



DRUK PADMA KARPO SCHOOL

PADMA PETALS

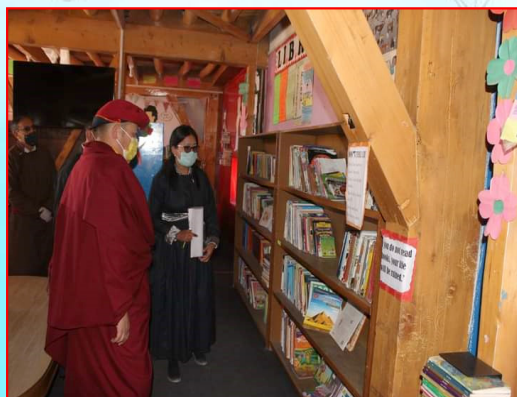
ANNUAL

Newsletter

2019-20

The pandemic and the lockdown, left the world in a shock. All sectors of the society were negatively affected as everything came to a halt. Where companies and general businesses started to get back on track by taking the necessary precautions, schools still couldn't take a chance with their pupils by calling them back to the schools. But at the same time, hampering their learning process was not an option.

The year 2020 came a little differently to all of us. Even though we weren't able to conduct classes and activities as normal we were able to make it a productive year with the joint efforts of our teachers, fellow students and their parents.



VICE PRINCIPAL'S NOTE

I characterized this year as a "YEAR OF CHALLENGE, CHANGE, EXPERIMENTATION AND MANY NEW LEARNINGS". Despite of various challenges my entire team stood firm and help in making this year a successful one. Thanks to our well-wishers and supporters for helping and supporting us during these tough times. I wish and pray for the normalcy where I can meet and see each one of you smilingly.

DEALING WITH THE PANDEMIC

We couldn't let these trying times affect the learning of our students, nor could we risk their health by calling them to attend school. This led us in a fix. As a response to the situation, we started conducting online classes in the last week of March, and received an overwhelming response from the students. Regular classes were conducted from Monday to Saturday, divided into two sessions. Each session was dedicated to a specific subject. This way, the various subjects and the entire curriculum was effectively spread throughout the week.

The challenges thrown upon us were met with a greater ease than expected. We would proudly credit the innovative minds of our teachers and the cooperation extended by our students, and their families in making the task this easy for us.

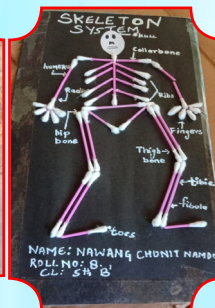
We did face some problems, the main one being in terms of the students who were residing in remote areas. Due to low connectivity, some of them couldn't be a part of an online teaching program regularly. As a result of this they lagged behind in the curriculum and missed one test but they were present for our main test which happened in the month of October. Secondly, as not all parents were educated they weren't able to coordinate well with the program however teachers were readily available and assisted the students to the best of their capacity. Lastly, some students did face difficulties with the new technique of learning, due to uncertain technical glitches; a few missed out on the sessions. But anyhow, once the school reopens, we plan to conduct revision sessions for all the students to be at the same level.

Druk Padma Karpo School tooks essential steps to ensure the safety of all those associated with the school. As a part of the students' life skill assessment, a project was initiated to make home-made masks. Students created beautiful masks and were made aware of the importance of wearing masks and regarding other COVID guidelines.



FOUNDERS' DAY CELEBRATION

On 24th September 2020, Druk Padma Karpo School celebrated its 20th Founder's Day at school premises in the presences of few SMC members, school staff, under the guidance and blessing of H.H Gyalwang Drukpa and H.E. Thuksey Rinpochey. The celebration was followed by traditional dance, founder's day song, school lockdown report, and at the end a cleanliness drive was organized of the nearby area by the NCC Cadets. COVID-19 guidelines were strictly followed throughout the celebration.



STUDENT'S ACTIVITIES

The online sessions were not just limited to the curriculum but also, special sessions were designed to nurture the creative and innovative side of the students. Weekend classes were dedicated to conduct special art and craft sessions. Also, various competitions, projects and other activities were included to make the sessions interactive and interesting. We also celebrate major days.

1st ALUMNI MEET

In 20 years, we were proudly able to organize the first alumni meet for Druk Padma School. Druk Padma School has an Alumni base of 304 students but due to the restrictions implied by the current situation, we could invite only 70-80 students. It was a short program which major involved experience sharing and felicitation of all new committee members. The program was blessed by the presence of H.E. Thuksey Rinpoche, who also shared his kind thoughts with the ex-students.

WINNING STREAKS

Different inter-school competition organized by various departments of U.T Ladakh, where our students bagged prizes in various fields.

Dragonites' Virtual Talent Hunt

was conducted with the theme, 'Back to the Roots'. Students video-graphed their innate talents such as dancing, cooking, singing, drawing, mono act etc. A number of entries were received; all of them showcased unique talents.

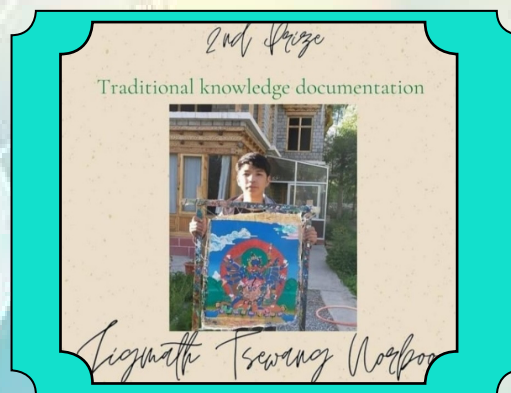
Ladakh Day was observed and celebrated on 1st May 2020. The celebration was marked to inform the students the significance of rich Ladakhi culture. The belief behind was that the more they are aware of their culture, the more they will respect and take pride in their roots. The students wore their traditional attires, made traditional recipes, and learnt traditional practices. They shared pictures of the celebration in their respective home. Teachers too took part in the celebrations enthusiastically.

World Environment Day was celebrated on 5th June 2020. Students were given the project of Eco-brick where the students had to make best out of waste, again this gave them the opportunity to demonstrate their creativity by bringing out innovative products and designs. Also, in addition to that the teachers and the students took a pledge to save our environment. The focus of the celebration was to connect the people with the mother earth and make them aware of the degrading situation of our environment. Even the infant section took part in the celebration and made teaching aids using paper and plastic waste.

Virtual Teachers' Day Competition was organized to celebrate the Teachers' Day with the theme 'Thank you Teachers'. The competition included poster making and poem composition.

Other Significant Day Celebrations too were held to mark the significance of various days such as Mother's Day, Yoga Day, Kargil Vijay Diwas, Independence Day, where again the students without fail showcased their innovative ways and participated enthusiastically

Career Counseling Session provided to the students of Class 10th by the team of Naropa fellowship.



TEACHER TRAINING AND WORKSHOP

A special online training for teachers was also organized by the Aseem foundation in the month of June in which many teachers participated. It was a 5 days' program. It mainly focused on the issue of how to deal with the pandemic and equipped the teacher with the much needed knowledge on online teaching. And our teachers also took part in the 11th and 12th INSPIRATION festival organized by Mind Mingle.

10th GRADE STUDENTS BEING RESIDENTIAL:

With the written consent by each parents, we manage to get back our 10th grade students back to Hostel for their final exam preparation. We sanitized the whole building and get our rapid test done for each students, Senior teachers and hostel staff and fortunately we all the reports are negative and all are fit to stay in hostel for more than 2 months. And all stay happily at hostel having proper food, a cozy place to stay and a wonderful teacher to guide each and every student. We are extremely happy that we took this step and now hoping to get a good examination result. Finger crossed.

SOME POSITIVE NEWS

Even during this pandemic, we paid each and every staffs with regular salary. There is no single case of losing job during this crisis. We as a family support, care each and every staff during this pandemic.

SCHOOL WINTER BREAK:

The main motive of this winter break is to keep our students away from mobile phones and to have a quality time with their families. All teachers were decided to assigns homework related to their text- book, environment, project based and experiential learning based work which doesn't need any help of internet.

THOUGHTS OF OUR TEACHERS AND STUDENTS:

The sudden switch to 100% online teaching was challenging, equally, for both teachers and students. After a month and with constant follow up surveys, both students and faculty have adapted to the new normal only to a certain extent. But it seems that this may be an opportunity to work on the importance of accessing the media for



Wishing you All a Happy Winter Holidays



Winter is the time for comfort,
for good food and warmth. For
the touch of a friendly hand and
for a talk beside the fire.
It is the time for home.



communication and expression. Online classes have been more difficult than I thought; due to lack of real-time interaction, there is miscommunication and lack of connect with the students. There is a need to develop new teaching / learning techniques to feel confident about your teaching being effective. It also appears that some students have become more responsible for studies. As far as science is concerned, those students who used to pay least attention in the class, I received their project work, experiments and activities way better than others. They like doing practical work.

Stanzin Dolma
(Science Teacher, Middle Section)



During this lockdown we were supposed to take online classes, so that students don't suffer. At first I got super excited and at the same time I was not confident enough to take the classes. With the passage of time I learned a lot in terms of technology. But I am grateful for everybody's cooperation, be it student or parents. I was able to overcome all the challenges and obstacles.

Kesang Dolma
(Hindi Teacher, Middle Section)



This year was definitely not easy with the wide-spread of COVID-19, due to which everybody was locked down at home. Though it was hard but still I tried my best to make good use of it. I read some novels and I also joined online classes. I feel fortunate that I was able to join the online classes because there were some students who had network issues, so it was not easy for them. I also learnt agricultural work during this lockdown period.

Tsewang Chosgyal
(Class 10th A student)



I enjoy being at home and having a family time but I miss my school, teachers and my friends. I am happy that my syllabus is being covered through online classes but I am worried for my friends who have network issues and are facing problem due to it.

Jigmet Deachen Skitla
(Class 4th A student)



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