



Managing Money

In Nuwara Eliya this month our parents got to meet with a branch manager from the Bank of Ceylon. He gave a workshop on savings and gave out savings passbooks to every family, plus a money box. In a culture and environ-

ment where people operate hand-to-mouth due to lack of funds, help with how to save, even a very small amount, is a useful skill to learn and can make a difference. Many families get caught up in a cycle of unofficial loans and interest rates which keep them permanently on the back foot. We want to play a part in breaking these cycles for the next generation. Our children are taught about money and saving from an early age. Working with the parents too means we have more chance of changing outcomes for the children. As the education opportunities and self-confidence of the children increases, their futures look promising.



Right: A local branch Manager from the Bank of Ceylon talks to our Nuwara Eliya parents.

Babies & Toddlers in Kandy



Centre 4 in Kandy is where our babies and toddlers hang out! The place can be noisy as the children discover themselves, each other and the world around them. All of them have tough stories to tell, even at such a young age. Little Roshan* has a father who is blind. His mother helps him to beg on the streets. Were it not for the centre Roshan would be with them day in, day out begging too. Nathmini* has a father who is a violent alcoholic. Her mother works two jobs as a maid to try to make enough to look after her four children. She then looks for firewood to sell and

to use for their own cooking. Surviving and providing is a daily struggle. Another family lost their 'house' this year to a landslide. The shelter that these families have tend to be 'shacks' erected on the slopes of the hills that surround Kandy city. When the rains come, they wash down the mountainsides causing mud and landslides to take anything in their path. At CAL we support them in finding solutions, and work to find longer term alternatives.



Valuable Volunteers

It never ceases to amaze us how many quality volunteers have come through our doors. We have had long and short termers who come back again and again and send others. Many have amazing skills and training to impart. And then there's the brilliant fundraising they do back home. CAL would not be where it is today without such valuable support. This month we had an ex-Olympian gymnast who conducted workshops with the kids in Batti and Killi. She taught stretching, skipping, rolling, body bending, jumping, balancing and team work. The kids loved it. She identified potential talent and left behind resources. We are watching the confidence of the kids increase as they take part in such great activities. Fantastic!





Join us to see lives transformed

Child Action Lanka began six years ago working with street children in Kandy. Debbie and Dilshan Edirisinghe opened the doors to over sixty children who were grateful for a safe place to come and learn, play and have fun. CAL has grown significantly over the last six years and we now have centres in five locations: Kandy, Nuwara Eliya, Kelaniya, Killinochchi and Batticaloa.

We would love you to consider partnering with us as we develop and grow as an organisation to give maximum opportunity to the next generation. For further information and how to give time and/or resources to support this important work, please email childaction@slt.net.lk or contact us via our website at www.childactionlanka.org

(* - denotes name changed)

**A HUGE THANK YOU TO OUR PARTNERS AND SUPPORTERS
WHO HAVE MADE THIS WORK POSSIBLE—WE ARE SO
GRATEFUL FOR YOUR ONGOING SUPPORT AND HELP.**

Bank Name: Bank of Ceylon
Act Name: Child Action Lanka
Address: Ceylon Bank House, Dalada Veediya, Kandy
Act Number: 0070114943
Swift Code: bceylkx Branch No: 002

Current Needs

We have been so touched by the response from the last newsletter. We have been pledged **funds to pay for all the accommodation** for our O'Level students in Kandy. In fact we have enough to allow **two further children** to stay in home environments where they can study effectively. In addition, we have been pledged funds to **pay for water tanks in both Killi and Batti**. Wow! Thank you so much for your response. Behind the scenes, we continue to develop our systems and core support team in order to sustain the projects and growth long-term. If you are interested in **giving regularly to support our core costs** please do not hesitate to contact us. Even a small monthly donation can make a huge difference and our overseas partners can help to ensure your giving is tax effective.

Child Action Lanka

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