

A Flying Start

Schule macht Schule Newsletter February 2021

Dear supporters and friends of the Medical Centre School in Jharkot, dear students and teachers of the Muisches Gymnasium,

After a 10-month break from school due to the coronavirus, the children arrived for winter school today! For the remainder of winter school, that is. Then they'll be heading back into the mountains by the beginning of April at the latest.

In order to make the environment as safe as possible for the children and the staff, they're not staying in Pokhara this time. Instead, they're in Dhuleghauda, a village about 25km away and just a few minutes from the Tibetan settlement of Jampaling. The Covid-19 situation is currently under control there too.

We have rented the ground floor of a private house – six rooms, including a kitchen. It's all pretty cramped, and they have to improvise a great deal – as always.

Those of our "big kids" who attend the Lekshed Tsal School and have often only had limited access to online learning will be at the new building for about 10 days. They now have better internet access than they did in their villages and when the Lekshed Tsal School opens its boarding school and begins in-school lessons again, they'll only need to move across the road.



After ten months, lots an lots to tell...



Having unpacked and stowed their few possessions, the children enjoy playing in the sun. Pema Tsering on the left is one of those „big kids“ who, for the first few days, will help their younger friends adapt to the new environment.

At the moment, we can't send any volunteers for English lessons, so project management has hired a part-time teacher for English and Nepalese. Like Mohan, Tsedol and Anjam, he's from the Tibetan Settlement and we hope that he'll go with everybody to Jharkot, where we will work more independently from the public school in future – but that's a story for the next newsletter.

We hope that life will continue to return to normal in Nepal. The very strict lockdown clearly bore fruit in that the new infections in Nepal have consequently fallen from about 3000 new cases per day to around 150 per day. These numbers are not directly comparable to those in Europe, due to limited testing capacity – but the downward trend is clear.

Enjoy the days growing ever longer!

All the best from the *Schule macht Schule* team.

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