

## **Sponsor Visits**

We are pleased at the increasing number of visits sponsors and supporters are making to our schools.

Recently we have had two more:- Lauren from Totzke Ltd, a corporate patron, who is a very generous supporter of our work and Siddhartha and his wife Manjeet Bose, who have sponsored several children with us since joining in 2006. I copy below their comments which you will find interesting and encourage more sponsors to visit.

## Comments by Lauren Totzke

On behalf of both myself and Claire, we want to thank you and the entire Project Mala for your generous hospitality during our trip to India. We always believed in your mission, but having the opportunity to visit in person was life changing. We were hosted by the gracious team and treated like family. We stayed at the Guria school but were also able to visit two of the other more remote schools during our time.

Totzke Limited has worked with Project Mala for the last 5 years and we send back 10% of all of our rug proceeds to Project Mala. Our business has organically grown over the years and we are so proud that we can partner with you.



The first thing that struck me at the Guria School was the alertness and inquisitiveness of the children. They are incredibly bright, incredibly well presented and so curious. We enjoyed seeing the best of the British and India school systems amalgamated into one. The preschool does so much of their learning by singing, which completely delighted us. We were also struck by how engaging all of the teachers were. Each was actively calling with the children responding.

We were able to meet two Western volunteers while we were over. The volunteers from abroad all volunteer their time and pay their way to India. Aram brought valuable IT and computer skills and Annie was an absolute powerhouse who brought with her a lifelong career in education. Project Mala has attracted a fabulous staff in India and teachers that are capable of teaching physics, finance, computer skills which is not easy. The students that qualify to enter the Guria secondary school are all extremely advanced and all are capable of going to university.



The local area is undergoing rapid change. There is now a big highway that passes in front of the school. This highway is improving all local infrastructure and services. Broadband and electricity are now reliable. This part of India is also undergoing a rapid modernization. The ratio of boys to girls continues to even out. It was very different from my trip 5 years ago and I think if we visit in another 5 years it will be a different place again.

Thank you again for your hospitality.

Lauren Totzke TOTZKE Ltd.

## Comments by Siddhartha Bose

Thank you very much for our trip to Guriya and other schools. Your staff were extremely kind and well organised. I sincerely thank you and your colleagues for a wonderful time we spent understanding the Project Mala concept in reality. It was a highly motivating, heartening and emotional experience and really appreciate your hard work and dedication for a rightful cause. The only path to progress in India is through high quality education at all levels.

After our visit I may consider educate 2 more children from primary level to higher level. Please advise the procedure.





I must personally bestow my highest respect to you for starting this project. You must be very proud for your hard work and dedication for this successful righteous cause.

Thanks and regards Siddhartha Bose

If you know anyone who you think might be interested in this newsletter, please forward it on.

Regards

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