

“Finally be strong in the Lord and in the strength of His might. Put on the full armour of God, so that you will be able to stand firm against the schemes of the devil.” (Ephesians. 6:10)

★ Liz’s Run for Scholarships

First, we want to thank you for praying for Liz – and for your phenomenal response to support aspiring Christian students in Pakistan. Gifts so far received from 40 donors amount to £2,323, together with the prayers of many. The appeal is still open at:

<https://starfishasia.enthuse.com/pf/liz-ellis>

Please keep praying. Sadly, Liz fell ill two days before the run and was not able to make it – but she still plans to do her run at a later date, not to mention all the many practice runs she has done in preparation. ***She needs our prayers more than ever!***



Rob’s Reports from Pakistan

Rob returned from Karachi on Sunday 23rd October. Here are some of the highlights from his reports:

★ School Visits:

“These were all generally encouraging. Most schools seem to be attempting to put into practice both the new teaching styles from the training as well as Jasmine’s instructions concerning lesson planning, time-tabling and keeping of records.” Three of the 19 schools he visited, together with Danishmand, are *“struggling (one way or another)”* and questions were raised over the level of support we can guarantee to another school. *“The things that I look for are vision and engagement from the project leader, enthusiasm and ability to answer questions, as well as looking at what the teachers had prepared, how the classes are arranged and the physical aspects of the building / rooms.”*

★ Ghauri Wisdom School:

“I was very touched by meeting Salamat Ghauri, the founder, and hearing of his vision to give good quality education, which has been realised with Starfish’s help. His son is now in charge, still thinking outside the box and focusing on improvement. The school has grown from a single-room school to a high school with over 500 children, but Mr Ghauri wants better results. Thank God for this inspiring, self-sacrificial leadership”



★ Strategic Planning:

Danishmand, Jasmine and Rob initiated a process of planning for school improvement in the coming year. *“Through this we identified 13 poor schools, 20 just improving, 7 much improved and 6 star schools. Having done that we discussed where we wanted each school to be in two years’ time and then what was needed to get there.”* **Pray for the work needed to ensure progress, improvement and ambition in the coming year, especially in the schools we still consider to be “poor”.**

★ Relief Aid for the suffering in the Floods

Rob and Danishmand visited the OM office to discuss co-operation in Flood Relief. Starfish Pakistan has channelled substantial funding to OM to assist in their relief programme. OM teams are visiting the flood areas daily and distributing food and emergency supplies. Starfish Asia has also provided some emergency funds to Faisal Kamran, a Starfish partner and principal of Hope School in Karachi, as he is also bringing relief to Christians in the flood area.



★ The Pakistan Board

For about a week, Rob was joined by Kee Meng, a member of the Executive Committee of Starfish Asia (Singapore) – and also by Devin Scobie, the Chairman of the UK Board. In addition to useful visits to several schools and valuable time with the SP staff, they attended a meeting of the Starfish Pakistan Board. Here is Devin's report: *"We now have a relatively strong board with five experienced and committed members, three of whom were able to*

meet us for a lengthy meeting and meal. Many areas of common interest were discussed openly, and I signed a Memorandum of Understanding with the Pakistan Chairman, Rev Azhar Mushtaq."

★ Two very special young people



Farzana Imran and her husband run the Agape Home day-care centre for disabled young people in Lahore. We have frequently highlighted their amazing and compassionate work for some very needy children. We received the sad news that Azra had died on 17th October. She was 27 years old. Farzana was heart-broken.

"Azra Yaqoob was a brilliant and shining daughter of the Agape Home family. Her art work and drawing, colouring was amazing and God gifted. Azra was a girl of beautiful heart and had a big concern with us. She had congenital polio from her childhood. She will always be in our hearts due to her greatness."

On 25th October another member of the Agape family died. Jawad with Downs' Syndrome, was on a ventilator a week before he died. **Pray for Farzana and her Home.** *"What is happening with my children?" she wrote.*

Kerstin

and the Starfish Asia Team

Mike Limmer is again offering Christmas cards with a Christian message. The cards cost 30p each and 15p from the sale of each card will be donated to Starfish Asia. Orders for 10 or more cards will be sent post-free. Please contact Mike at mike.limmer@yahoo.com

Starfish Asia Prayer Meeting via ZOOM
Thursday 10th November 2022

10:00 AM London <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/86005320769>

7:00 PM London <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/88569711608>