

Newsletter April 2024

INDIA The School for the Blind

Dear Friends and Supporters!



Here you can see Svetlana and Raj, the couple who are the Supervisors of the School for the Blind, with a group of the younger students.

For all people – including those who have visual impairment or are blind – it is important to learn to read and understand pictures. However, it must happen according to each person's abilities and conditions. The Braille system, used by the visually impaired in most of the world, is named after the French inventor Louis Braille (1809-1852). Because of an accident in his father's saddlery at the age of three, Louis lost his sight. During his formative years he learnt to play the organ

and began to teach others who were visually impaired. With time, Louis developed an ingenious system of text based on raised dots. Unfortunately, Louis died before his system became generally accepted and world renown. At the School for Blind Children in India, Louis Braille's memory is honored every year and information imparted about his life and his important deed.

Anneh Veispak, who does research on Braille, considers it unbelievable that an area of 0.25 cm^2 , i.e., the tip of a finger, can contain a whole world. She sees Braille as a perfect example of the flexibility of our nervous system. It is, indeed, never too late to learn Braille, she says, but the person who begins at age 50 will never be as quick as the person who begins at age 5. The more sensitive the fingers, the quicker a person can read. It is also important to have a large vocabulary.









In order to learn Braille, teachers and students must have great patience, not least when it comes to students diagnosed with ADHD, autism, or deafness.

The apostle Paul writes in his letter to the Galatians (5:22-23) that patience (forbearance) is a fruit of the Spirit: But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, forbearance, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, and self-control. To live up to all of this is surely a challenge, not just for teachers but for each one of us.



Thank you for your support of the School for the Blind and its essential work! Greetings from SB-Foundation via us on the Board, *Arne, Elisabeth, Gloria, Lena, Roger*

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