



Ashot showing one floor of classrooms. The cameraman (by the way, one of our 7th grade students, Manish, took these photos) was looking toward the back of the building. On this floor there are 10 classrooms: five to a side. On the third floor there are six classrooms with room for building four more. Every room has a balcony which means plenty of natural light.



Looking down from the end of the hallway you can see the playground. This is something the children have never had before. It is so nice to have some play space and some trees!

Finally, this is the back of the building taken from the playground with the cameraman's back toward the river.



We are so thankful to have found this new facility. It is a real blessing. We will be moving on the upcoming 31st and 1st. School will open in the new location on August 2nd. I don't usually send out newsletters so frequently, but I just had to share our joy this month!

Thank you for your wonderful support,

love, Connie



July 2010

Dear Friends,

First of all I want to thank you very much for your encouraging response to my latest letter. I received several supportive letters by email and have since received an astounding \$7000 in contributions, enough to keep the school running through the first term. From me personally, and from the children and teachers who depend on the school, a BIG, BIG thank you.

The school re-opened on July 1st, and I spent the first few days doing nothing but testing and admitting new students. Parents have learned that seats are limited, and if they want to get their child enrolled in our school, they must come immediately on school re-opening. I admit children on a first-come, first-served basis and had to start turning away potential students starting the third day. Now, with almost all classes full (we do have a few seats open in higher grades only), we have around 250 students. These are children who, for the most part, if they were not studying in our school, would not be studying at all.

Academically we got off to the best start ever with teachers starting right in on the first day of school. Children are now well into studies and have made visible progress in just two weeks. It is amazing how fast kids can learn!

My big news is that we have decided to move the school to a new location. Our current landlord's son will likely be getting married this year, and earlier in the year the landlord said that he may need to take some rooms back for his son's use. This prompted us to start looking for another building. We saw several, but I knew it was going to be tough to find a big enough building with an appropriate layout of rooms, and hopefully a playground, and in the near vicinity so that the children could walk to school.

I am very pleased to tell you that we did find a place that is almost unbelievable! It is not perfect, but it seems like a dream come true. Lying between the two communities from which the majority of students come, it sits on a bluff overlooking the Ganges River. Take a look!



Here is the front of the building with some students standing in front of the main gate. We took them to see the new building for the first time yesterday.



Here is a straight-on view of the front; the arch of the gate shows at the lower right. On the second and third floors there are two rows of classrooms going straight back with a wide corridor in the middle (corresponding to where the



Here is one feature we didn't find in any other building -- a covered space large enough for the entire student body to assemble. We can use it for showing films or holding special programs, even in the rain! The lighted area at the back is the front gate. You are looking at about 3/4 of the available space.