

# Namdo School 2023 ▶

Namdo School ▶ Shey Phoksundo Rural Municipality, Saldang Namdo -04 ▶ 11/26/2023



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### **Academic Session:**

2023 was a great year just as previous year with plenty amount of new experiences, tracking through new journey for students and teachers experiencing new events and getting an opportunity to explore intellectual and practical skills.

The school opened on 1<sup>st</sup> may with total of 90 students, where 60 of them were girls and rest 30 were boys. Compare to previous year the number of student deducted drastically. On previous year the school run with up to 100 and more student. The main reason for less number of male student is, as region itself is highly influenced by Buddhism and Buddhist teaching. The male student leave school and were sent to Monastery for Buddhist teaching as a monk.



*Kindergarten students showing their arts.*

Being the Coordinator of school I keep on discussing with School Management Committee (SMC) how to overcome this matter. Along with SMC member and headmaster, we aware the parents about the similarities of Monastery and School teaching. As we have double number of student here at Namdo compare to other school of upper Dolpo. We always keep on motivating the parents to send their children for schooling. And we are also able to get minimum of 5 newly admission every year.

As we been getting not officially admission kindergarten student, they attend school almost every day, it raises a good sign on how parents have been taking it positively.

As the school runs for 6 months in summer, we took 2 terminal examination and class test in between. This year in 100% we come up with around 86.66 % passed student and 13.34 % failed student. Compare to previous year the number of passed students have increased.



### **Extra Curriculum Activities:**

An extracurricular is any activity that doesn't count towards an academic credit. These are activities that students participate in outside of class, such as activities in arts, athletics, and personal commitments and so on.

It's been a year that we scheduled Friday as an ECA day, we don't allow students to bring bags and books during almost every Friday. We let our children involved on different outdoor activities.



*Inter house handwriting competition.*

As research has shown that students who participate in activities outside of their studies tend to have higher grades, better exam scores, and more positive educational experiences in general.

As these things were new to our children and their parents. During startup of this program parents aren't that much agreed on letting their children involved on outdoor activities rather than letting them do their academic studies. Now we are able to change the perspectives of the parents and are agreed on letting their children involved in ECA activities.



*Students dancing in Nepali song.*

### **Free Eye Camp by Vision Together:**

After many years, people of upper Dolpo were able to get free eye camp. Vision Together Nepal the NGO of Nepal come with program this year. The two eye surgeon with their eye camp materials trek all the way from Shey Phoksundho to Dolpo Buddha Rural Municipality. The team facilitated Phoksundo, Saldang, Namdo, Komang, Shimen, Tinje and finally to Dhotarap.

Vision Together Nepal with their project "Trek & Treat" come up with free eye camp here at Namdo too. The campaign completed two days eye health camp in Namdo School where total 197 people had their eyes checked out of which 8 were selected for Cataract surgery whose surgery were conducted

at Dho health post on 20<sup>th</sup> and 21<sup>st</sup> September, 2023. Near reading glasses and distance correction glasses were also prescribed and dispensed to presbyopia and refractive error patients.

After completion of eye camp. We discuss with Mr. Sakar Subedi (surgeons) about the further eye camp at upper Dolpo. The team positively took our words. They are very much excited to organize the free eye camp in upcoming future too.



*Mr. Sakar Subedi (surgeon) during eye checkup.*

"The graduated student of upper Dolpo need to take eye related course faculty. If the student are interested, I personally would love to give basic training related to eye. Once the student graduated the course he/she can open an eye health camp and facilitated the people of Dolpo" Mr. Sakar Subedi.



*Tsultrim (teacher) volunteering the eye camp.*



*Mr. Gyurmey (parents) being checked up by experts.*

### **Yarstagumba Trading:**

Yarstagumba hunting is the only source of income for the people of Dolpo, the people buy all the basic requirements after selling Yarstagumba to buyers. Compare to previous year, this year the cost for each piece was given from NPR. 700 to 1000 by buyer.

After the COVID the border with China was closed and it's been 4 years that people of Dolpo had been buying all the food and supplies from Dunai (headquarter of Dolpa). The requirements suppliers get more expensive at Dunai rather than in China. To transport the materials from China it takes 2 days but from Dunai it takes 4 days. Hence, the transportation cost need to be paid double.



*Villagers transporting food supply from Dunai.*

This year the Nepal and China government come up with opening the border for trading nearby all the Himalayas border. After the frequent meetings and agreements the two country agreed on opening the border verbally and in written form later. But later the border didn't open yet. Our neighboring districts were able to make trade with China. This year the border slip identity card was made into process.

The official come up with making border slip identity card to enter China for their official records. For now the trading with China was postponed for coming year. The people of Dolpa and nearby districts are in hope to trade with China.

### **Yeshe Sangpo Rinpoche blessing:**

Yeshe Sangpo Rinpoche is a contemporary Nyingma lama, based in Nepal, who studied his Buddhism and other knowledge many years with high ranking Rinpoche like Dudjom Rinpoche and Nyoshul Rinpoche. This year his presence blessed upper dolpo. He blessed Dhotarap village with his knowledge of Buddhism practice with his pupils. The monks and villagers attended the highly blessed ceremony at Dhotarap.



*Tulku Khenpo Sangpo Rinpoche.*

Later the Rinpoche visited Namdo, at Pema Choemphel Rinpoche's monastery and gave his teaching and share his morale on Buddhism. Our students performed dance during the ceremony. The whole Namdo villagers who weren't able to get blessing at Dhotarap because of busy schedule were able to get blessing here at Namdo.



*Namdo villagers getting blessing from Rinpoche.*

We School Association request Rinpoche to do "Rabney" tibetan word (Buddhism prayer rituals) to make long lasting and disaster free school building. The Rinpoche accepted our requests and blessed the school area by his prayers and blessing with his pupils. Each and every rooms were individually blessed.

We highly appreciated his presence and Rabney for our school.

#### **OLE Nepal Compter Desktop Program:**

Open Learning Exchange Nepal (OLE Nepal) is a social benefit is one of renowned organizations which works on development of education quality and access through the integration of technology in classrooms. OLE Nepal has pioneered the use of technology in schools and provided open and free access to quality education and innovative learning environment to children.

Ole Nepal has distributed 4 solar panel, 2 sets of battery and 10 sets of OLE customized desktop

with the capacity of running online program based application which can teach and make able to run textbooks related application. Two of our teachers were given training at Dunai and in Dhotarap later. The trained teachers exchanges their knowledge and make each and every teacher qualified to use the OLE programmed desktop.

On our class routine we separated a Computer Lab period for senior students. Classes from 3 to 6 can get chances to use and gain knowledge. Children are now able to get knowledge through virtually and can access to get knowledge easily. As these things are new to our students they get much more excited and happy to use the desktop. Our teacher are able to take text book related knowledge through computer as a reference for teaching the students.



*OLE Nepal programmed desktop.*

#### **Word Link Internet:**

As we can't imagine today world without the internet. Like other need Internet is today's younger generation need. Dolpo being a rural and isolated place, here people run their daily life without any Internet and world news.

On Shey Phoksundo Rural Municipality there was only one Internet cable at its main office from past years. After many years of hard work and dedication done by our respected local politician, this year our Rural Municipality was able to install Word Link Internet on each ward.

We all have a huge respect to local government “Each Ward Each Internet” program. Like us each and every ward of Rural Municipality are thankful to our Local Government.

Current world news are being easily gain by teacher through internet. As information updated teacher can help and work on building students’ knowledge. The local residents of Namdo are also able to connect with their relatives at Kathmandu and foreign through internet too. As we realized that the Internet may distract and creates disturbance to classes we come up with idea of using Internet after 4:00 P.M at evening.



*Students enjoying their OLE programmed desktop.*

Installing the Internet to rural area like ours the cost are also quite expensive than that of city area. For installing the Internet the School Association paid NPR. 24000/-. For a year the internet is free in a package. Once the package is over to recharge the Internet NPR. 4500 for a month needed to be paid by School Association, it will be NPR. 54000/- for a year.

### **Meeting with Rural Municipality:**

On 29<sup>th</sup> September Rural Municipality organized meeting of local level “Education Youths and Sports Committee” among all the schools of Shey Phoksundo Rural Municipality under the chairmanship of Rural Municipality vice chairman Mr. Pemma Wangchen Gurung (Namdo). Every

school coordinators, headmaster and SMC chairman were there to be part of the meeting.



*Pemma Wangchen (vice chairman) sharing his ideas.*

The meeting was held on Rural Municipality office with the motive of developing education standard of all the school. Among many agendas, four major agendas were discussed during the meeting;

**Opening and closing of school:** From year 2024, rural municipality aware to open all the schools on the schedule time i.e. around 1<sup>st</sup> week of May and school should last till end of October. Summing sum the school need to run for 6 months.

**Books publication:** The rural municipality and the school association agreed on using same publication books for all the school. EKTA Publication is one of the renowned book publication company which has affiliation of Nepal Education Board Development. From the very past we been using same publication books for our students.

**Hiring new staffs:** We been hiring our staffs through vacancy announcement on our Facebook page from the last couple of year. The Rural Municipality request all the school to hire teacher and staffs through vacancy announcement through newspaper or social media. As best and capable candidates can get chances to be part of the team and can create impact on development of education standard.

**Education Youths and Sports Development Committee:**

On year 2018, for the first time we organized Teachers Student Interaction Program with a motive of exchanging ideas and knowledge among teachers and students. On program we organized different contest and games among participated schools.

The 3 days program ran successfully and got appreciation from Rural Municipality. After a year the Rural Municipality came up with funding the program and run it officially. After that Komang School run the program next year and followed by Bijer School other year. But on year 2023, the program wasn't able to continue due to their official difficulties.

For upcoming year Rural Municipality wants to resume the program and wants to make impact on development of schools.



*Schools coordinators and headmaster with Rural Municipality team.*

**School Building Repair Project:**

Namdo School Building Repair Project is a comprehensive initiative aimed at strengthen, maintaining and upgrading the school's infrastructure to provide a safe, conducive and modern learning environment for students, staffs and faculty.

The repair project of school building resume after a year with 4 skilled manpower from Terai part of Nepal. Mr. Suman Rai (Engineer) and Mr. Tashi Wangyal Lama (Bhawi Nepal chairman)

lead the renovation work smoothly the team finished the project within 2 months. Now the renovated building are way too more strong and durable.

The repair project was done on following heading.

**Roof renovation:** On previous roof works, due to heavy snowfall in winter the roof got bended. The roof inspection done in year 2022 clearly state the missing extra truss and purlin. To repair and to stable the building roof the missing purlin and truss were added.

Additional strut were connected to principal rafter for better support.



*CGI roof being install by experts.*

**Veranda work:** As the crack of concrete cement was seen on front of veranda and staircase. The veranda and staircase were dismantle. The stone soiling and beam reinforcements work was done later veranda slab and staircase concrete was done.



*Labor worker of Jajarkot working in a site.*



*Helping hands of teachers painting the wall.*

**Toilet renovation:** On toilet slab the bitumen cover sheet was covered. Along with it concrete repair was done on sink hold. The water tank was given support and the pipe maintenance was also done.

**Transparent windows:** On earlier building the windows were opaque and the classroom were quite dark. On window renovation work the opaque windows were replaced by transparent glass and T – locking was install too.



*Suman Rai(engineer) and experts working on truss.*

### **Kitchen & staffs room requirement:**

We are very much happy and satisfied to the new school building which were built and renovated at its best. Our student and teachers are happy to be in new classroom and very much satisfied with the teaching environment of our school.

On year 2022, I verbally proposed new kitchen and staffs room. As current kitchen area is very much congested and staffs doesn't have enough room to stay. The current kitchen was built in year 2011 through governmental support and staff room in year 2013 through project fund support. The building walls are cracked and the room doesn't seems long lasting at all. During monsoon through the ceiling the leakage of water can be seen in every single room.



*Staffs having lunch on current kitchen.*

As the kitchen is very congested during lunch and dinner time some staffs take their food at veranda of kitchen. Up to 6 staffs the space is enough during lunch and dinner. The staff's rooms are dark and the crack of walls can be visible. We are in need of new kitchen and staffs room.





*Dawa (teacher) on staff's room.*



*Cracks wall of staff's room.*

The association is very much happy for accepting the proposal and working on raising the fund for upcoming construction.



*Teacher taking their lunch on kitchen veranda.*



*Leakage of rain water from ceiling.*

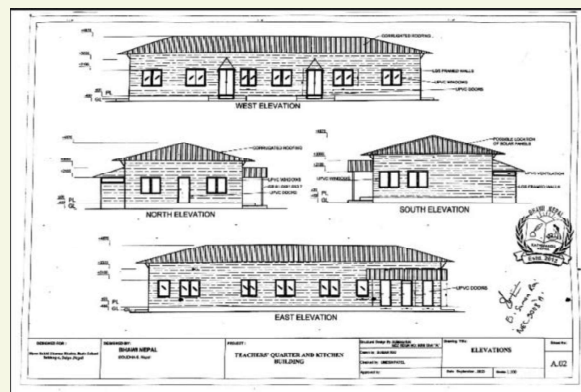
As number of students are gradually increasing, on year 2021, the school association bought around 360 square meter area nearby school area, for futuristic plan on infrastructure development. Like we predicted the open ground area can be in use in upcoming construction. Currently we have around 1020 square meter area on school association name on governmental record.

According to Suman Rai (engineer) the area was inspected and he approved the area and stated that area is enough to make construction.

On the academic result announcement day, I made announcement about the upcoming construction program and villagers are happy to be part and wanted to contribute on construction.



*Around 360 sqm area for upcoming construction.*



*Blue print of kitchen and staffs room.*



*Inter house tug of war competition.*



*Tenzin Wangmo (nurse) at school clinic.*



*Students preparing Christmas card to sponsors.*



*Senior students given banking knowledge by Prabhu Bank staffs at school.*



*Students and teacher at meditation program volunteer by Chimi Tsewang (yoga master).*



*Kindergarten students waiting for the free eye checkup given by Vision Together team.*



*Girls on typical Nepali dress.*



*Students doing traditional dance at result announcement day.*



*Namdo women on their traditional attire.*



“Thank Schulverein Lo-Manthang for your generous support to us. Your commitment to keep on helping Namdo school is so important to the villagers here.

Each and every individual and organization who support Namdo school, you are part of something really special: a community dedicated to making children of Namdo village educated and the providing opportunity to the children are eager to grab it.

Your supports to Namdo School helped me and my team to do some great work for our children. The supports and donation will allow us to introduce some crucial steps in educating and to get engaged in building great community.

Many thanks Schulverein Lo-Manthang each member for your generosity in making changes in educating the childrens of Namdo.

Many thanks to Shey Phoksundo Rural Municipality our local government and Bhawi Nepal for your support too.”

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