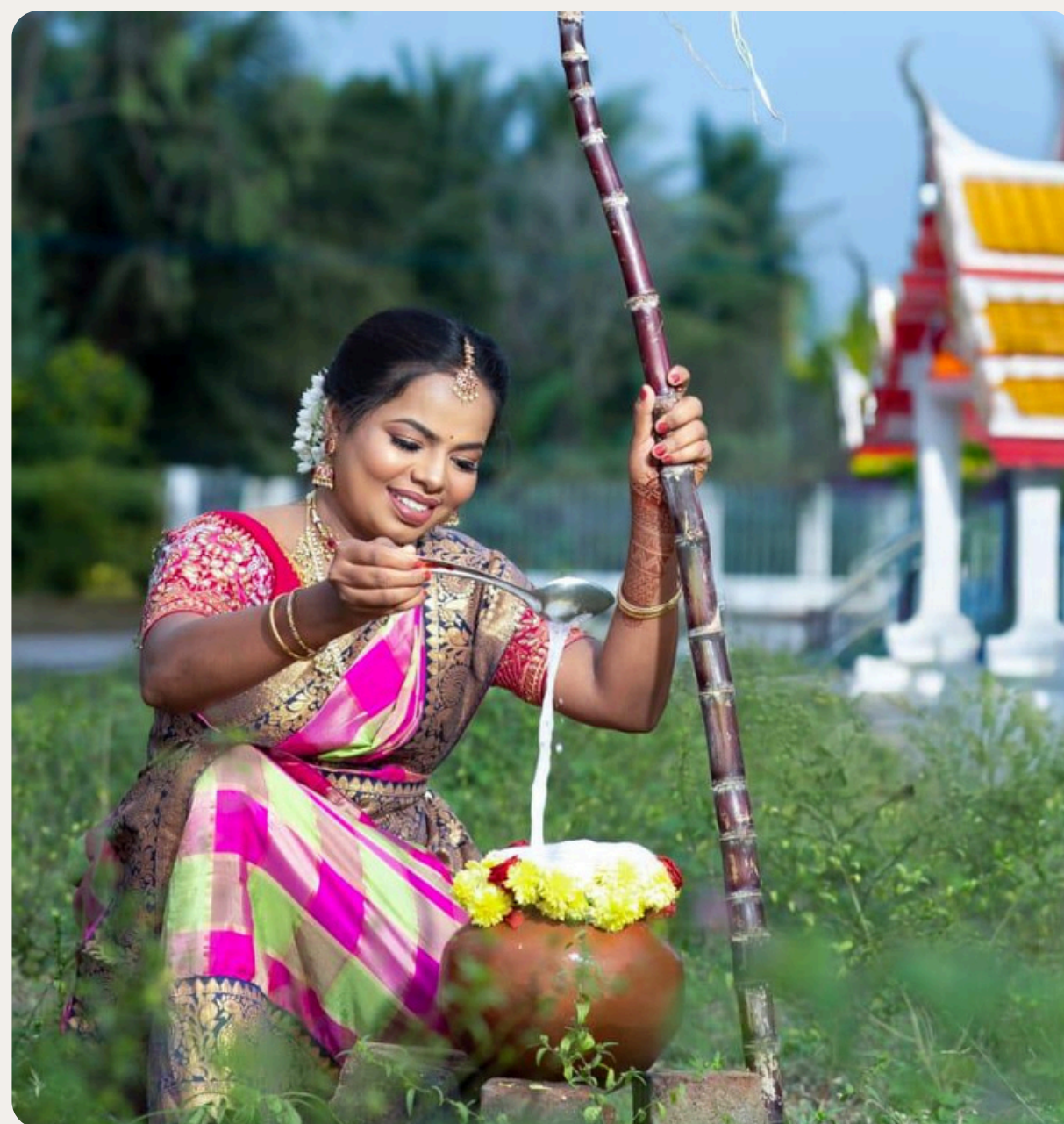




### India News

### Pongal

Tamil Nadu celebrated Pongal, a 4-day harvest festival. The first day is a time for clearing out unwanted belongings to symbolise a fresh start. On the second day, people cook Pongal, a rice dish, in a large clay pot outdoors. The Pongal is then painted and placed in the sun as an offering to the Sun God, along with sugar cane stalks. The third day honours farm animals which provide dairy products, a means of transportation and agriculture. Cows and bulls are bathed and their horns are polished and painted in bright colors to celebrate and thank them. The last day is spent celebrating with family and friends.



The students enjoyed the festival and sent photos of their celebrations and Rangoli drawings to their sponsors. The teachers had a gathering together, making biryani rice and playing games.



### English speaking volunteers wanted



Indian Futures is asking for a call for action as part of our Language Fundraiser. Brighton-based Liana (left) teaches English to students from Russia, her native place. Volunteer, Hana (right), gives 30-minute sessions to the students so they can practise their English, and also manages other volunteers.

We are asking for more English native speakers to provide these 30-minute sessions with the students. If you are able to spare half an hour a week, please get in touch by responding to this email.

## Spain News

### Wishing on a...Christmas Tree



Futuraula had their Christmas raffle which the students did an excellent job at sourcing prizes for, including hotel stays and fancy meals! They had a Christmas tree with 100 wishes from the students in India. People would then pay €1 to pick a wish.

They raised £1,160 in total! They also had a solidarity breakfast and received Christmas cards from the 4 students they sponsor in India.



**For upcoming event details, such as the 'Planted in the 60s' February event, please visit the 'Our Events' tab on our website or click the link in the email signature.**

