

SEP, 21

TIBETAN HOMES FOUNDATION

BI-MONTHLY NEWSLETTER

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Project Developments



Summer programs

During the school holidays of our branch school THS Gohri Mafi a wide range of nonscholastic activities, such as a visit to the cinema, food craft activities, etc., were organised for those students who did not go home for their vacation. A total of 20 children remained back with us during this summer holiday. The new school session started on August 1st.

Photography club exposure

As an exchange program, the children of our photography club got the opportunity to participate in a 3-days photography exhibition, showcasing the pulsating beauty of "Transcending Jerusalem" at the World Integrity Center (WIC) in Dehradun. We are thankful to Mr. Zabeel Mohammed, the head of public and member relations, for his invitation.





CAPACITY BUILDING

Project Based Learning

A workshop and classroom observation on Project Based Learning was conducted at the THS Mussoorie and Rajpur with trained graduate teachers (TGT) and post-graduate teachers (PGT). We are thankful to Tibet Relief Fund, UK for the workshops, organised through its Empowering Vision Office based in New Delhi, India.

Information- and Computer Technology (ICT)

A two days training on ICT was imparted to our teachers at the THS Mussoorie by teachers from Rajpur, who attended the same training as organised by Department of Education at Dharamsala. The training at Mussoorie was supervised by Mr. Roshan Singh from the Tata Institute of Social Science based in Mumbai.

Parenting workshop

A parenting skill workshop was organised for our foster parents of our branch school THS Gohri Mafi. The workshop was coordinated in July when the school remained closed for the summer holiday.

Exchange programs

The most senior classes of our branch school THS Rajpur were taken to the Olympus High School in Dehradun as part of a cultural exchange program. The program aimed for the Indian and Tibetan students to interact with each other and to foster experiential learning through various activities. It further intended to cement the relationship between the two schools.

Creative approach to arts and crafts

A team from Hope One World, Liverpool, UK visited our school this year with the objective of imparting a skill development short-term training to our teachers. This instruction provided our teachers from all three schools with a creative approach to the subject of "Arts and Crafts".

Awareness talk - Basic Education Policy

Following the implementation of the Basic Education Policy (BEP) in our school, two of our teachers including our branch school's Principal attended an awareness talk on BEP, organised by the Department of Education, Dharamsala. The two teachers thereafter imparted the awareness of the BEP to all our junior teachers of our school in Mussoorie and our branch school in Rajpur.



PROJECT OUTPUTS

Classroom furniture

We were able to refurbish and to install new equipment in almost all classrooms of our school in Mussoorie. The new furniture provision was made possible with the grant support from the Humanitarian Association, Italy. Our sincere thankfulness for Dr. Franz Pahl of the association mentioned above for making this project possible.

Display boards

A minimum of two display boards were installed in all the classrooms of our school in Mussoorie. This was made possible with the grant assistance from the Humanitarian Association, Italy. We would like to express our wholehearted gratitude to Dr. Franz Pahl for implementing these fixtures.

Cultural costumes for young kids

A set of twelve cultural costumes was provided to our young children of our school's cultural dance and music group. The project aims to motivate our youngsters to participate in cultural presentations. We profoundly thank Objectif Tibet, France for their approval to utilize the general donation fund towards this project.

Sanitation improvement

We were able to renovate the sanitation area of two of our larger homes with the grant support of USAID through its Population, Refugee and Migration, Social and Resource Development Office at the Central Tibetan Administration, Dharamsala. The two of our children's homes no. 1 and no. 30 were covered under this project on priority.



Washing machine provisions

All the children's hostels were provided with 10.5 kg and 9.5 kg washing machines. With this project we attempt to assist the children with the easy washing of their clothes so that they can devote more time towards their studies. The project includes all three schools of the Tibetan Homes Foundation as well as two senior citizens' homes at Mussoorie and Rajpur. We would like to thank German Aid to Tibetans, Germany for their benevolent grant support.

Alumni and their associations

Our alumni and their associations in different parts of the world are making small wonders by organising potluck-gatherings to revive their childhood memories. The gatherings are set up by the executive members of the alumni associations, who also try to raise some funds to take up projects of Alma Mater. This year, our Ex-Mussoorian New York Alumni Association, USA contributed a provision to the "Toolkit to all homes" project to our school. This project aims to provide all the children's homes with different toolkits, which will be helpful to the kids to clean their homes or surrounding with the equipment. This is a small project but did miracles by setting an example to the younger students here at Alma Mater.

Activity Highlights



Secular ethics talk

Ven. Geshe Yeshe Gyaltzen la gave a promotional talk on secular ethics to our office staff and foster parents as part of a program of the Department of Education (DOE), Dharamsala.



His Holiness' 83rd birthday celebration

On the occasion of His Holiness' 83rd Birthday on July 6, the Opera "Khen-Lop-Choe-Sum" was performed by the opera group of the THS Mussoorie, followed by a grand celebration held on the school ground. At our branch school THS Gohri Mafi a tree plantation was organised for this important event and at the THS Rajpur the students and members of the Tibetan Women's Center (TWC) performed cultural dances for the TWC and local Tibetan people, who came to watch the presentation. In the afternoon, the anniversary of HH. the 14th Dalai Lama was celebrated at the Pacific Mall in Dehradun.

Cultural festival celebration

On Chokhor Duchen (popularly called Dugpa Tse Shi, i.e. 4th day of 6th lunar month), the anniversary of the day on which Lord Buddha had turned the wheel of Dharma, the Tadrup teacher Ven. Lungrig Ngawang gave an introduction of this auspicious day in the auditorium of the THS Mussoorie.

Tibet Week observation

Towards the end of July we celebrated the Tibet Week at the THS Mussoorie and our branch school THS Rajpur. After preparing a certain topic about the history or the culture of our nation during the week, the students from classes VI to X presented their findings and conclusions on the final day of the Tibet Week, using a power point presentation. It was a delight to see how interested both the students and the staff were in acquiring new knowledge. In the meantime, the younger children prepared cultural dances and musical performances and enthusiastically gave a performance on the last day of this very special week.





FAREWELLS AND REUNIONS

Two of our students of the THS Mussoorie as well as four of the students of our branch school THS Rajpur left to join the Central Institute of Higher Tibetan Studies, Saranath, Varanasi. We are very proud of you and wish you all the best of luck for your hopefully successful education and a very bright future.



On August 15, a tea party was organised at the THS Rajpur as a token of gratitude for two of our beloved staff members, who had retired from serving our institution after a long time. Mam Jampa Yangchen la had rendered her service for 30 years as an English teacher and Tsering Dickey la had devoted 40 years of her life to work as a school nurse.

VISIT TO STUDENTS AT UNIVERSITY

At the beginning of August, our General Secretary visited various colleges where our former students are studying in different stages and courses. He did one-to-one interactions as well as group discussions with our children on the further improvement of the scholarship procedure and disbursement method. Additionally, his programs included the verification of their documents and explanations on how they could utilize the environment of the university for their holistic development in the best way possible.





Photography club workshop

Our former student Miss. Samdup Dolma paid us together with her team Mr. Kunsang Tenzin and Mr. Pema Tashi a visit to our school for the documentary coverage for "Stories of Tibetans". The team imparted a day workshop to the students of our photography club. Additionally, Miss Samdup Dolma gave a day training to our middle and senior students on the right ways to practice Yoga.

Inter-school soccer tournament

It was a moment of pride when our school's soccer team won this year's Alok Ranjan Memorial inter-school soccer tournament, organised by the Oak Grove School, Mussoorie. It was a tough match playing with different competitive schools including the Wynberg Allen School, the St. George's College and the Oak Grove School, Mussoorie. In the final, our team defeated the Oak Grove School, Mussoorie 4:0.

Inter-school Tibetan calligraphy competition

Inter-school Tibetan calligraphy competition as organized by Department of Education, Dharamsala was held in our school from August 1 to 3. All the students from primary to senior section participated enthusiastically with the young children coming out with their best calligraphy in the competition.

Parent-teacher meeting

The second parent-teacher meeting was held on August 4 with the major participation of the biological parents of our children in the meeting. The mid-term academic progresses of the children were discussed and a short meet of the teachers with the biological parent of the child was organized in the school auditorium. Our foster parents attended the meeting of those children who do not have any parents or whose parents could not attend this meeting. After the meet, the parents were taken for a visit around the school campus.

Inter-house and inter-school competitions

The annual **Mathematics relay** was held in our branch school THS Gohri Mafi on August 18 and the Trirel house won the trophy out of the three houses.

Our school at Mussoorie held its annual **Mathematics relay** on August 22. Having scored equal points in the final, the two houses Namri house and Nyatri house were this year's winners.

An inter-house **Tibetan elocution completion** was held in our branch school THS Gohri Mafi on August 29. The Songsten house was the winner out of the three houses.

Our branch school THS Rajpur's junior boys participated in the 5th ILG Maan Memorial **Junior Futsal tournament**, which was organized by the Carman School in Dehradun. Our team was able to gain the runner up position, even though many other schools participated and competed in this tournament.

A gracious talk by venerable Geshe Lhakdor on **secular ethics**, importance of teachers, meditation, practice of empathy was organized in all 03 schools of Tibetan Homes Foundation. The talk was attended by all the staff and children in groups for three consecutive days in each school.

Funded Projects - In Progress

1. Skill and Capacity for our training centre by Mr. Matias Nadal, Spain
2. Rice cooker in children homes by German Aid to Tibetans, Germany
3. Dental chair at our Mussoorie dental clinic by Apolline 45, France
4. Athletic ground at branch school, Rajpur by Fundación Heres, Spain,
5. Dispensary surgical bed at Mussoorie dispensary by Humanitarian Association, Italy.
6. Photography club equipment at Mussoorie school by The Rainbow of Magnolia, USA.
6. Replacement of quilt and quilt cover in all children homes by Humanitarian Association, Italy.
7. Table tennis for children as outdoor game by Humanitarian Association, Italy.
8. Dispensary equipments at Mussoorie school dispensary by The Rainbow of Magnolia, USA.
9. Parenting skill development training to foster parents of all 03 schools by Rainbow of Magnolia.
10. Facility development at Mussoorie guest house by Denka Wangdi and Family, USA.
11. Provision of water storage tanks to 2 children homes by Denka Wangdi and Family, USA.
12. Assembly electrical equipment at Charlimount hostel by Denka Wangdi and Family, USA.
13. Facility development in elderly home, Rajpur by Deutsch-Asiatische , Germany.
14. Provision of refrigerator to 02 children homes by alumni Chemi Chekal & family, USA under "Be a part - Our Alma Mater" Project.
15. Contribution towards winter project by Tibet Relief Fund, UK

Best wishes.

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in Internship from Switzerland
as an assistance to Mrs. Dekyi Wangmo, Project Coordinator