

Druk Padma Karpo School summer 2022



Lotus Leaves

annual newsletter

Headlines

Final year exams:
100% pass rate
56% distinctions

**Volunteering
project helps
rescued animals**

**Ideas blossom
at virtual
culture exchange**

Relieved students and staff resume campus life

On March 7th, 2022, as part of the back-to-school programme, the staff warmly welcomed the senior students returning to their classrooms after two years of disruption and online lessons.

Two weeks later, the infant and junior courtyards resounded to the excited sounds of the younger students back at school with their friends. The staff were delighted to welcome all the students back. The house mothers, kitchen staff, bus drivers, teachers, and office and other support staff finally resumed their on-campus roles after the Union Territory of Ladakh authorities allowed a full return.

The Khachey branch school in the Phokar Valley also re-opened and now has 44 students aged 3-14, seven teachers and two support staff.

In February 2022, the previous year's matriculation examination results were announced. For the second consecutive year 100 percent passed and of the 71 students, 40 were awarded distinctions.



Welcome from staff

Teachers have fun with Jolly Grammar training

Infant section teachers, as well as English teachers from the junior and middle sections, took part in four days of Jolly Phonics training from June 7th- 10th, 2021. Using a system known as Jolly Grammar, trainer Shainaz Jussa instructed teachers on syntax, spelling and punctuation.

Infant section teachers are already practising Jolly Phonics. Following the Jolly Grammar training, this approach will be introduced in the higher grades.

Infant teacher Tenzin Yetok said: "The Jolly Phonics refresher training was so enriching, I'm always learning new things. In this training session I learnt how to extend the Jolly Phonics into Jolly Grammar, which is based on child-centred learning and in a fun way a child will learn to love and embrace reading to become an independent reader."



New student council members sworn in

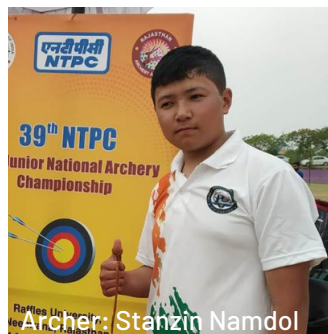
At the end of March 2022, the annual inauguration of the student school council took place in the central courtyard. The principal, all senior students and staff as well as special guests attended. In the presence of student delegates from the four houses and representatives of sports, discipline and culture, the head boy and the head girl took an oath to uphold the visions and values of Druk Padma Karpo School. Staff congratulated the new council members on their appointment and wished them success.



Extra-curricular pursuits



Yoga at home



Archer: Stanzin Namdol



Kung-fu

June 21st, 2021, students celebrated the 7th International Day of Yoga by practising yoga at home. The 2021 theme was 'yoga for well-being'. Besides yoga, extra-curricular pursuits such as archery, kung-fu, badminton, table-tennis, chess and meditation are provided to encourage students' holistic development.

Archery, a national sport in Ladakh, is enjoyed by students in their villages. Stanzin Namdol of class 8 was selected for the NTPC National Sub Junior Archery tournament at Raffles University, Neemrana, Rajasthan, in April 2022.



Cup runners-up team awarded football fair play trophy

The school was proud that the under-13 boys' football team was awarded the trophy for fair play in the biennial Sunfeast Football Cup in November, in which they were runners-up. The under-16 boys' and girls' teams also participated in the tournament.

Fair play trophy winners



Printed on FSC paper

New resident engineer takes up his role

Lobzang, Ronak and Angdus



April 22nd, 2022, Ronak Shah from the Arup Mumbai office started his three-month assignment as resident engineer at the school. Because of the pandemic, the construction team has had no resident engineer for the previous two years. Ronak is working alongside construction manager Sonam Angdus, and deputy Lobzang Phumchok, on the tricky seismic upgrade work. Meanwhile in London, Arup is looking at the design specification for the new classrooms for 16- 18-year-olds, which need to be larger to allow for different methods of teaching. Last year work was carried out on the seismic upgrade of one of the residences.

With only one gardener on site, no new planting was possible in the Dragon Garden, but students were encouraged to plant trees at home as part of a World Environment Day scheme.

Students help out at animal rescue centre

A group of students participated in a one-day volunteering drive at the Live to Rescue animal sanctuary in Nang village, situated about 9 km from the school.

The students enjoyed being with the animals and helping to clean the shelters and enclosures of the rescued donkeys, goats, cows and dogs.

After a successful day, students expressed the desire to continue such volunteer work in the future.



Volunteering: students at work



Cultural heritage: traditional food

Celebrating Ladakh's food culture

The theme chosen for Ladakh Day on May 1st was 'food culture', designed to celebrate traditional foods and to encourage students to eat a healthy diet. Students and their parents were asked to cook nutritious traditional dishes using local ingredients and to submit videos of them. It was hoped that, by doing so, they would appreciate the connection with their cultural heritage and understand where their food comes from. In the picture, a DPKS student in traditional dress sits at the kitchen table with a selection of Ladakhi dishes in front of her.

Cultural exchange allows new ideas to flourish

The first virtual cultural exchange between students of the Druk Padma Karpo School and Ngee Ann Polytechnic, Singapore from Sept. 7th -15th 2021 was a new experience for our students and highly successful. The programme was full of learning, sharing thoughts and swapping ideas. Our students enjoyed the programme and absorbed new ideas about culture, time management, punctuality, cleanliness, calmness, politeness and more.

Virtual meeting on
Zoom sharing
cultural traditions



School events spring 2021 to spring 2022

May

Ladakh Day on May 1st celebrated the theme of food culture.

Inter-schools online competitions on May 22nd highlighted the importance of biodiversity for International Day for Biological Diversity.

June

World Environment Day on June 5th was celebrated by tree planting at home, practising waste segregation and by making bird feeders.

Jolly Phonics training for teachers from June 7th – 10th.

International Yoga Day on June 21st.

July

Students win top three awards in painting competition at travelling film festival.

Celebration of the 22nd Kargil Vijay Diwas by students from the National Cadet Corps.

August

'Inspire to Aspire' talks resumed, with two Indian professional archers, Deepika Kumari and Atanu Das.

Meetings with parents on results of second term exams.

September

On Teacher's Day Sept. 5th staff were thanked for their selfless service.

International virtual culture exchange with Singapore college.

International virtual celebration of school's 20th anniversary held on Sept. 26th via Zoom.

October

Year 10 students start six weeks of residential revision for Matriculation exams.

November

On Nov. 6th, class WhatsApp groups created for home learning.

The new academic year started on Nov. 8th.

Students Jigmat Tsewang Nurboo and Jigmat Chosal selected for national painting competition after coming second at state level, with energy conservation as the theme.

December

Winter holiday homework distributed to students on Dec. 14th.

School closed on Dec. 16th for the winter break of two-and-a-half months.

January/ February 2022

Matriculation exam results announced. All 71 candidates passed.

March 2022

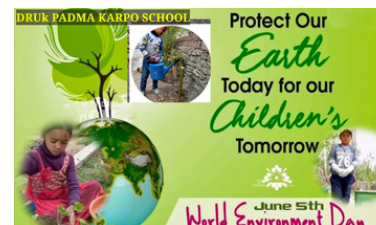
Construction team restarted seismic upgrade work after winter break.

DPKS participated in Nirmal Bhartia School's SMILE well-being initiative.

April 2022

On April 4th Bhoti Language Day was observed, with poetry writing and recitation, speech and calligraphy.

Arup resident engineer Ronak Shah arrived for his three-month assignment.



Druk Padma Karpo Educational Society thanks its partners:
Drukpa Trust, ARUP, University of Greenwich and Live to Love

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