## **Bridge Course 2021 Update**

Condensed by Saskia Raevouri from Sr. Crescence's report of April 14, 2021



Sr. Crescence presenting students Mausam and Muskan each with a mobile

THE BRIDGE COURSE year 2019-2020 started out as usual. Through the normal process, sixteen girls were selected and two of the older girls remained behind to ease the new ones into the transition from their old lives.

Everything looked hopeful, with bright students, ambitious and cooperative parents, and enthusiastic teachers, with the aim of achieving high academic goals at the end of the year. In six months the syllabus of class 7th and 8th was covered for those who joined as 6th class, and 5th and 6th for those who joined after class 4th. The girls went home for Christmas 2019 and classes resumed on January 15, 2020.

Then came Covid-19, which spread over the entire world. The Indian government ordered a strict lockdown and the girls were sent home. When the lockdown was lifted, eight girls, on the basis of their merit, were admitted to class 9th, and another three joined the government school in class 8th. The remaining seven girls returned to the Bridge Course to resume their classes, highly

motivated by the eight who were admitted to class 9th to do even better than them! Of the seven, three were selected for class 9th, leaving only four from the old group.

For the new year 2021-2022, three separate selection tests have been done. A group of nine girls were selected to join the remaining four, and five more expected, pending more testing. Then came the sudden announcement of a second lockdown, putting a stop to everything. The nine who had already been chosen were eagerly ready with bag and baggage, along with teachers, to come to the hostel, but sadly we had to tell them that morning to stay home until the lockdown is lifted.

When that happens, the group will consist of eighteen girls, and according to Sr. Crescence they are intellectually superior to past groups. She is confident that the future for all of them looks very bright, if Corona doesn't give too much trouble! She is proud of the Bridge Course and of all the donors who make it happen, and conveys her deepest thanks!



Sr. Crescence with the seven girls who returned after the pandemic





The first two selection tests for the year 2021-2022





After writing their exams the girls take a meal in the Bridge Course dormitory building







ABOVE: The three girls whom Sr. Crescence calls "mini-intellectual": 1. Karishma who obtained marks 95%, 2. Lucky who scored 96%, and 3. Karuna who scored 93% in the admission tests



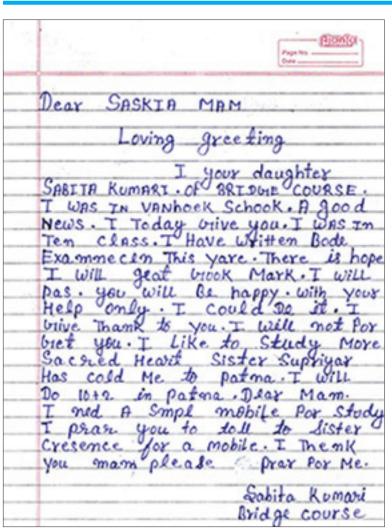
The four "old" girls who will join the new batch coming in

## **Letters**



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A letter from sisters Mausam and Muskan Kumari





A letter from Sabita Kumari