan's family background KWTC has taken her into the Bursary Scheme providing her with full free education and all necessary needs for attending School. Iwan is a quiet girl, is keen to learn new concepts and is helpful towards her fellow students.



Iwan Angel with her Grandparents after coming from Kings School



Pictured is Ani Jothi, who now resides in Kings School Boarding

Ani Jothi whose mother had very weak eyesight came to KWTC at the age of seven in 2012, when she lost her father. She joined year 3 at Kings School and is an average student. When the children under residential care were sent home due to changes in policies by the Social Reform office, she was sent back to her mother and was under the Super Outreach Programme. Shortly afterwards her mother died leaving Ani all alone at home. So she came back to the School, and is now a Kings School Boarder.



Pictured are Antroin Cladius with his mother at the entrance of his house.

Antroin Cladius, a nine year old boy lost his father in an accident. His brother suffers from polio and his mother not only finds it very difficult to support her family but could not give her children basic primary education. Following a survey study of her family background her request for Bursary was accepted. Antroin has now joined Kings School and is studying in Year 4. He is a calm and quiet boy, an average student and has taken up Kung-Fu as an activity. His teacher says there is an improvement in his study level and that he shows an interest in learning.

How Kings School Bursary Programme has benefited me.....



Sarah Sundar receiving the shield from Collector

Sarah Sundar is very proud to be a member of KWTCI which she joined in 2006 in Year 2. Everyone is correct when they say that Kings is the best school says Sarah who is particularly impressed by its infrastructure, facilities and the commitment of its teachers. She has found the introduction of the Literary club most useful in helping to improve her vocabulary, pronunciation and diction which in turn enabled her to participate in various English dramas and elocution competitions. She was encouraged to reach a good standard in sports and games and as a hockey player participates up to Divisional level and says that the sporting facilities at Kings School are excellent. Why go anywhere else she says when Kings School offers students a complete development package. Having recently completed her year 10 Public exams in which she was the 2nd State Rank holder with 498/500, she is now studying Maths and Biology at A level. In Sarah's view the credit for her achievement goes entirely to Kings School who provided her with free education under their 'Bursary Programme Scheme'. Her hearty thanks go to Uncle Colin and Uncle Navamani who she says gave her the opportunity of learning in such a wonderful environment.



Sonam being awarded by Uncle Colin in the School Assembly

How KWTC has helped me.....

Sonam Catherin lost her father in a train accident in Mumbai. Having no support, she together with her mother and sister moved South, where they heard about KWTCI and approached it for help. She joined KWTCI in 2003 when she was seven years old. She found it difficult at first but with the encouragement of the team learned to speak English, participated in various swimming and classical dance competitions and gained in confidence. In the year A level Public exams Sonam scored 1173/1200 in Commerce and Accountancy which she says would have been impossible without the guidance and support of KWTCI. With further support from KWTCI she is now attending Sarah Tucker College with a view to graduating in English Literature and becoming a teacher. She will always be thankful to KWTC for their support.

New Trustees

Mr Mike Nithavrianakis

We are very happy to welcome Mike as a new Trustee of Kings World Trust for Children (UK). Mike was until recently British Deputy High Commissioner to Southern India based in Chennai and also the Honorary Patron for KWTC (India). He has visited the Trust and Kings School on several occasions and is very familiar with the Trust's work with disadvantaged and marginalised children. We look forward to his continued association with KWTC as a Trustee as he has a wealth of Indian contacts gained through his Indian appointment.



Mrs Anna Maclean

2014 was a very special year for me. On 31 December 2013 my husband, 3 boys and I arrived at Kings School. Having never been to India before, everything was very different for us. However, all the staff and pupils at Kings School looked after us so well that we felt very welcome. Everyone was so kind and helpful. For the next 10 weeks, living above the dining room of the school, and being included in all the activities of the school, we felt very much 'at home'. We felt very lucky to be in such a place. We loved the school, everything Kings World Trust does and all the people we worked alongside. When it came to leaving on 8th March we were all very sad. We will never forget the time we had at Kings School and the people who are so special to us. I felt honoured to have been asked to be a Trustee of Kings World Trust and am looking forward to supporting the work of the charity.



Achievements

Ashok has this year been elected as assistant head boy. He had been living in the Trust since 2004 and is now living in boarding. Ashok is friendly and a very good basketball player, his team having won various basketball tournaments.



Ashok receiving the Asst. Head Boy Sash from Uncle Colin

Achievements by Higher Education students

Sibinraj who achieved sports merit free seat in Jain University Bangalore has participated in a national tournament and won third place.



Sibin is seen second from the right side



Felix is seen in his work place

Achievements by Ex-Students

Felix's father, the family's only bread winner one day became totally blind and his mother was helpless. They were already poor and lived in a single room in a thatched roof house with no means of survival. His sister gave up school to work in a cotton factory and provide the family with one meal a day but Felix was reluctant to follow suit and wanted to continue schooling. He was directed to the Trust. Felix qualified with a diploma in mechanical engineering. He started his working career as a mechanic in Mumbai whilst simultaneously doing a radiology course. He is now working as a radiographer in an atomic power plant.



Augustin treating a patient in his hospital



Dulcy teaching in CBSE School

Augustin's mother was unwell when his father left the family. The children then came into the care of the Trust. Augustin is now a qualified physiotherapist working in Maldives along with his wife a qualified nurse. His siblings have also graduated and are all working. The family's quality of life has improved considerably and they are all very grateful to Kings World Trust for its support.

Maharaja Radha Dulcy joins Kings CBSE as English teacher. Dulcy joined Kings World Trust when she was 10 years old after the death of her father. She had been very good academically and was a good athlete. After School she completed her degree in English Literature and is now working as an English teacher to year 1 with Kings CBSE School.

Ex-Students of KWTC

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BELSI'S STORY

Hello, I'm Belsi. I am married to Simon Wagstaff who is the second son of Uncle Colin, Founder of Kings World Trust for Children. I live in Haslemere in the UK and work as a Senior Nursing Carer in a hospital for patients with neurological disorders.

My early life was very different. I come from a village called Marutukulam near Tirunelveli. My father deserted our family when I was very small and this left my mother to bring up four children which was very difficult on her small salary and no house. She kept my little brother with her, my sister went to our Auntie and my brother Augustin and I were placed in the hostel of a school in Anaikulam. We were taught, we slept and ate in our classrooms and we all washed under one tap in the school compound.

In 1995, Uncle Colin came to our school after he had set up Kings World Trust for Children. He moved me and my brother and 3 other children into a new modern 'Children's Village' and we were joined a few months later by 40 other disadvantaged children. My mother was given a job and our whole family was reunited in the new organisation.

I still studied at Anaikulam Middle School and later went to Kallilulam School to do my Secondary education. After my 'A' levels, I entered a Nursing College in 2003 to study for a 3 year diploma certificate in General Nursing and Midwifery. In 2006, I went to work at the International Apollo Hospital in Chennai in the urology and nephrology departments.

I first met Simon when he came to work as a volunteer with Kings World Trust and saw him again when he returned a year or so later. After two years, he asked Uncle Colin, in accordance with the Indian custom, to approach my mother and older brother to propose our marriage. We were married in 2011 and I moved to England. I am very grateful to Kings World Trust for Children for the care and education which they gave to me and my brothers and sisters. We have all gained professional qualifications and have promising careers ahead. My Sister is a teacher at Kings School; my older brother is a Government physiotherapist in the Maldives and my younger brother works as a computer data processor for an American company in Chennai. All our lives have been radically touched and changed by the intervention and devoted care from Kings World Trust.



Belsi (left) in 1994



Belsi's new family

ANTONY'S STORY

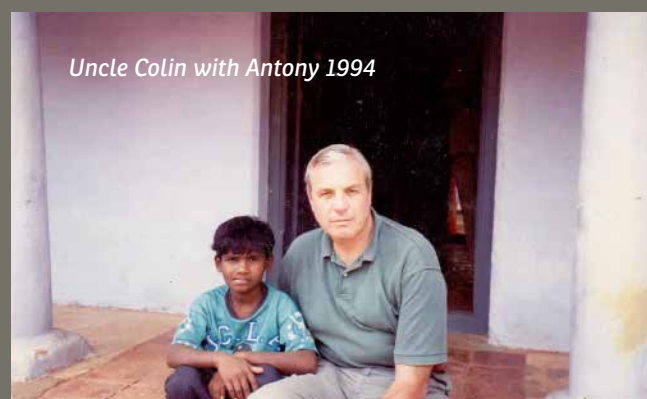
On August 9th 2014, our son was baptised and we have named him Colin as a mark of respect to Uncle Colin who cared for me and my sister for so many years.

I come from a very big family and have 10 brothers and sisters. My father was chronically sick and unable to work and earn enough money to support us.

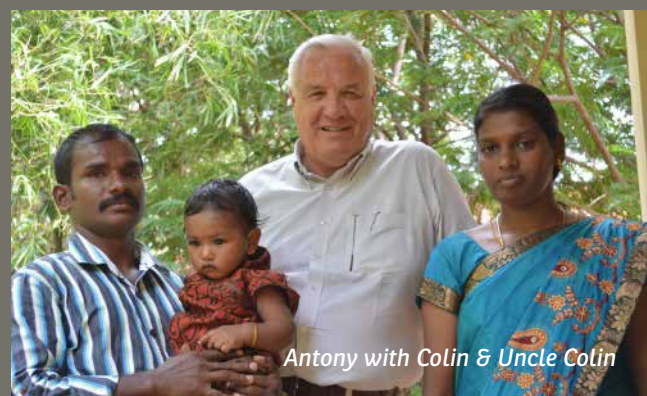
I first met Uncle and his family in the UK when I was taken there for medical treatment by a Christian Charity and stayed with the Wagstaff family in Haslemere. Uncle returned to India with me and he set up the Kings World Trust for Children taking both me and my sister Stella into the residential care of the Trust; I was 11 years old and Stella was eight. We both studied at Government schools and on completion, I was trained as an electrician and plumber. I have worked for a number of Companies but more recently have established myself as an electrical contractor to the construction industry and worked in Kerala State and in Chennai. I am now based at my family's village called south Vagaikulam.

My sister Stella trained as a Nurse. She worked as a Nurse at Kings School for a year and later in Tirunelveli. She is now a Staff Nurse in Kuwait working in the Military Hospital. She is married and expects her first child in September.

Kings World Trust for Children has transformed my life, my sister's and the lives of hundreds of other disadvantaged and poor children who came into its care. May I express a very big thank you to all the management and staff of KWTC.



Uncle Colin with Antony 1994



Antony with Colin & Uncle Colin

Successful Life Stories of our Ex-students



Pictured is Lurthu Mary with her husband and on each side Uncle Colin and Director Mr Navamani

Today I am very happy, always wearing a smile and carrying myself with pride and confidence. When I was five years old our lives became difficult when I lost my father. My mother approached KWTC for support and I and my brother both started growing under the care and guidance of KWTCI. We were given love and affection, care, and education, which changed our lives. Days passed by smoothly and in due course I completed my graduation and B.Ed and my dream of becoming a teacher came true. I served as an English teacher in Kings School for two years, my brother Charles is working as a Cadet in Nautical Science, and my mother works as a supervisor for the support staff at Kings. KWTCI really saved us from getting into a most miserable situation. The support given by the team will always remain fresh in our hearts. I am now married to Mr Praveen Haller who is an accountant in a Government Engineering College at Palayamkottai and am also going to continue my further studies. I really miss the time spent with KWTCI.



Diana when 10 in 1997



Diana with her husband Mr David Samuel

Diana a charming and calm girl and a native of Chinnammalpuram came into KWTCI in 1995 when she was 8 years old. She was one among the first set of children in KWTC. She says, 'I enjoyed my time at the home going to the local government school, then to Aanaikulam and Aloysious School where I completed higher secondary education. I then moved to TDMNS College and completed a Batchelors Degree of Commerce. The care and affection shown by the foster mothers was touching and the time I spent in KWTC is full of remarkable and memorable events. Without all of the support given by KWTC, and the man behind it- Uncle Colin, it is not only my life, but the lives of many in poverty would have been ruined. After my studies, I worked in a private consultancy as Assistant Accountant for six years. Now I am married to Mr. David Samuel, who is working as an Electronic Technician in a private consultancy in Chennai. We are thankful to KWTC and all those behind it for making our lives – a dream come true.

Annual Visit of Hockerill College

Students from Hockerill College, UK visited Kings School for the fifth consecutive year. A team of 23 students and 3 staff headed by Dr. Kevin Pudray arrived on 29th June and spent two weeks with us. The aim of the trip was to develop student leadership skills. This year they trained students of year 7 to present the musical extravaganza 'The Wizard of Oz'. Some 131 students participated in a great show which brought out from year 7 a lot of hidden talent. While the team was here, they were also involved in Reading, Kindergarten activities, Art and PE lessons. We had a 'Boarders' night with performances from both Kings and Hockerill students and in addition they also had a very enjoyable picnic and movie night.



The Hockerill team after their performance of 'The Wizard of Oz' at A K Hall, Kings School

Visitors to KWTC

Mrs Theresa Swann

Mrs Theresa Swann, UK Trustee visited KWTCI and Kings School on 14th January 2014. She spent a week in KWTCI, and was indeed happy to be a part of the charity programme. She says it felt wonderful to see the School developing and that the Opening of the new CBSE School was another step forward.



Mike Walton & Mary Villabona

Mr Mike Walton and Ms Mary Vilabona arrived at KWTCI for the fifth time and inspected the school. They carried out a thorough investigation of the Kings School academic system and appreciated the good work which had taken place. They also listed their suggestions and carried out a Staff Development Programme and a Student Orientation Programme.



Mike Walton conducting a staff orientation programme



Mary Vilabona speaking at a staff orientation programme

Maclean family

The Maclean family visited KWTCI and stayed for 3 months. Both Malcolm Maclean and Anna Maclean had enough targets to complete and were very happy to carry out.

Malcolm did a complete investigation of the maintenance required throughout the School campus, and Anna Maclean prepared staff orientations on how to handle slow learners and how to recognize and treat students with special needs. Their children Archie, Fergus and Oscar joined year 1, 4 & 7 according to age playing a full part in the time-tables of their respective classes.



Malcolm organises Scottish reels for Kings School Boarders



The Malcolm Family in India

Malcolm also demonstrated and taught Scottish dancing in the Burden Centre. He also explained about the traditions and cultures of Scotland in the School assembly. The family also participated in the Camp Fire organised for the Boarding students and sang together with other volunteers. Overall they say they had a wonderful time at Kings and that the hospitality provided by the Kings family made their transition into Kings family life and Indian culture much easier.



Pictured with Maureen Balmer are friends Mr Terry Colins and Ms Chole Zhao along with Muthumari

Maureen Balmer

Mrs Maureen Balmer visited KWTC on 21st August and spent a few days with her sponsor child, Muthumari. She, being a primary teacher also gave useful suggestion to Mrs. Anu, Headmistress of CBSE school to implement them in her new school.



Pictured is Laura and her boy friend with her sponsor child Belsie

Laura Plant

Miss Laura Plant visited the Trust in September 2013 and met her sponsor child Belsie. Laura has supported Belsie through school and Belsie is now in the second year of a four year Nursing degree. Together with her friend, Laura is very happy with Belsie's progress through school to college.

Iona Barnett

I feel I gained a lot from my experience in KWTC including for example how best to teach English as a foreign language. I will be able to take this to the orphanage where I teach. It has been great to see at first hand how this amazing organisation works. It is so different from the orphanage and I hope that more schools like this become available for children across India. Those who have been given the opportunity for such a bright future are very lucky. Particularly interesting was my day on Outreach and I would advise as many volunteers to go as are able. It was eye opening to see the conditions under which some people live and which you don't appreciate when all of the children are in their smart uniform. As a volunteer I also enjoyed being able to spend time with different children in different parts of the school. I also enjoyed attending the Annual day performance and especially the Indian dancing which was incredible!



Interns Contributions

Laura Gordon Lennox

It has been a very good experience and I have learnt so much about the Indian culture and life style. I have got to know the children and have gained a full appreciation of how important education is and what it can do for children with very little. I have met some brilliant people and really inspiring children. Everyone here is so friendly and welcoming and this creates such a lovely atmosphere. The children and staff make Kings School a lovely place to be.



Jessica Bickerton

I learnt an entirely different education system and got to see a completely different approach to teaching and learning. I also met some wonderful children and very humbling adults. I like the sense of community and the huge range of sports and activities that are made available at Kings School.





James Bell

My experience in India has been exceptional. The children at KWTC have taught me just as much, if not more, than I have taught them. From menial topics such as which cricket team to support right through to experiences that have changed my outlook on life entirely. The living standards of some of the children and the Indian traditions are two of the major eye-openers. My experience at KWTC also helped to develop my confidence, communication skills, and self-dependence. Having had no previous experience of teaching, my time at KWTC has taught me a great deal about children and how to communicate effectively with them. The single most important thing I have learnt from my experience is that money is not the be all and end all. Genuinely happiness can be found far more frequently from those in poverty stricken areas than it can in places such as London.



Robert Liscombe with Year 6 students in Kings CBSE School

Robert Liscombe

says that not only did he learn about the differences between educational systems, but more importantly he learnt about the similarities between children in the UK and those in India. He says he will carry this information home and show children there what life is like in India.



Joanna Stronach

I found the experience of helping children with their education and seeing them improve so rewarding. Volunteering at KWTC has given me a better understanding and knowledge of teaching and learning in India and has shown me that this is perhaps a field I might want to go into when I am older. I particularly liked the friendly and welcoming atmosphere in the school.



Helen McLaren

Helen McLaren says that she had been to other Orphanages, but her experience at Kings School was very different, and she was highly impressed with KWTC. She also says she has gained a better understanding of the best teaching methods and what makes a good teacher. Her days were split between Kindergarten, teaching Maths in middle school and CBSE and she especially appreciated how friendly and welcoming everyone was. She also thought the Outreach programme was a valuable experience and made her realise how poor some of the children were. She says it is great that they are given the opportunity to get such a good education.



Joanna Burns

I have never been anywhere where the people are more friendly and welcoming. The children are so polite and so interested in talking to the volunteers. KWTC takes very good care of its Volunteers which adds so much to their experience. Taking part in the Outreach programme enabled me to see how those people live who are less fortunate than we are. I have gained many new friends and memories from my experience.



Sports Highlights

Bursary Students sports achievements

Basketball

Our Kings School basketball bursary boys always show their professionalism in Basketball. They secured second place in Tamil Nadu state level basketball school games and also won lot of state level and district level tournaments.



Hockey

Our bursary boys play an important role in Kings School Hockey team. Kings School junior, senior and super senior hockey team became winners. The bursary hockey boys are MuthuKaruppan, Arun, Selva, Mano Aravindh and Elango Dinesh.



KhoKho

Our bursary girls Sneha, Sharmila, Jasper, Thangapriya, MariMuthu, Jerin and Sundari enjoy themselves playing KhoKho and took part in KhoKho competition for Kings



Swimming

The bursary swimmers namely Sneha, Sharmila, Manjula and Mariappan became medallists in state and district level swimming meet.

UNITED KINGDOM



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