



BAAN DOI Newsletter

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Dear BAAN DOI Friends,

Whoever arrives now at the BAAN DOI orphanage is not only surrounded by a beautiful area with fruit trees and flowers in the midst of our new children's homes, but also by new faces.

In the evening when I get home from the office and the new kids run to me and embrace me full of joy, I realize how beautiful BAAN DOI is. In this newsletter issue, I would like to talk about my life with the BAAN DOI children.

Graziella Ramponi Najai will introduce our English school and Stefan Wagner, who has supported us as a volunteer for a whole

year, and who had a very positive impact, will talk about his time in the office and with the children.

Have a nice summer!
Barbara Meisl, Director





Another milestone: a new home at BAAN DOI

Another milestone has been made, one that makes me particularly happy. With the completion and furnishing of our new children's houses, we have gained a lot of space and we are able to implement our long-desired goal: BAAN DOI is now home to six additional children!

Together with the kids we chose the furniture and matching curtains. The children have given each room a name which was transcribed artistically over the entrance of the room. With the pentagon shaped rooms and the beautiful bunk beds the new children have enough space to play, to do homework and to feel comfortable.



Thursday evenings I have reserved for the children to chat, to eat, to watch photos, to dance, to do some craft, or whatever just comes up. We often tell each other things that are important to us, things that in the everyday life have no space or would be inappropriate - here they are welcome. The round is getting bigger and with so many "little kids" also louder! "So, what's new?" At least 10 hands go up. The 5-year-old Nini has something to say: "So, I want to say three things that are important to me. First: The food here is really tasty, but I want to eat more sweets. I want to have something sweet every day. Second: I think if someone opens a door, he/she should also close it. Third: if it has rained, the grass in the garden gets very slippery and when I ride my bike around the corner, that's really dangerous. Can anyone do something?" "Okay ... new kids - new challenges!"

It is beautiful to watch our big kids teach the little ones starting with doing laundry and sweeping the floor to help with homework and giving advice on good manners.

Up to 30 children are able to live at the BAAN DOI orphanage in the future. But as we used to, we want to expand step by step, because more children also means more human resources, higher administrative and maintenance costs.

I am particularly grateful to my family and friends who have always supported me and BAAN DOI. Thanks to everyone who has helped BAAN DOI to attain its objectives.

To continue to take care of the children well, we need additional support.

Child Sponsorship:

For our newcomers, we are looking for sponsors, who pay a monthly contribution.

Project sponsorship:

With a regular sponsorship of 21 € a month, you'll help to cover our running costs.



During the performance of Cinderella at the end of the holiday course of English Star.

„You are so wonderful! I like you“



English star is the English School located in BAAN DOI's office where we teach English since June 2013.

English Star aims to contribute to the self-financing of BAAN DOI and responds to the educational needs of the surrounding villages.

English Star offers courses for children, teens and adults. Special focus is paid on conversation and pronunciation, what is often lacking in public schools.

„You are so wonderful! I like you“, said the prince to Cinderella at the theater performance at the end of the summer holidays course in the BAAN DOI English school "English Star".

For six weeks, children from BAAN DOI and from the surrounding villages came to the English School. On three mornings a week they learned diligently and with a lot of fun. A total of 16 "little ones" and 15 "big ones" were taught from Graziella and Stefan (with the support of Susi) in two groups. With diverse methods they learned the words for colors, animals and body parts, but also simple conversations.

To make learning fun, in addition to working with worksheets and drilling new words, the children sang English songs, danced, played games and even played theater.

It was not always easy to keep the attention of the lively little ones and to meet the big level difference in the groups. But as - after six weeks - the little ones, performed the song "I like the flowers" and the big ones a modern version of Cinderella, were all - including teachers - very proud.





Not only the English hand clapping games were very popular but also the German „Bei Müllers hat's gebrannt, brannt, brannt ...“

One year Stefan at BAAN DOI

Nok stands in front of me. With big, round eyes the 8-year-old looks at me and stretches out his hands. I am excited about what's coming now. Then he says "bai Müller". Ahh, I understand, and kneel down in front of him to start with the German hand clapping game: "Bei Müller's hat's gebrannt, brannt, brannt ...". It might as well have been "Superman, Spiderman or Ironman?" Then I let the kids fly through the air, depending on their choice of one of three different heroes.

It's the little pleasures that make life so beautiful, isn't it? Of these I have had a lot during the past year at BAAN DOI. Even new games or wild jumping on the trampoline - we had a lot of fun together. Sure I have my favorites, but I have to say that every child has become dear to my heart.

With the question "How can I be the most helpful for BAAN DOI?" I came here in June 2014. Soon it turned out that my skills were mostly needed in the office, taking care of the home page as well as an English teacher. So I worked with many reports and proposals, the calendar and the video and on designing flyers and banners. It was also nice, to post articles and photos on the BAAN DOI Facebook page. By the way, to see this, you do not have to be logged in there.

It was fun to teach the little ones in the English school of BAAN DOI. But it was also - especially in the summer course - quite exhausting to teach English with games,

songs and exercises to 16 lively children aged 5 to 11 years.

One of the highlights of my time here was the photo workshop. The BAAN DOI children are often photographed. This time we wanted to turn it around. So I asked my Dutch friend Francis, who came to visit us, to bring some used cameras that she received from friends and the team leader Walee Mayer and me led workshops with all the children.

I got a very good insight into the work and the challenges at BAAN DOI. The result is a great respect for the founders, especially Barbara, who runs BAAN DOI with a lot of passion and dedication. Actually, the whole team is doing a great job, in assisting children affected with HIV/AIDS.

What is my conclusion after the year at BAAN DOI? I will spend the summer at home in Germany, with my family and friends. From October I will be working at BAAN DOI for another six months. I think that's clear, isn't it?

Documentation video:

If you also want to have some insights into the valuable work of BAAN DOI, you should watch the BAAN DOI video that can be found on our homepage.

Facebook:

Enter "facebook.com/baandoi" and many beautiful moments at BAAN DOI can be experienced.



Thank you very much



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