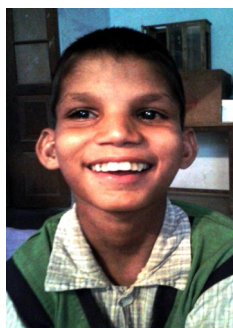


## The Doon Promise

News letter from the Aasraa Trust



**S o n u ;**  
Beautiful  
soulful 8  
year old  
Sonu is  
our child  
with spe-  
cial needs.  
He was  
a b a n -

doned, picked up by the ever vigilant Childline, taken to hospital, cared for by the Childline team and then brought to us after the removal of his kidney. His ear infection has cleared, his eye infection taken care of and he has put on 5 kilos in two months (he was 18 kg when he came to us). Rafael has worked closely with us to assess his needs and will hopefully join Raphael's residential home for children with Special needs next



Sanjiv Rikhy celebrated his birthday by treating our children to a sumptuous lunch. We wish Sanjiv and his wife Veneeta many happy and healthy years

**All of our work is funded by the grace and kindness of our donors. We are currently working with over 500 slum and street children; there are many more children we can reach. Thank you for your continued love and support for the children.**



Deepak is 9 and deaf but sheer dynamite. He was abandoned, for the second time, last month. This time we got him!!! Our residential shelter for older street children was approved by the Child Welfare Council as a safe environment for him to be fostered in. He has taken to the shelter like a duck to water and in the process acquired 5 older brothers who dote on him. We took him to the Bajaj Institute for the Hearing Impaired for assessment. He will hopefully start there next month. In the mean time we are teaching him. He is bright as a button and an adorable addition to our Aasraa family.

### Street Smart

The Rains. August continues to pour with rain. Schools were shut for almost a week... we were not. Our contention is quite simple; if we are not open, our children have no where to go! So rain or shine we feed them, teach them and love them!



A majority of our children still come from the slum situated on the banks of the slushy and polluted Bindal River. They are better off in our shelter or at St. Joseph's Academy.

### Wings of Doon

The Wings after school program at SJA grows in numbers and strength. We now have 240 children attending, a staff of 23 and intensive t e a c h e r training being conducted. A combination of concept reinforcement and curriculum is our goal. Computer courses augment classroom learning. There are two teachers per classroom; one teaching while the other supervises learning. Teacher training is the single most important factor in engaging the child's interest.



Our trainees continue to learn and earn and now have official identities. Roshan, Shyam, Malti and Rajkumar, who had opened their bank accounts with the State Bank of India have now acquired their PAN cards.



**VANDITA.** It is with great regret that we are losing Vandita Uniyal as the coordinator of our Street Smart program; a young woman with integrity, charm and total love for our children. She is pursuing her Masters in Social Work. We wish her the very best of luck and thank her for her incredible diligence over the last two years. She will hopefully remain on in a consultancy capacity to oversee the follow up medical attention of Chandni and Sunita.

