

Dear Sponsors and Friends,

Here is the latest newsletter from the Nagajuna Trust and School.

It has been a while since our last letter. The kids are all ok but without the new school it is a daily challenge to look after them.

We continue to try to raise the money to build a new school, which will ease the overcrowding and give the kids an all round better standard of living. The difficulty we face is that land prices in Pokhara continue to raise following the announcement of the building of an international airport.

There are some other sponsored events including the marvellous Margaret Jones's double trouble runs at the Great Manchester Run and the West Midlands Fun Run, which includes the infamous Cardiac Hill !!! She can be sponsored on <http://www.justgiving.com/MargaretJones-UpCardiacHill>

In other developments, Margaret Jones has also become an official Trustee of the Nagajuna Trust and Charity Secretary. We welcome her onto the team.

Remember our websites are

www.thenagajunatrust.org.

www.justgiving.com/nagajunachallenge

If you would also like to do your own sponsored event for us, you can link it through www.justgiving.com/nagajunatrust and set up your own fundraising site. Money raised and the Gift Aid will go directly to us.

Meanwhile, once again I thank you for your continuing support. We need it now, more than ever.

Kind regards

Rebecca Seddon
Chairperson of the Nagajuna Trust
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News from Nepal

Headmaster's Update: Yeshi's Comments

NOVEMBER

The young and energetic students from Mazenod college Australia visited the school. They shared some new modern method of teachings to all the teachers. They introduced about new methods of teaching by using Y and T methods etc. They stayed three days in the school and all the children enjoyed their company.

Annual school sports meet held at the school playground where Mazenod's students were also participated in games like musical chairs and ball passing. The games like balloons bursting, sack race, potato race, apple biting and relay were played during the event. The games were played between four different houses viz. yellow, red, blue and green. All the students and teachers enjoyed the day very much.

JANUARY

On 5th January school announced the winter holidays for one week and reopened on 13th January.

Inter schools meeting held at the Tops Boarding school organized by the Education Board communities. It discussed the teacher management, privileges, and tax payment to government etc.

FEBRUARY

During this month we celebrated the most auspicious festival of Tibetan known as 'Lhosar'. We distributed Tibetan cookies and sweets to all the students. We celebrate this festival for one week. Last year we did not celebrate this festival due to huge massacre of hundreds of innocent people in Tibet. Our school gives special holiday for one day on this occasion for all.

All the students were taken to hiking in Vijaypur river around 5k.m far from the school and there all the students enjoyed the cool bath of the great river 'Seti'.

MARCH

On 17th March we started final term exam and around 106 students attended the exam. 98 students were passed whereas 8 were failed and will repeat the same class.

30th March was prize distribution and as well as our school's special day which we celebrate every year. It was celebrated by performing cultural dances by the students of different classes and ages. Nursery students also performed in rhymes songs. Students holding position in the class were given special prizes and certificates.

APRIL

From April 12th our new session started and all the teaching and non teaching staff encourage students to speak only English in school premises. Some new qualified teachers are appointed this year. The school captain and class monitors are also selected by the management committee. The classrooms and bedrooms cleanliness competition were also organized. Further school is looking forward to improve in education system of the school, discipline and communication in English language etc.

Some of the poems and essays written by the students:

My Village

The name of my village is 'Nagwal'. It is in the hilly region of Manang. There are many forests. I like my village very much. It is very far from Pokhara. There is one school in my village. There are many houses in my village. Many people work in a farm and collect medicinal herbs called Yarchakumbu and sell them in markets.

There is one monastery in my village and people go to pray in that monastery. There are also many villages near my village. Tourist also come in my village to see monastery. There are many mountains and hills in my village. There are 29 houses in my village and some famous water. People in my village wear our cultural dresses and eat different food than who lives in town and cities. I have one cow in my house and I drink milk and also made butter in home. I like my village very much.

Pemba lama

Class IV

Butterfly

Oh! Butterfly dear
Please come near
I respect you
Let go your fear

Oh! Dear butterfly
Why do you feel shy?
Don't tell a lie
Isn't it fun to fly.

Samicha

Class V

Cow

Cow is our national animal. We worship cow. Cow has four legs and hoof in her foot. She has two ears and one mouth. Cow eat grains, vegetables, straw and grass. She gives us milk. In Dashain festival we put tika on her forehead. Cow dung and urine are useful to us.

Cow is so beautiful animal and very useful animals. Cow likes green grass and plants. I like cow very much because it is very useful domestic animal. There are different colors of cows found in Nepal. Cow is not kill in Nepal but treat as God 'Laxmi'.

Nirajan Mishra
Class IV

JOKES

One day Hari was making a hole in his book. At that time his mother arrived.

Mother: What are you doing my son?

Hari: I am making a hole in this book.

Mother: But why son?

Hari: Because my teacher told me to go through whole book. So, to make a way out I am making a hole.

Sagun
Class III

A boy was caught stealing a watch from a shop. He was taken to a police station and put up in a lock up. A hardened criminal lodged there showed some sympathy and said "You are wasting time on small items. Why don't you rob a bank?" The boy replied "By the time I leave the school, all banks are closed".

Indra Bahadur
Class IV