

Spring Newsletter

2016

School Updates

The new school year started in October 2015. This year, we have 32 students enrolled at the school. They range in age from 6 to 18. They study diligently, working on reading and writing both Tibetan and Mandarin Chinese (which is crucial for those who want to go on to further education), as well as math and Buddhism.

This year, we welcomed some new teachers to the school. They were interviewed by Sonam Rinpoche during his annual visit to the school.

The children learn in one large classroom, with all of the different ages mixed together. Each child works at his own level. The students also come together daily for

chanting as a group, and they spend their leisure time playing soccer or other games together in the school courtyard.

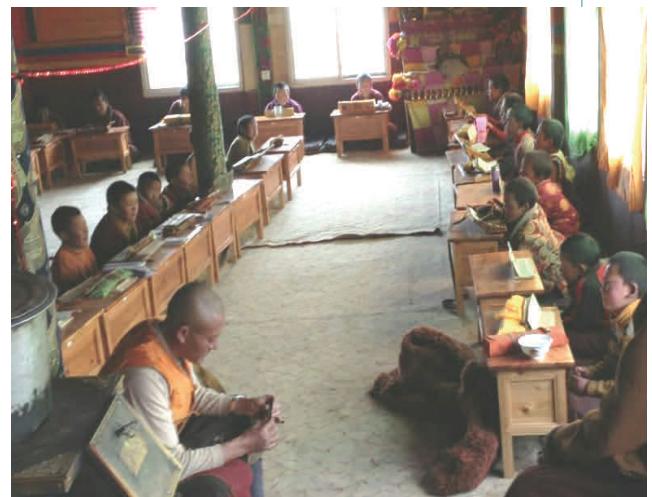
We're proud of our students and their dedication to learning. We're also very grateful for the staff, who work tirelessly to support these children in their desire to improve their lives and the lives of their families.

Your donations are making a huge difference in the lives of these children. In this remote and impoverished region of Eastern Tibet, they would otherwise lack opportunities to get an education and improve their lives. Thank you for your continued support of these children.

School Improvements in 2015-2016 school year

Your generous donations have allowed us to perform much needed maintenance on the school this year, and to make some improvements to the children's learning environment. One of the major improvements was the purchase of new desks for the students.

The previous student desks were like long, narrow benches, only about 12 inches wide. Each one had to be shared between several students. The children would sit on the floor in front of them, with one text atop the desk. The other texts had to be stored on the floor under or next to the desk, and there was very little room to practice writing on these desks. We



saw that there was space in the schoolroom for larger desks for our kids, and these have recently been delivered to the school.

The new desks contain space to store the children's texts when not in use. The children still sit on the floor behind each desk, because this is the local custom and is far more natural to them than chairs would be. The new desks are far more comfortable for writing, allowing the children to



practice and improve this necessary skill. They also allow for easier and more organized storage of the children's various school texts, and are more comfortable to sit at and read from. The kids are loving their new desks!

Other improvements that E@E sponsoring in Fall 2015 are:

- ◆ 30 books added to the school library
- ◆ A new sleeping pad/carpet for new teacher hired in Fall 2015
- ◆ 20 new cushions for the kids
- ◆ Solar panel replacement which powers the lights in the classroom

Water Continue to flow at the School



Our water project, which brought running water to the village where the school is located for the first time, has continued to be a success. Visiting during fall 2015, Ouyang was able to access the data from the two temperature probes installed when the system was first built. He was delighted to discover that, while the environmental temperature had unsurprisingly dipped well below freezing during the winter, the water in the system was kept above the freezing temperature every single day. This means that there were no interruptions in the village's supply of running water.

Over the winter of 2015 to 2016, we have received reports from the village that the water even though at lower flow rate, continued to flow throughout the freezing winter from 2015-2016. For the second winter in a row, the village had reliable running water. We're gratified by this incredible success.

Part of the reason for the water system's excellent functioning was the construction of a building to shelter the water taps. Over the previous winter, a three-sided shelter was used. Before the start of winter in 2015, a complete four-walled shelter with a roof was constructed. The work was done by locals, using supplies provided by E@E and our generous donors. By keeping direct wind chill off the water taps, the shelter helped to prevent freezing, ensuring access to water for the local residents.

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You can help just by shopping! In 2015, we received almost \$60, equal to sponsoring a kid for 2 months.
Breakdown as follows:

- **\$22** received via Amazon Smile in 2015. Shop at **AmazonSmile**—just click on the link on the left or on our web site. You only need to select your favorite non-profit organization one time., and then we will continue to receive donations through AmazonSmile whenever you shop there.
- Received **\$38** from Shambala Publications. Shop at **Shambala Publications**. When you shop, we get 7%. Click on the link on the left or on our web site. Awesome! Keep reading!

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Thank You Tim Bruce and Nancy Buyers for serving two years on the E@E Board. Your dedication and time are much appreciated!

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Editor Patti Shelton, Wendy Wong

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Mission: To provide a home and education opportunity for needy Tibetan children and seniors in Garze Tibetan Autonomous Prefecture (Eastern Tibet), China.

The project is overseen by **Sonam Rinpoche**, a native Tibetan, who was recognized as the reincarnation of Ahzom Losel Rinpoche by H.H. Dordrubchan Rinpoche.

Rinpoche has earned the title “Khenpo”, which is equivalent to a Ph.D. in Buddhism, after 18 years of Buddhism philosophy studies in Tibet and India.

To read more on Sonam Rinpoche, the school's progress or how you can help, please go to our web site
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