

## Happy New Year 2024.

- Another year where the school and us there are around them – are looking forward to new and exciting opportunities.



There is a particular focus on the start-up of the superstructure, which is 6.-8. grade.

The final approval has not come yet, there are many things that must be approved before - the final approval can be applied for... and everything is now ready and the final application has been submitted. - So we just wait, the school year starts in April.

During the year, we also hope to be able to start the construction of an upper floor, where the new grades will be housed, until then we have a room that can be used temporarily for teaching

I'm on my way to India again, a bit earlier than usual, but I've been invited to another wedding.



This time it's Jimmy - my interpreter since 2016, who is getting married to a former teacher Pavan, it's a love wedding and I've followed them in how much she and he worked for this to be approved, especially Jimmy's father was against that - because it meant that, according to their culture, he had not helped his daughter well enough into her adult life - which is one of the father's great obligations. And now it will be, and I am very much looking forward to it, and to it. There are 4 ceremonies for which you are expected to wear particularly fine clothes, i.e. Indian clothing, - when you are close to the family you don't come in old clothes. All to honor the bride and groom and family.



The wedding I attended this fall was fantastic.... It was also a former teacher - Jimmy's sister

The last trip to India, which was in October - November, contained many exciting experiences, - in particular there were two boys who fought - which we have previously also talked about - what can we do to - 1. stop it at school, - 2. help them onto a better track... I was present one day when they came to the office together with the teacher, and received their usual, and probably very familiar to the boys, scolding... I thought - what's the use of this eternal repetition, they get turned off a reason, and most likely they don't have much self-esteem..., and then got an idea "shouldn't we let these two boys be responsible for watering the flowerpots every morning?" Vikas, who is the headmaster and is usually very open to different ways of approaching situations, immediately said, "yes, let's do it", and set the boys to work, the teacher didn't say much...

A few days later the teacher came and talked, even giving them a fun task, she had a hard time seeing the logic in it... And understandably, I explained my thoughts behind the idea and the boys were allowed to continue... exciting how it goes now...



Another lovely experience was that we were visited by people from the area, partly by teachers from other schools, schools where our students continue after 5th grade. They wanted to see which school this was, because they experienced again and again that students from TellusArt Academy, at the end of the school year, were the best



student of the class... Fantastic that what they / we do works.





Reading aloud in the shade, where the book is talked about, it reminds me a lot of Danish kindergartens, where you gather in a circle and several people can participate in the lessons.

This teacher has quit as she would like to continue her studies in order to have the opportunity to immigrate...

Immigrants are a big thing... -I think about how

many people from Scandinavia went to the USA

The question... -What is the most important thing is in this India schoolwork project that I have been involved in, and which I continue to become more and more a part of, as I do, because it makes a lot of sense to me... The answer is simply:

That children who attend TellusArt Academy have the opportunity for a better future.

In a future where there will most likely not be the work that their parents do for a living today - because the development also in India removes the manual work tasks that the parents make a living from.

Here a father picking up his 5 beautiful children, I remember, that they were picked up early because they were going to a family party





What I can do with the students is quite limited. and it's not my main role either, but still we probably all thought it was nice to do something together, and in this class we play with rhymes and strips, as well as repeating sentences read in English.

Here we sit and count while the teacher is busy to instruct some other children. One of the more cheeky/fresh and bold girls is on to kiss my hair... -as I once learned, you don't necessarily have to react to everything, it can cost the good energy...



Vi havde et dejligt forældremøde, hvor forældrene atter engang legede læringslege, til meget forvirring, grin, konkurrence, og sjovt samarbejde forældre imellem. Og som det vigtigste fik forældrene igen en større forståelse af, hvordan leg og aktiviteter fører børnene til læring. Afslutningsvis serverede skolen Dall -den Dall som eleverne spiser hver lørdag, til stor jubel, hygge og samhørighed. Forældrene var ret fascinerede af, hvor godt det smagte, og vi havde lavet nok til at alle kunne komme og få flere portioner, nogle fik endda noget med hjem til de yngre søskende....





For me, it's fun to see how the group of teachers work together to make such a program work - and together with some of the oldest students who were invited to come and help, made the day a wonderful day - where everyone the parents thanked for the day, for gaining more insight into the school and for the school working in this way... Fantastic.





I met my Pearl necklace girl again this year - she was supposed to have got married last summer, and therefore no longer sell pearl necklaces, so it was a nice surprise. It turned out that her future husband and family had asked for Daudi... dowry, and her mother could not or would not

participate in that, I have met her mother, and she is not to be trifled with.

So of course I also bought some pearl necklaces this time. What they will be used for is still unknown, but I wonder if there will be a new THE JOY OF GIVING... work.

I still experience - that giving and doing, and the joy it gives off - is so important that it must be further commented on - This must be shouted out.



VEHICLES:

Vikas has bought himself a new motorbike, something he has been talking about for a long time. The last time I was there, the engine stalled several times when we were out shopping - or something else. He bought it i.a. for an extra bonus that he got for working as a construction manager for the 6 months the last construction took. Here he got materials negotiated down to better prices, and kept the construction on a very short leash in collaboration with Ajmer.



The school has a great desire to buy a small "bus" - and thus can give the parents from the surrounding villages security that the students can get to school.

It is very understandable, and it will allow for a larger student intake area, and thus more students can benefit from the school, the classes will be filled, and more school income... all good, -but there are also many "men" knowing that the school is expanding with this task, so it is still very much in the maki



In addition, it works best with a petrol-powered one, as the battery-powered one can only go one trip - on one charge... But it goes against the values of the time - also in India.

In my upcoming trip from today, January 10 to February 2, I have, as always, set some challenges for myself... In the Creative Teaching Skill Training (CTST) teaching, there are the basic values of CTST that we always work with, and from that is a theme: "Increasing ownership of learning", both with the teachers and the students. Another theme: "Increasing the visibility of what each grade level expects to be the students' ability, from the previous grade level", and here the focus is on mutual cooperation and evaluation around the teacher's work and focus.







So now it is exciting to see how they work with their teaching, and have incorporated the last training into their teaching,

and exciting for me to -experience what comes to me - which I find inspiration to teach.

This picture is from the end - when we finished Creative Teaching Skill Training and all the teachers receive their CTST certificate.

Since my family in Noida, Delhi is not at home, I am picked up at the airport by Vikas and a driver, and therefore get a little more time in the Village, TellusArt Academy.

I have three invitations to Indians - whom I have previously met and would like to greet again, so I hope there will be time for that.



I'm going to live with Ajmer's family this time - although after a bit of reluctant talk... - but it's a nice and familiar place to live, I can largely just be myself..

In addition, I gradually have many other families who invite me for meals and social gatherings - But in Hindi... Yes, it's great to be more and more part of a community.

Kind regards - and see you again in the spring, when the snow has turned into little white snowdrops.

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PS: I still have time for several lectures during the year. If you know of any context - where it would be exciting to hear about my work with India, educational development and different ways of working with art - then I would like to hear from you.

I also do workshops with fun learning activities, so fun that you forget that there is also learning involved...



All The bedst.