



NEWSLETTER

DOLPHIN MAGIC SCHOOL



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Introduction

The year 2020 has been unforgettable. Out of nowhere the world experienced the outbreak of Corona Virus and it was as if the world stopped moving for months. At least, many things did stop. People stopped meeting people or going to work or even going to school.



More than 76 million people contracted the virus causing around 1.7 million deaths. The past several months was a nightmare for many people. Nepal also had its share of heartbreak with more than 250,000 people infected and almost 1800 deaths.

To prevent unnecessary spread of the virus Nepal went into 2 nationwide lockdowns in different time periods and all educational institutions were closed for more than 7 months. Online classes became an option for most but still not everyone could afford the devices or the internet.



DMS DURING THE PANDEMIC



As the number of cases of corona in Nepal kept growing, we had no other option but to shut down the school. Knowing our students are deprived of the regular education, we started home tutoring which was a bit of a success for over a month but we had to stop continuing it due to the safety protocols authorized by the local government regarding social distancing. We also started teaching online classes for the students above 5th grade until recently.



Online teaching did help a lot but still not everyone could benefit due to lack of devices or the internet availability.

Finally, after 8 months of shutdown, DMS is reopened. Local authorities of Dakshinkali Municipality have issued a statement to start all educational institutions in the area ensuring proper safety measures. Almost all schools in Dakshinkali Municipality are restarted including DMS. Therefore, on November 18th DMS was reopened with advance notice sent to all guardians and parents. Basic safety measures are being practiced in DMS after reopening.



Now that the school is resumed, the once empty school premise feels alive again. We are happy to see the students appreciating the opportunity provided to them. They look happy coming to the school and excited to learn again. For them it is a life changing opportunity to shape their future. For the School, Friends for Nepal and all the supporters, it is everything we have been working for and nothing brings us more joy.



DONATION TO PHARPING FOOD BANK

Friends for Nepal have always looked out for those people in the time of need. We have already carried out lifesaving projects in Pharping such as Water Project in Dandikhel, Tent and Food Distribution for more than a thousand people in Pharping, immediately after the 2015 earthquake.



PPEs distribution for the Manmohan Memorial Hospital and Dakshinkali municipality during the recent corona pandemic.



Similarly, an organization named Pharping Food Bank is doing some great humanitarian work by bringing food and supplies to those affected by the pandemic. Often times the worst affected are the most neglected ones.

The organization collects the provision in the form of donations and distributes it accordingly. DMS has also donated PPEs to the organization in the past to help them work cautiously.



Being a longtime supporter and admirer of humanitarian work DMS has donated to the organization again. As promised, DMS has provided the donation of 1,00,000 Rs. (One Lakh Rupees) cash and 50,000 Rs. (Fifty Thousand Rupees) worth of blankets and food provisions. The donation was provided at the Food Bank office in Pharping.

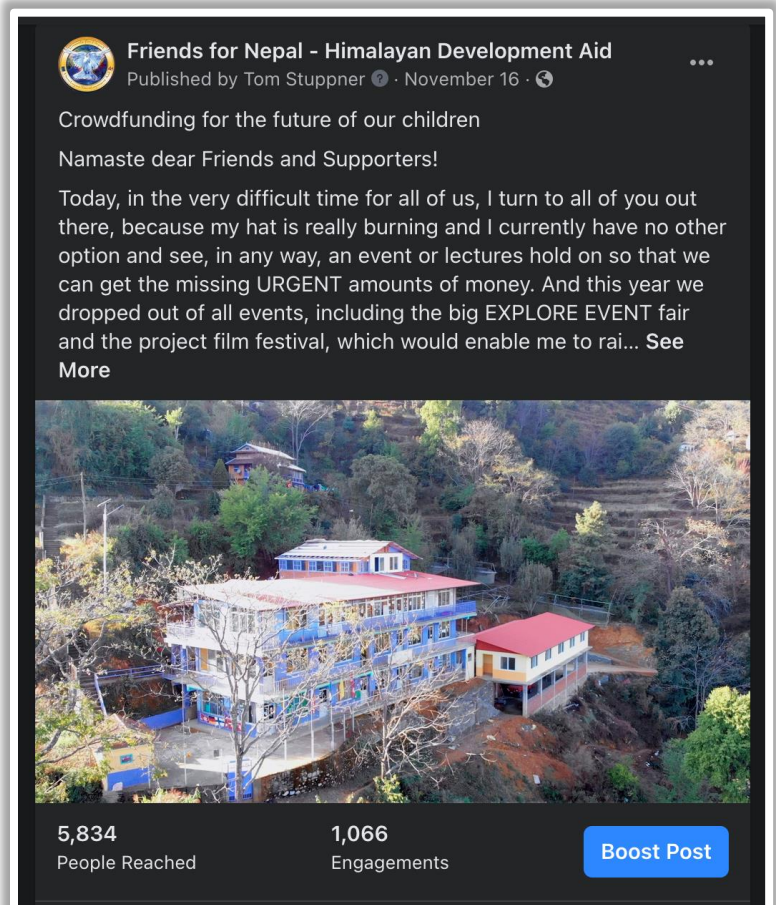
Food Bank Pharping has already helped out more than 1000 people and the number is still growing. DMS only hopes that the help provided will ease the burden of the pandemic for all those who are badly hit. Our heart goes out to everyone affected because of this situation. Only by helping each other out, we can save the humanity.

CROWD FUNDING FOR SCHOOL'S LAND SETTLEMENT

A crowd funding was initiated with the intent to buy the plot of land where the school now stands. The required amount was met and exceeded within 4 weeks of crowd funding which is possibly the biggest incident of 2020 for Dolphin Magic School.

Until now, the land where the school is built was given to Friends for Nepal free of cost with possibility of future settlement by the land owner. However, this year corona has affected everyone everywhere.

The land owner also was badly hit by the pandemic. As their tourism business began to plummet, he was left in a tight spot to pay his loan without much



income. Due to the huge amount of loan, he took from the bank, a part of the school could be affected by any future actions from the bank.

Therefore, we needed to avoid that situation at all cost not to let anything interfere with the safe future of school. After a detailed discussion with the owner, an agreement was reached. The plot of land which is worth 100,000 euros was made available for 50,000 euros. It was truly a kind gesture from the landowners to let us have the plot of land for half the price of what it actually costs. The amount we agree to buy the land with may not be enough for his entire loan to be cleared but we hope it pays a huge part of it.



After reaching an agreement about the land it was vital to organize the necessary amount required to buy the plot of land. Therefore, a crowd funding was initiated on 16th of November. Plenty of people showed their support and love. In four weeks through 160 donors, we have not only met the target but blew it through the roof. The flow of support was unbelievable yet vital.



Finally, a total of 58351.62 euros was collected. Helen Wong and friends from Hong Kong donated more than half of the required amount which was a tremendous contribution in these tough times. Other great support from Chay Ya – with the chairperson Sabine Klotz from Austria, Fa Adler Apartments, Fa BELAN GesmbH, Monika Woditschka -a godmother and sponsor parent, Markus Ginner and all the donors were the elements that kept our dreams alive. Every penny has a great value to us as well as all kinds of support.

Special thanks to the amazing people who donated for the cause. Heartfelt thanks to the management team to make everything possible and to all sponsor parents whose support has been continuous. Definitely thanks to all the teachers and the staffs who are actually nourishing and protecting our dreams.

However, the land cannot be bought in the name of Friends for Nepal so it will be transferred in the name of the Usha Basnet. Usha is a Nepali citizen and she is also a longtime supporter of DMS and Friends for Nepal. She is set to have a contract with friends for Nepal to provide the land to the school free of charge for the next 99.99 years to come.

This is a huge accomplishment. Now we have secured a future of children for over a hundred years to come. As long as we have such great support and souls to keep this garden of dreams growing, there will be countless lives we would have molded into great masterpieces.

HEALTH STATION REGISTERED

The Health Station in Lamagaun which is long been supported by Friends for Nepal has finally been registered with the local health authority in Dakshinkali Municipality. It has been recognized by administrative body of municipality which is working in collaboration with Municipality's Health Department. The Registration work has opened many possibilities for the Health station in the present term as well as the future.





We now can run health camps in Lamagaon and Pharping depending on the manpower and resources we are able to organize. The Health Station can legally provide general health services where the doctor can refer patients to other hospitals if needed. The registration has also allowed operating a pharmacy and providing prescribed medications to the patients.

Friends for Nepal have contributed a lot for the Health station and the people of Lamagaon, Pharping, Dandikhel, Humane and more. Especially after the earthquake of 2015, ton of effort has been put into renovation of the building of the health station. Since then, it's been providing basic health services to anyone in need. The occasional Physio Therapy by the volunteers has always been a spark of the health station.

The number of people benefitting from the Health station is already in hundreds if not thousands. However, these achievements weren't easy. It took a long and continuous dedication from the management team of Friends for Nepal, donors, health professionals and staffs as well as volunteers.

With the new possibilities there comes an even greater responsibility. Therefore, by believing health is a basic need of anyone The Health Station will



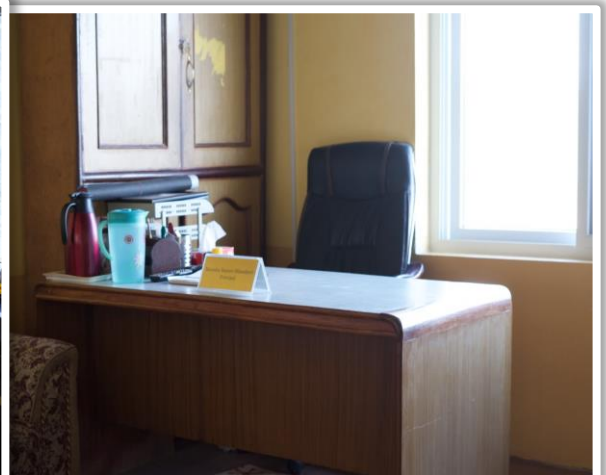
continue to do its work with the support of dedicated people who are helping it grow.

OFFICE, KITCHEN AND P.G. MOVED



The office room P.G. (Play Group) and the school kitchen has been moved to another building. The rooms constructed above the garage are completely ready with the completion of paint job, furnishing, and other necessities. The rooms are currently being used as it was intended for.

One of the rooms is the office room which is now more accessible to everyone in need. Also moving P.G. next to the office on the ground floor is always an advantage for the small children. Now they won't need to take any stairs to get to their classroom and the room is quite beautiful with all the thoughts put into it.



After moving into new building, the vacant rooms are being prepared for other purposes. The school is yet to establish a science lab, a permanent music room, and another storage room. Therefore, analyzing the capacity and compatibility of those rooms, the use of each room will be determined accordingly.



CONSTRUCTION WORK:

Wall Construction

A wall is being constructed on the area where there was a big landslide last year. The landslide didn't really cause any major damage to any of the school's structure but deposited on the playground which is still under construction. As all the other construction works related with the playground is finishing, removing the landslide deposits and preventing another possible slide from falling in the next season is what remains to be done.

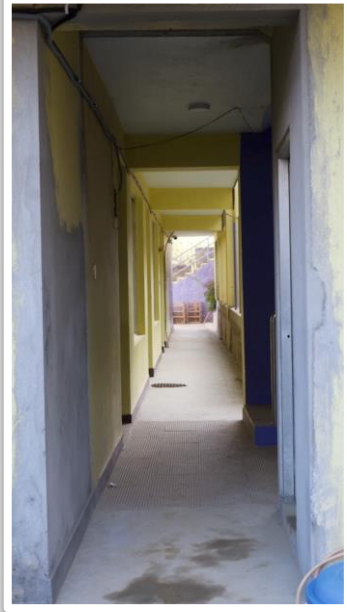


Therefore, a group of our regular construction workers are provided with the task to build a stone and concrete wall. The wall will prevent any debris from falling and reaching the school playground and avoid risking anyone standing in the vicinity. The work has already begun and is expected to be complete within a few weeks.



Passage Construction

A passage has been opened at the south side of the school. Earlier it was blocked by a solid wall and was not helping much going around the school. With the opening of the new passage, the new playground is easily accessible than before. It may be small construction but a very impactful one due to the advantage it comes with.



SOME WORDS FROM SARITA BALAMI (GRADE TEACHER OF CLASS 2)



Namaste from Nepal,

Hi, I am Sarita Balami. I live in Phulchowk which is close to Lamagaun. I live with my mother, father and two brothers. My hobby is to sing and travel to new places. I also love taking pictures of the different places I visit. I am currently studying in the fourth year of the bachelor's degree majoring in English and truly happy to become a part of Dolphin Magic School.

I am now the grade teacher of class 2. It has been almost 3 years since I joined DMS with hopes of better education and a beautiful future. Here in DMS everyone feels like a family and they also treat me nicely. The teachers, staffs and children make me feel like I am part of something much bigger than just myself. DMS is focused for the good of everyone. I wish to thank Friends for Nepal for building the school for the needy children in Lamagaun and Pharping



and making this world a better place. Thanks to all sponsor parents for helping regularly.



Teaching for me is not only my profession but also my passion. I like to be around children. I want to help them understand things they may not know. I believe I am about positive attitude which helped me get through my school. The same mentality has helped me become the woman I am today. I feel very thankful to my good friends and my family for believing in me.

I cannot be more grateful towards the school for providing all the staffs with salary during the pandemic. The salary helped a lot in such hard situation. The school management also tried everything to continue home tuition and I was part of it. Sadly, we couldn't continue it for long.

Nevertheless, I am now happy to be back in school. I am glad that I joined this school. Again, my special thanks to Manisha Basnet mam, Thomas Stuppner sir, Hari Kandel sir, Suresh Basnet sir, Dayan Cutler mam for providing me with this golden opportunity.

Happy New Year 2021



DONATION RECIVED FOR SCHOOL MATERIALS



On behalf of “Cinemanse”, a media and news company from Finland, Hanna Lajunen has donated a sum of 4000 euros to DMS. She wished the donation amount to be spent for educational materials and children development program.

DMS has already received the sum and bought materials to help the small children develop their brains through play. Among the items bought are realistic toys, word games, block building toys and other advanced teaching materials.



Hanna has been a friend and a longtime supporter of Friends for Nepal. She also donated tents and other essential materials after the 2015 earthquake to the organization.

The help that Hanna has provided means a lot to the DMS family and the children who are going to benefit from it. We would like to thank Hanna Lajunen for the wonderful gifts she has given us and shown us great care through her continuous support.



NEW ADMISSION

This year the new admission was very different than that of previous years. The time of admission was pushed more than half a year due to corona virus. Despite the difficulties DMS still managed to bring in new admissions in different grades. A total of 35 new students are enrolled in this new academic session 2020/2021 A.D. Most of the students enrolled for play group and Nursery only a handful joined L.K.G., Grade 1 and Grade 2.



We went through a really tough year but even at the end of the year it is always good to see new faces arriving with full of hopes and potential. Hopefully the



New Year will be more favorable to everyone with a whole year of uninterrupted learning opportunities.

DMS GALLERY







