



Ebenezer Gardens

Gathering flowers for a fragrant bouquet

Newsletter

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June 2012 Issue

June 2012 marks the 15th anniversary of Ebenezer Gardens. We are so thankful to God for having brought us this far and give all thanks and glory to Him for His faithfulness. We are also very grateful to the small, but faithful band of friends who have provided the needs of these children over the past 15 years.

Ruwani who was just under 5 years old when she moved in is now 20. This timid little girl who ran and hid herself when someone spoke to her in English got through both O/L and A/L exams well with “A”’s in English, obtained several certificates for track events and is presently employed as a trainee at Vision Fund Lanka (a subsidiary of World Vision Lanka) and travels around the country on various project related work.

Dilshani who was 4+ when she joined us is now 19. She has earned the reputation in school of being a reliable and dependable student. At home she is a very helpful baby sitter. She got through her O/L exam well and is presently studying hard for the A/L exam in August. She wishes to follow a course in psychology after she finishes her schooling.

Sajini was 3 years when she moved in. She celebrated her 18th birthday in March. She too got through her O/L exam well, obtaining the much coveted “A” for mathematics. She is good in her singing and is presently following piano lessons. She has recorded several Childrens Programmes for Back to the Bible which have been broadcast around the country. She wishes to continue in the field of media and communication when she leaves school next year.

Chrishanthi, the 22 month old who would not smile when she moved in, is now a 11 year old who won't stop giggling. This little girl who could not speak clearly till she was around 5 was recently placed 3rd in the speech competition at school and on one occasion read the Bible at the school carol service. She has participated in swimming and track event and has a few certificates to her credit. She has a slight learning disability which is hindering her progress in studies – specially written work. She also has a few other problems which are slowly improving. She sings in the school choir and is part of the band.

Banu was 2+ when she came to us and continues to progress well in her studies. She loves to read and is very active and talkative (talks too much at times!) She too has obtained certificates in swimming and sports. Last year she gave her first solo performance at a children's musical show and also sang a duet at the school carol service. She was selected to give the vote of thanks at the school sports meet last year. She has also done well in long jump.

Christa who was just 50 days old when she moved in is now a naughty 9 year old. In the past she has done very well in her studies, but in recent months has been a bit too playful. Though she is one of the shortest students in her class she obtained first place in long jump for two successive years. She sings well and is in the school choir. She plans to be a scientist when she grows up.

Sashi was 17 months when she moved in last August. She is now 2 years and 10 months old and started nursery school in January this year. She has settled down well; a lovable and talkative child.

Baby Abishah who was just 3 days old when we brought her home from hospital is now a bouncing 6 month old baby. There were concerns about her health as she was born to a school girl who was a victim of rape by her own cousin and had not received any medical attention during the first months of her pregnancy. So far Abishah seems healthy; we pray that she will continue to grow into a healthy child.

Next year turns a new page in our experience. Ruwani is to be married to Waruna whom she met at church. Waruna is presently doing his Diploma at Colombo Theological Seminary. He is not too happy with his present job and is on the look out for a better one.

The wedding arrangements / expenses will be handled by Ebenezer Gardens. 5 of the other girls in the home are to be the bridesmaids, little maids and flower girls. We look forward to this happy event with much anticipation.

Please continue to uphold us in prayer. We face many challenges, heartaches and difficulties as we endeavor to help these children grow into God fearing young ladies.

Once again our sincere thanks to all who helped us care for these children in various ways.

Attached is a recent photo.

God bless you

Shanthini