



# NEWSLETTER

## DOLPHIN MAGIC SCHOOL



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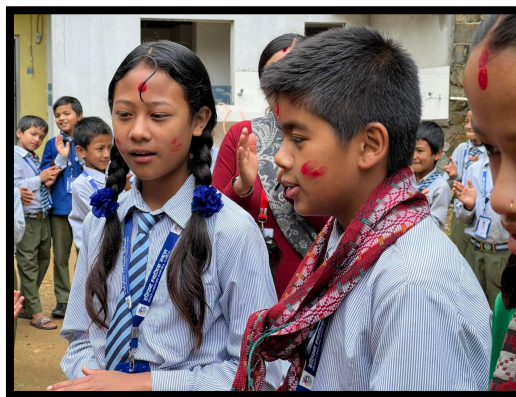
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## Students win Inter-School Quiz competition

Dolphin Magic School has wonderful news to share to all the supporters and well-wishers of DMS. A few days ago, two students of DMS Felix Basnet and Rubina Tamang who study in Grade Four and Five respectively won the very first Quiz competition for the school. We are very proud of the achievement and would like to praise Felix and Rubina for their amazing feat.





The inter School Quiz competition was organized by Pharping Secondary School where 16 different schools from Dakshinkali Municipality participated. The participation was exclusively for class four and five and Dolphin Magic School also sent their best for participation. Despite being a newly established school compared to others that participated, our students showed their utmost sincerity and discipline to win the competition for the first time in DMS's history.



The DMS team won the competition by scoring 65 points while the runner up school Ganesh Lower Secondary School scored 56. This is a big moment for the School and everyone who has put time and all sorts of effort to support education and mental development. Dolphin Magic School occasionally participates in various inter-school competitions such as dance, art, sports. This participation not only is a representation of DMS but a great chance to understand themselves which we hope will help to grow confidence among those students.

What we just won is a historical achievement for DMS and we only hope to make more of such great memories



## First Terminal Examination held

The First terminal Examination of the academic year 2079 B.S. (2022/23) has been held successfully. The exam was held during 2<sup>nd</sup> to 9<sup>th</sup> September where all students from P.G. up to Grade Eight participated. The First term usually is held during the month of June but repeated interruptions in the past years have affected the regular school operations. Although what we observed in the examination suggests that Dolphin Magic School is already at its hundred percent after what it's been through for a couple of years. The teachers were certainly delighted for the examination as it helps them to evaluate what students are learning.



The result of the First terminal Examination was distributed on 24th September where parents and the guardians of the students were informed to collect it. The overall results of the First Term are above satisfactory.

Two weeks of monsoon & Dashain holiday was provided to all the students and school staffs after the examination was over. Nepal's monsoon can be harsh and every year there are extreme landslides and heavy rain for days. Sometimes, it is not ideal to travel even a short distance as pharping area is highly prone to landslides. So mostly for safety and health reason DMS has been providing monsoon breaks annually during mid monsoon when the best thing anybody can do is sit by the fire and with family. DMS resumed its regular operations after vacation.





## Sabina Tamang, a student nurtured by Friends for Nepal

Sabina Tamang is one of the many children who have been under the care of Friends for Nepal even before the school began to teach. Sabina was brought in at the age of 4 in Lamagaun to be taken care of by Bird's Nest. Sabina has spent most of her life in hostel and she is grateful for the opportunity. Sabina recently passed her SEE (Tenth Grade) from Pharping Secondary school with excellent results and she is currently looking forward to her further studies.



Sabina is originally from Nuwakot with a weak family background. In fact, she had no one to take care of her which is the reason she was brought in Bird's Nest 13 years ago. Sabina's father passed away when she was just 1.5 years old and her mother remarried about a year later. Sabina was left with her grandparents who were quite old to take care of even themselves. Just a couple of years ago her grandfather passed away as well and she only has a grandmother in the name of a family.



Sabina is now 17 years old and her basic needs are being cared for. She is a talented young girl with so many potentials in her life. Sabina has been attending Pharping Secondary School for the past two years where she completed her SEE examination scoring A. Her preferred subject was Civil Engineering at the time of study. She was also good at her studies but lately she has a change of heart regarding her studies.

Sabina now believes she will do better studying nursing and has been interested in it for some time now. Studying Civil Engineering in the beginning was interesting for her but after a couple of years she has come to a decision that it is not for her. Her preferred field of education is also a good choice in the context of Nepal and a respected one. Here at Friends for Nepal we trust in Sabina and believe she is taking the right step for her and for those who care for her.

Life wasn't so kind for Sabina at the start and she doesn't even know who her parents were as she didn't get a chance to grow up with them. Thankfully, so much have changed for her and she is already growing so fast who is able to make a right choice for herself regarding her future. Here at friends for Nepal we are proud of Sabina and what she has accomplished to this day and will continue to support in her education and help her make self-sustainable in the near future.

## **An important member of Dolphin Magic School**

Any institution anywhere in the world need all factors working together for it to thrive. And we believe Dolphin Magic School is definitely thriving as we look back at where we came from. For a well-functioning organization all members of the organization are equally important to do their job right. Here in Dolphin Magic School teachers, staffs of every kind dedicate their time and expertise for DMS to function seamlessly. Binod Basnet is a member of DMS who has been regularly contributing for more than three years as the chef of Dolphin Magic School and he has been everything that the school needed.





Binod is an experienced cook and a baker and has more than a decade of experience in cooking. The school has a menu that cycles for two weeks and repeat again. Binod is responsible for cooking every day for 170 students and all the staffs in the school and so far, he has pleased everyone with his work. Everyone loves what Binod cooks in school. His dedication and expertise in his work has definitely been something Dolphin Magic School hopes for in its employee.



Every day Binod starts preparing lunch in school at around 11 am to serve at 2 pm. With some help from the cleaning staffs and helper the lunch is always right in time. The lunch generally consists of homemade brown bread and curries, Nepali style rice, lentil and curry, roti and tea, pasta, noodles, beans and seasonal vegetables, fries rice depending upon what day of the week it is.



Binod is also a father of two children who are currently studying in DMS. His two children Felix and Fiona Basnet have started their schooling in DMS and studies in Grade four and Nursery respectively. Binod is happy for the opportunity provided for his children and an employment opportunity to support his family.

In Dakshinkali Municipality hundreds of people including the children, parents and staffs of DMS have directly or indirectly benefitted because of Dolphin Magic School. DMS has created hope for hundreds of children as well as provided many people stable source of income even during lockdowns. Binod Basnet and many others who depend on the school for income are thankful for everything DMS has provided for them.

## Identity card for all

All the students, teachers and staffs have been provided with Identity Card this year. Students from all over Dakshinkali Municipality come to study in Dolphin Magic School and the number is growing every year. It is the first time in DMS that the identity card was made for all and the school management felt it necessary.



Since students come from everywhere having an Identity Card with them can help the students if they ever find themselves lost or need help. The identity card consists of personal details, address, and emergency contacts of the parents and school. All the students and staffs of DMS have been provided with their Identity Card and are encouraged to wear it every day in school.





## Nepal Government implements Health Rule in School

Nepal Government has recently implemented a rule in which states there must be a Health Assistant in every school. With the motive of minimizing the chances of severe injuries which usually happens due to lack of timely attention from experts or mishandling of patients, Nepal government has urged to every school to have a Health assistant standby during the school hours.

This is a new idea in terms of Nepal and a much needed one. School is one of the places where accidents can occur any moment and the nearest health care facility is always nearby which increases the severity of any kind of injuries. A timely and proper care for injuries is the best way to minimize the damage before reaching medical facilities. A proper First Aid can save a person and keep them stable for a longer amount of time which increases the chance of person's recovery.



The idea of having a health expert is not only to assess and treat injuries but also to teach basic health practices for the students. The government aims to educate students in practical manner with health-related education such as sanitation, first aid and general health issues.





Dolphin Magic School has also worked on the issue as asked. In fact, DMS had helped to fund and operate a Health Station in Lamagaun for many years. The health Station recently received an official recognition from Nepal government and has been registered as Health Center in Lamagaun. Long before the government implemented the rules about health Assistant in School, DMS has been working with Ramesh Raila who is the head of Lamagaun Health Station for basic health issues and medical assistance. Now Ramesh is a regular at Dolphin Magic School as a Health Assistant and a teacher who spends a few hours in school and also finds time for the health center. Ramesh has about 10 years of medical experience and practiced treatment with professionals. His experience and suggestions have been precious for the people of Lamagaun and beyond.

In DMS we are lucky that nothing major or tragic has happened so far in the school so far and we always hope it stays like this. But tragedy can occur to anybody and anytime and it feels good to have someone around who can help.





## Friday Activities

Friday activities are always fun. It is designed in a way that challenges the conventional ideas of education. Dolphin Magic School has always believed in the need of practical education and has done everything possible to provide all students with diverse learning opportunity. During Friday activities all students do something they really want. Small students are encouraged in arts and team play. Slightly older kids are into board games, sports, origami, arts, gardening etc. And older student gets a bit of everything including farming education teaching the young ones what they learnt.





About three months ago the students and teacher worked together to plant different species of trees and every week the students have been watering the plants and adding necessary fertilizers. The students also planted seasonal vegetables in the bio farm they have been working on. The farm still provides fresh batch of pumpkins, cauliflowers, cabbages, tomatoes time to time which is then used in the school kitchen for everyone to enjoy.



DMS believes that there are many ways to learn and the way one person understands something can be not so easy for another. We are all different and so is our understanding. Therefore, it is our motive to provide our students with multiple ways to understand a thing and experience what it means as they learn.

Practical education is equally important as the books and Dolphin Magic School will keep providing a diverse learning environment for all students of the school and the ones to come in future.





## Students visit heritage sites around Pharping

Every year Dolphin Magic School takes its students on an educational tour around heritage sites and historical monuments around the valley. But the past couple of years the pandemic made those educational tours impossible. Since everything is going back to normal and DMS this time around took students above Grade Three to heritage sites around Pharping. And the students certainly had many important places explored. Pharping is a place which has countless historical artifacts and architectures from different religions and beliefs. More than over 20 monasteries, and handful of major Hindu temples makes Pharping a sanctuary for both Buddhist and Hindu believers. And the history of Pharping and its architecture goes back hundreds of years ago.



The students had a chance to visit Bajrayogini Temple which was built more than couple of hundred years ago. It is a unique temple of Goddess Bajrayogini that both Hindu and Buddhist people worship. The temple is decorated with wood carvings, a beautiful shrine on top of it and several stone carved figures of gods and goddesses. The woodworks truly show the height of woodcrafts and stone carving skills of people at the time. One could say the temple itself is a living museum for thousands of people that visit the temple every year.







Another significant infrastructure the students visited was Chandra Jyoti Electric Power Station which lies in the outskirts of Pharping. The Hydropower is the first ever in Nepal and the second ever in Asia and was built in 1911 just a year before China built its first Hydropower. It was built by a Rana Prime Minister Chandra Samsher Jung Bahadur Rana. The Power Station is fed by a reservoir that sits on top of a hill and the Power Station is still operational to this day. As the world was competing for their own development Nepal was at that time equally competitive. The infrastructure may not be meeting the electric need of today's generation but it certainly has a bigger importance for all generation to witness the history it has. And the students were certainly excited to visit it.

It was an eventful day for all the students and the teachers involved and definitely an informative one. After the trip was concluded, all students and teachers sat by the reservoir and enjoyed the lunch they packed earlier.



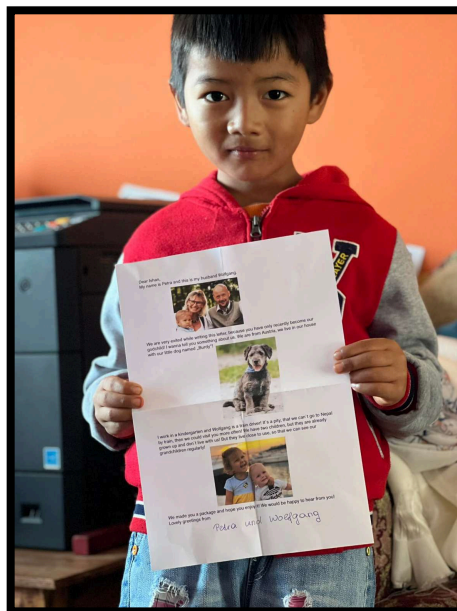


## Sponsor parents visit DMS and their sponsored children



A couple from Austria and sponsor parents of two of the students in Dolphin Magic School has recently visited the school. Norbert and Sylvia Steinhögl who are the sponsor parents of Sangam Tamang and Sudarshan Tamang have come to visit DMS and their sponsor children this October. They were excited to see the students as they visited them in their homes. Norbert and Sylvia have been associated with Friends for Nepal for over five years and they have always been tremendously supportive of the school.

Every year the couple visit the school and meet their sponsor child but for the last two years they haven't been able to come to Nepal due to the recent pandemic. The couple this time stayed for a short amount of time but it was truly an amazing experience for them. They arrived during Dashain which is one of a major festival in Nepal. During their time in Lamagaun they met the children and spent a day together. The children were equally excited to see their sponsor parents as well.



Norbert and Sylvia brought along plenty of gifts and clothes for their sponsor children and other students too. The kids were thrilled to get their present and this meeting was probably one of the best things about the festival for those children.

Sylvia and Norbert also had a chance to be a part of a significant experience when they were invited for *Tika*. Being a part of everything must have been a great experience for them as they were enjoying every moment of it.



Dolphin Magic School is truly thankful for Sylvia and Norbert Steinhögl for their support and effort they are making. Their actions mean so much for the people involved. The opportunities that DMS is providing to those underprivileged children is not just a shot at education but a tool to change their life forever. Norbert and Sylvia's daughter is also a sponsor for another student. She is the sponsor parents of Asmi Goral who is studying in DMS since a year. The support and dedication of the Steinhögl family and all the sponsor parents are truly the foundation of Dolphin Magic School and we are blessed to have such faith for a great cause.

It's been over 11 years that the school was established and hundreds of students have received quality education for free most of which come from extremely poor family and we expect to provide similar opportunities for hundreds of others in the days to come.





## DMS Gallery













