

Dear supporters and friends of the Medical Center School in Jharkot,
Dear students, parents and teachers at the Muisches Gymnasium!

First of all, an explanation for the long wait since the last newsletter: poor health meant that we had to concentrate on only the most important things for the project. Everything is fine now and there was no slacking in Jharkot - on the contrary!

Here's a summary of events from the last ten months. Read about:

1. New faces and new paths: who has joined us and who has moved on
2. Sponsorship
3. Campaigns within and outside the school
4. Training in Nepal: what your donations become
5. Our new young Amchi goes to the villages
6. English version of our website - and who's doing it
7. Volunteers on site
8. The school bag project - how you can help!

1. New faces and new paths: who has joined us and who has moved on

Since April - when the school year begins in Nepal - there have been 5 new children in the school family, who have already settled in very well:



L-R: Dolma Gurung, Tenzin Tsewang, Tsering Dharkey (the only boy), Tsering Mentok, Tsering Wangmo.

You can find out a bit more about these children [here >>](#)

There is only room for these five new children, because other children have moved on - Mohan and Tsering Dolkar will continue to guide them and financial support comes from our Polish partner in Krakow. What are these children up to now??

Dolma Gurung (not the girl above!) is now training to become an Amchi (doctor of Tibetan medicine) at the Sorig Bumshe Institute in Kathmandu – she is now back together with a number of former companions!

Sonam Wangyal is taking some time with his family due to poor health, but also wants to become an Amchi.

Ngawang Gyamtso and **Tsering Pemba** are now attending a secondary school: the Lekshed Tsal School in the Jampaling Tibetan Settlement. We are very proud of them - here is a snippet from an email from project leader, Mohan:

“They both stood first in their class in the first terminal exam that ended in the third week of July. Ngwang Gyamtso acquired 89.9% and Tsering Pemba acquired 94.1%. Thus Tsering Pemba accomplished also the top best percentage from the whole school. these two students have really raised our head high. For their accomplishment you all also have a great contribution!”

2. Sponsorship

12 of our Jharkot children are currently being sponsored. This is done by individuals, families, students, or groups of students, or even whole classes, who regularly provide for one of the children and keep in occasional contact with them. Aside from this form of support being an enormous help in keeping the project going, the children in Nepal are delighted to know about their personal benefactors. Sponsorship costs 50 Euros per month. [This PDF >>](#) answers frequently asked questions about sponsorship.

3. Campaigns within and outside the school



The living Wurlitzer performs – 2e's ballad jukebox

Time and again students take an active role in helping the project - sometimes with support from teachers, sometimes totally independently. For example, during the 2013/14 school year, there was 2e's ballad jukebox, or a wonderful contribution from the profits of the "Muse AU CHOCOLAT" Matura ball held for graduating students. You can read more about these and other campaigns [here >>](#) .

Mrs A., mother of two students at the Musisches Gymnasiums, celebrated a significant birthday in a special way: she asked that instead of gifts, guests bring a donation for the project school. The total raised exceeded all expectations - huge thanks once again!

4. Training in Nepal: what your donations become



Rishikesh, the cook and the two teachers, Tsering Dolkar and Lobsang Wangmo, at caregiver training

Mr S. from Germany made a generous donation for the training of our Nepalese colleagues. In winter there was a 2-day "caregiver training" course for everybody (given by Nepalhouse Kaski in Pokhara), which looked at child development and needs in particular. Tsering Dolkar and Lobsang Wangmo completed a one week training course in Montessori education, Tsering Dolkar also took a one week course in Tibetan teaching, organised by the Snow Lion Foundation.

Follow-ups for these first courses are being planned and are already financially secure, since more than half of Mr S's donation still remains.

5. Our new young Amchi goes to the villages



After the death of Amchi Sang Kna, consultation in traditional Tibetan medicine was missing from our centre for a number of months. Now the young Amchi Ngawang Choklang Sherpa has joined the team. He doesn't just wait for patients to come to him though - once a month he holds a "health camp" in the various villages in the area. About 20 patients turn up on these days and sometimes there are so many that another day has to be added. Those who have no money are treated free of charge, but those who can make at least a contribution towards the cost of the medicines.

The traditional pulse diagnosis checks 18 pulses on each wrist and is astonishingly precise.

6. English version of our website - and who's doing it

Sarah Marchant from Five Oak Green, near Tonbridge (Kent) has been on board for six months now. Sarah has been familiar with the project since supporting us with the preparations for the benefit concert with Hubert von Goisern in 2009 (she has run the musician's website for many years). She is now well on the way to having translated the whole Schule macht Schule website into English and steps in any time we need perfect English. For example, she translated this newsletter too ...

[To the English version of the website >>](#)

7. Volunteers on site



There is almost constant support for the team in Jharkot from volunteer workers. They take on some of the teaching, spend their free time with the children and bring their particular talents to the table.

During the 2013/14 school year the volunteers were Vera Weißenbach, Emil Müller and Philipp Pramer from the Musisches Gymnasium, outdoor trainer Tina Rettenbacher from Seeham, Kamil Bialas from Poland and Eva Weingärtler from the Schauspielhaus Salzburg.

Emil Müller helps the youngest children to write letters to pen pals in Salzburg.

Marlene Krickl from Neumarkt Gymnasium is on her way to Jharkot right now, she will be supported by Katharina Glögl (from the Schauspielhaus) from October onwards and Leonie Meik (a former Muse student) will be there from April to June. We could still do with someone for the winter school. And should there be enough good applicants, two volunteers could by all means be of help to the project at the same time.

The children learn a great deal from their "guest supervisors", not least practising their English almost non-stop. They love the breath of fresh air that the volunteers bring and make firm friends with them.

In turn the volunteers become closely acquainted with the lives of the children and what the staff face each day and often help us, not just in detecting weaknesses, but in finding solutions too.

8. The school bag project - how you can help!

One of the things that occurred to the volunteers was how difficult it is for the children to keep their belongings in order. One reason: most of them only have a plastic bag in which to transport their school textbooks and exercise books.

Elisabeth Minimayr has had the idea of asking textile students to design a prototype for school bags. A particularly good design could then be produced in an appropriate quantity from good material in Nepal. Thus not only would the children receive support in keeping tidy, but a sewing workshop in Pokhara would also receive a decently-paid order. This idea could be put into action for 10 Euros of material and labour costs per bag. You can help us with a donation! Add the reference "school bag" to your contribution and it will go directly towards this project. Perhaps it will also be possible to produce some additional bags now to keep in stock for newcomers in the next 2 or 3 years...

Thank you and please

Finally, we say a big thank you on behalf of the children and all those involved in the project, for your interest and all your help - which we hope will continue!

Christina Klaffinger
Wolf Pichlmüller

Donation account at Volksbank:

Schule macht Schule
Volksbank Salzburg

IBAN: AT09 4501 0000 0811 1486
BIC: VBOEATWW



Christina Klaffinger and Wolfgang Pichlmüller
Schule macht Schule - The Musisches Gymnasium Salzburg's Nepal Project
<http://www.schule-macht-schule.at/index-e.html>