

Taaro ke Bacche

A school for children
with autism & Down's syndrome

Children of the stars

तारों के बच्चे



in Varanasi (India)

Newsletter – November 2016

News from the association in Geneva

A general meeting was held on 27 April 2016. The budget for 2014-2015 as of 31 December 2015 and the program of activities for 2016 were accepted by the present members.

In the summer of 2016, Marie-Françoise renewed the association's contacts to raise funds for 2017 from the following:

- The City of Geneva "Genève Ville Solidaire"
- The Albatros Foundation,
- The Dora Foundation,
- The FLPAI Foundation,
- The towns of Satigny, Meyrin, Russin, Bernex and Choulex.



This summer, we also organised a supporting concert of Indian dance and music in favour of the school, initiated by Geneva and Varanasi-based Kathak dancer Fanny – Meera – Marquet. The event took place on 2nd September in Carouge (Geneva) and it was a great success, both financially and socially.



Taaro ke Bacche Une école pour enfants avec autisme & trisomie 21 तारों के बच्चे

« Taaro ke Bacche » une école pour enfants avec autisme et trisomie 21 à Bénares en Inde

Soirée de soutien
Vendredi 02 septembre 2016 à 20h
à la salle « Espace Grossetin » rue Jacques Grossetin 31 / 1227 Carouge

Programme : Présentation de l'Association suisse et de l'école en Inde

Concert de Musique Indienne par Sébastien Lacros (sitar) et Santosh Kurbet (tabla)

Duo de Danse Kathak « Meera & Gauri »

Entrée : adulte 20.-CHF / enfant 10.- CHF
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www.taarokebacche.org

Avec le soutien de **MC** Musique et Culture de Carouge

On 26 October the association "Taaro ke Bacche" received a letter with a positive response from the City of Geneva "Genève Ville Solidaire" announcing a donation of CHF 6000 for the purchase of school furniture. We are very grateful to all our generous donators.

School life in Varanasi



Marie-Françoise came to Varanasi for two weeks in July 2016 to check how our project had progressed in her absence since April. During this stay, she also continued looking for a new place, since our owner had requested in April 2016 that we vacate the premises by the end of November.

On 1st October, she came back to India for the following six months. Immediately upon her arrival, she faced important work and decisions regarding the following points:

- The care of three new children, Nishant, Om, and Krish for which we have also organised transportation.
- The decision to rent a new location 2 km away from our previous one, contacting with the owners and organising the move.

The new place, which includes two flats, is located in a green, pollution-free and more spacious area with a large terrace and an outdoor courtyard for the children to play. The cost of the rent, however, has exploded!



- Administrative and financial issues with regards to transferring the ownership of our van (which was bought by our Swiss association) from the previous NGO to the new trust (New Hope) set up in March 2016 by Marie-Françoise.
- Setting up the office and the library in collaboration with Sylvia Bertoncello, French citizen living in Varanasi. Sylvia is delighted to take care of this implementation, and she herself runs an NGO with her husband, Jimmy Library (www.jimmylibrary.org).

Kanha left us for family reasons in July 2016.

Since the beginning of the school year, Niyanta and Vishal have been following our cognitive and sensorial activities, and Krish will be joining their group. Nishant and Om, because of their young age (6 years), form the second group.



In order to raise awareness about our school and on the situation of autism, our members of staff have established a list of paediatricians and kindergartens in our surroundings so that we can contact them to exchange information and activities.



On the ground floor next to our school a kindergarten opened in July 2016, which five children attend. It is also the prospect of a social opening for our children and the opportunity for others to open up to

difference!



In order to celebrate this new start, we are planning to organise a small party in our new place with parents, members of the New Hope Trust, and friends. So far the date has not been fixed.

Some more photos of our life in Varanasi



Our website: www.taarokebacche.org