

Hello to all,

First things first. After almost a year the 'Society for the Children of Sikkim' has finally been granted registration ;in other words we are a legal set up. Naturally with this the Indian trust will have to bear the burden of now putting things in order to fulfill the legal requirements of the Government of India and Government of Sikkim. Mieke has arranged for a lawyer to get the foreign involvement legalised.

We started the year with 4 new candidates. Tashi. Bhutia, Ongchuk. Lepcha, Apsana. Chettri & Buddhamaya. Subba. All of them are from very deserving from different parts of Sikkim. You'll are probably aware that Kursong left as her parents wanted to put her in class 6 or 7. Saurav was asked to be taken out as her parents for reasons which would benefit him in the long run. As such I would like to ask you'll to kindly consider allowing us to put in 2 more candidates in their place. Phil and Claudia. Kern were a blessing. I've had to do a lot of travelling for the registration so it was good to have them replace me at school. Lately Klaus is with us and the kids like him a lot.

The weather is pleasant now but chilly towards evening. We have had to deal with a different type of scabies this time. Earlier it used to be these tiny spots but this year it was much bigger and pussy. Though it is under control it is moving from one to the other even though we had asked the day students to stay home for a week or so. Presently 2 day and 3 hostel students have it. I must say the bigger kids have been of tremendous help bathing the infected and helping us with the daily washing of clothes.

As per the last staff meeting we have introduced the government school level maths & environmental studies as it is of a higher standard. This year we have been allowed to buy the above books alongwith the language books from the government outlet. This wasn't possible last year as they didn't permit private schools from having these.

Today being a Saturday the kids are having their Art class outside. Class 4&5 under G.S. are making dragonflies with beads and nets Claudia & Philbrought from the U.S. (By the way they also brought 9 binoculars for the school.) Lopen Kinzang is with the 2&3s doing Tibetan Art, I think they are doing one of the eight lucky signs. Klaus is with the 1&UKGs doing yoga. I was looking through the clothes and can see that some of the smaller ones would rather be clowning than exercise. Stephen is printing the song book while Anamika and Maree are teaching nursery rhymes to the smallest. While I was in the toilet I heard them sing and only just realised that their voice could go so low. Claudia is helping me with the letter of the meeting we had the day before and is also advising G.S about the insect. I'm afraid that I have to go as the bigger kids are calling me. So I'm signing off with a hope that you forgive my very irregular mails.

Warm regards & love from all '

jamyang