

#### **INTRODUCTION**

Shree Shelri Drugrda Basic school is the second oldest school in upper Dolpa located at Shey Phoksundo Rural Municipality Ward No:-3, Saldang village. This school was initiated by Karma Dhondup Lama, local of Saldang village and Adelheid from Germany a member of Friends of Nepal in 1999 AD with a motive to give education to the children of upper Dolpa where there were no schools at all during that time. With their great thought and benevolent service this school has benefited more than hundred students so far with great outcomes.

Still the Friends of Nepal is the main helping hand for this school along with other NGOs such as Altitude Project Canada, Deutsche Tibethilfe Germany, Himalaya Currents USA and Human-Stiftung Germany. The school is running very well with the great help and support from these supporting sponsors and also some support and teaching staffs from the Nepal Government.

## **ACADEMIC SESSOIN 2022**

The Academic session 2022 was started on the 1<sup>st</sup> of May. Before, we used to start the session earlier, in the middle of April. We were late this time because we had short teachers training at the District Headquarter in Dunai, conducted by REED Nepal and supported by our group of sponsors, mainly for the project teachers. The training was necessary indeed, since the Education Department of Nepal Government has launched a new integrated curriculum, which is designed to meet the child learning and achievement goal oriented, as per the time and situation of the country.

And on top of this we also had local body election, which also made us to push the session date quite late as compared to last year.



We started the new session with seventy-five (75) students, including the new admissions and old students. All the project teachers and non-teaching staffs were there to initiate the new session, and all the government friends joined the session right after the local body election. For the new session 2022 we have all together twelve staffs along with the non-teaching staffs. From seventy-five (75) students, twelve (12) are newly admitted students in play group. As compared to the previous years, we have more new students admitted this year. All together there are nineteen (19) students in grade play group where seven (7) students are old and one has left to join school in Kathmandu. There are eight students (8) students in grade K.G. and one leaving, who joined a school in Kathmandu. There are ten (10) students in grade one, three of last year have joined monastic education in Kathmandu. We have ten (10) students in grade two where we have two leaving, where one has joined monastic education in Dolpa itself and a girl is helping her family in the village. We have eight (8) students in grade three where two students have also joined monastic education in Kathmandu. We have six (6) students in grade four, seven (7) students in grade five where we have upgraded students from the grade five to grade six to manage the number of students for the hostel in Kathmandu and also those two students were quite good at studies, too. Also last year the hostel manager has taken admission of two students of previous grade five by upgrading them to fulfill the number of seats in the hostel and one dropout who was actually from Lower Dolpa. We have five (5) students in grade six (6) and they are all coming to Kathmandu this year for their further studies.

Every year we conduct midterm examination with the marking of 40 marks and final examination at the end of the session with the marking of 60, which become 100 in aggregate. We had conducted the midterm examination from the 10<sup>th</sup> of July till 17<sup>th</sup> of July. All the students have done well and had good results. From end of July, we have prepared for the yearly Shey Phoksundo sports and education competition that was organized by Bijer School this year. The practicing for the event was done after 4:00 pm and every Friday. We had good results from the competition, which made all the school staffs and management proud.

We conducted the final examination from 20<sup>th</sup> of October and had the final result day on 28<sup>th</sup> of October. All the students have done very well and all the class six students will come to Kathmandu. All other students will be upgraded to next grades except those who couldn't do well enough in more than three subjects and will have to repeat the same class; too small boys and girls will also repeat the same ECD grade for next year, too.

Overall we had a good, successful and result-oriented session this year with the help of our hardworking staffs and also with the help of School Management committee along with the villagers.

## **SCHOOL STAFFS**

All together we have the following list of staffs for this session:

S.no	Name of staffs	Designation	Source
1	Gyanu Gurung	Headmaster	Government
2	Pratap Rokaya	Teacher	Government
3	Manlal Budha	Teacher	Government
4	Chhakka Bahadur Singh	Teacher	Government
5	Nishana Dharala	Teacher	Government
6	Pema wangyal	Coordinator	Project
7	Dawa Wangmo	Teacher	Project
8	Nyima Dgargyal	Teacher	Project
9	Kunsang Bhuti	Teacher	Project
10	Kunsang Lhamo	Teacher	Project
11	Manlal Chhetri	Cook	Project
12	Urgen Khando	Cook (students)	Project



From the above list of staffs, Gyanu Gurung is the headmaster of the school and he is also the head of the sports and education department of Shey phoksundo Rural Municipality. He is mainly engaged with administration works of the school which are related with the Nepal Government and also functioning of the school. Pratap Rokaya is the social study teacher and he teaches social study subject to all the classes. Manlal Budha is the Nepali Teacher and he teaches Nepali language and grammar to all the classes. Chhakka Bahadur Singh is the mathematics Teacher and teaches mathematics to all the

classes. Nishana Dharala is the E.C.D. teacher and she is responsible for taking care of the play group students with basic level of introductory classes with games etc. Pema Wangyal is the coordinator of the project and is taking care of the school management as well as doing all the project related works with the sponsors and school. Dawa Wangmo is the English teacher and she teaches English to all the classes. Nyima Dhargyal is the science teacher and he teaches science to all the classes. Kunsang Bhuti is the health and physical education teacher and she teaches this subject to all the classes. And Kunsang Lhamo is the Tibetan teacher and she teaches Tibetan language and grammar to all the classes. Manlal Chhetri is the cook for the staffs and he cooks for all the staffs that stay in the school and Urgen Khando Cooks for children during the day time and makes tea in the evening. She also keeps the classes clean and helps small children with clothes and shoes.

# **TEACHERS TRAINING**

Second phase of teachers training was conducted at Dunai from the 15th of April till 21st of April by the



REED Nepal supported by our groups of sponsors to all the school teachers of upper Dolpa. In the first phase we had learnt about classroom management, educational material development, use of local materials in the class room, followed by making of lesson plan and many more.

But this year, it was kind of orientation and introduction of the new curriculum launched by the Ministry of Education of the Government of Nepal. In this training we were introduced with four main contents in the new integrated curriculum which will benefit the children in the learning process. One is lesson works that has to

be done by the students by themselves, second lesson works that has to be done by the teachers for the students, third is teacher students both together engaged works and how to link the contents of the different subjects. They also guided us the way to use the new teacher guide and new way of making lesson plan and various approaches to evaluate the learning achievement of the students. And last day of the training session, we did some recalling of some topics of the first phase training also.

Since many of the schools have started using the new curriculum, this seven-day training was very useful and helpful for the teachers to start their day with the students.

## STUDENTS AND THEIR ATTENDANCE

This year we have seventyfive total numbers of students and according to the class regular register, all the students were very regular to the school. In the play group there are some students who are quite irregular to their attendance due to household problem with their parents. Generally, it seems like most

of the parents are very positive towards the school and wanting to send their children to the school and these days we can see very few children in the village who are not attending the school. We hope those children will also join the school sooner or later. Most of the students in the higher classes were very active with their studies and very regular to their classes.



# **SCHOOL MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE / THEIR WORKS**

Due to the local body election, there are some changes in the school management committee this year. Last year Chairman Pema Gyurmey Gurung was elected as the ward chairman of the ward no 3, Saldang village of Shey Phoksundo Rural Municipality and the former Ward Chairman Karma Dhondup was elected as the new school management chairman, with other members staying the same. Following people are the school management committee of the school:

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s.no	Name of persons	Designation	Remarks		
1	Karma Dhondup Lama	Chairman			
2	Pema Gyurmey Gurung	Member	Local government		
3	Karma Choegyal Gurung	Member	Parent		
4	Kunchok Gyaltsen Gurung	Member	Parent		
5	Sonam Sangmo Gurung	Member	Parent		



6	Tsering Dikey Gurung	Member	Parent
7	Lhaton	Member	Parent
8	Manlal Budha	Member	Teacher
9	Gyanu Gurung	Secretary	Headmaster

Above list of people are responsible for managing the whole functioning of the school along with infrastructure of the school and necessary needed items in the school for teachers and students. They are also responsible for checking the regular works of the teachers as well as non-teaching staffs. They do the coordination between the villagers and the school, and also do the coordination with local government as well.

#### **SPONSORS AND VISITORS**

After the long lock-down during the pandemic covid-19, this year is a kind of come back for our generous sponsors to visit the hidden paradise Upper Dolpa, Dolpo schools, children and the Dolpo community as well. Our good sponsor as well as source of electricity power to all the schools and monasteries of Upper Dolpa, Mr Peter Werth visited the school with his friend Dhana Rai, and in September we had our main sponsor Mr Tobias Rischer visit the school. We had good days at the school with him as he went through the classes, interacted with the children and teachers by attending classes with the children. We also had good thoughts and opinions shared by him with our school management committee for the development and goodwill of the school in future. Sad news is that we missed one of our sponsors as well as very good friend from Canada, Mr. David Swain who couldn't complete his trek due to health problems. We welcomed his other friends and had a good farewell program at the final day of Mr Tobias Rischer.





# **INFRASTRUCTURE**

Most of the blocks of the school are in good shape. Last year with the remaining wood of the old blocks, we did the wood flooring for three classes and there are some more classes left to be done. We did recoloring of the school blocks which were left last year. This year we have bought seven flag holders and one set of mini football post for the school. The green house was totally down last year and we managed to fix it this year and had good green vegetables for the staffs.

On behalf of the state government, the school will get eight room blocks which the School Management committee is planning to use for hostel facility and teachers' quarter in future. The blocks are roofed with iron sheet (tin) and we hope will be completed by next year. Although we have a playground, I still see there is need of management with this. We don't have drinking water problem since last year. Child friendly tap was made on behalf of project and pipe connection was made on behalf of Rural Municipality drinking water project. We still have the two water filters donated by Altitude project and

one filter given by the health office which we are using for the children and staffs. After several days of stay in the school and walking around, our sponsor found that there is urgent need of proper drainage system behind the new blocks that are under construction. The school management committee has taken responsibility of making things happen with this. There are two unfinished toilets in the school since long time and this year the ward chairman has promised some budget to complete those in next year and make available for use. We also hope that will happen for our children and staffs, since we have the problem of not having proper toilets in the school. Compound wall and main gate is all good and also the roofs of the classroom.

## **FUTURE PLANNING**

After several proposals and decisions from the Shey Phoksundo Rural Municipality, they all have approved that the Shree Shelri Drugdra Basic School as central school which will run the grades up to 10 in the future. With this proposal, the school management committee is also planning to upgrade the classes after the completion of the new blocks, and they have also requested the sponsor for necessary support. They will also reach the local government and the state government for necessary help and arrangement.

From this year the selection of the new teachers will also be done by the School Management committee by having subcommittee for necessary steps such as exam and interview which is good and positive point for the welfare of the school and the students.

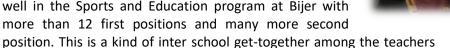
There is also need of a library and computer hall in the school. Request and proposal for these two works will be done after the completion of the new blocks as there is time to find out the situation of the availability of the rooms.

### **EXTRA CURRICULAR ACTIVITIES**

As usual we have dance classes for the students after 4:00 pm every day after the evening prayer. Every Friday we do various kinds of cleanings around the school, within the community as cleanliness practical, and we also have poem reciting in all three languages, simple easy



writing, on the spot simple talks on various topics and quiz competition among students on last Friday of every month. We have various kinds of games as well as drawing and coloring for the small children. After practice of these extracurricular activities, our students did very well in the Sports and Education program at Bijer with more than 12 first positions and many more second



and students of all the school of Shey Phoksundo Rural Municipality, with financial support by Rural Municipality and organized by schools in rotational turn by turn. Our school is also going to organize this program in 2024. Overall, our school stood second position.

# **VILLAGERS CONTRIBUTION**

Villagers are always very supportive for the welfare of the school. Whenever the school needs them, most of the guardians come to school and are always there to help make the school a better place for their children. There are many parents who help teachers with food items which are not available in the village to buy, and many give vegetables for the teachers and well as for the students' lunch. They used to contribute fifty kg of cow dung or fire wood for the teachers and twenty five kg of cow dung for children lunch cooking purposes, and now they are still contributing 25 kg of cow dung for teacher and 25kg of cow dung for students lunch cooking. The weight for the teacher has reduced because teachers have started using LPG gas for cooking since two years.

## **OUTCOME OF SHREE SHELRI DRUGDRA BASIC SCHOOL**

Being the second project-initiated school in upper Dolpa, Saldang school has a huge number of outcomes who are very actively serving the locals in upper Dolpa itself. Be it in the school as teacher, in bank as banker, trekking office as guide, healthpost as health assistant or nurse, in government office and local body as politician and some in the field of wildlife conservation sector, students of Saldang school are everywhere. This is very good and proud moment of the school and entire sponsors who have given their precious time and kindness for the future of all the children of Saldang village.

# **ENGAGE NEPAL WITH SCIENCE**

Since last year our school has taken collaboration work on climate change experimental works in the school by the students. And our students have done various project works on various topics and sent the finding to the respective school partner in Scotland. We have also made various videos and photos on such science and environment change related experiments.

We have done this in this year as well and will continue with this in the coming session, too.

## **CONCLUSION**

Overall, we had a successful session with many joyful moments. The school family was very pleased to have the sponsor and other well-wishers of the school in the school and village. The school family sends their cordial gratitude to all the following INGOS AND SPONSORS.

1) FRIENDS OF NEPAL a) Tobias Rischer

b) Michel Dussaulx

c) Adelheid Donges

2) DEUTSCHE TIBETHILFE Heide Meyer

3) HIMALAYA CURRENTS Peter Werth

4) ALTITUDE PROJECT David Swain



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