

# Summer Newsletter 2015



## Introducing our current class of 31 students!

Thirty-one children, all boys, are currently enrolled in the school. Since the 56 kids graduated two years ago, the classroom size has shrunk significantly. Most of the children now starting school are around 6 years old.

Three girls who studied in the school went on to study in public elementary school in Baiyul, a town which is half a day's drive away. E@E wants to continue to support the girls in their future studies, and we'll discuss ways to do this at the upcoming Annual General Meeting.

- Sonam Rinpoche visited the school in July 2015.
- Thank you so much to the two teachers who have been teaching tirelessly for two years in this remote location. Rinpoche has arranged for two new teachers to start at the school in the 9th month in the Tibetan calendar, equivalent to Octo-

ber in our western calendar.

- The picture below shows the four students who were best at memorizing and reading Tibetan and dharma texts. They received cash prizes and khatas (the blessing scarf) from Sonam Rinpoche.



## A success story—Running water at the school throughout the cold snowy winter

2300 feet of water pipes were installed deep underground to bring water from the higher valley to the village. The water project was completed in July 2014 by our wonderful volunteers from China and USA. The aim was to provide running water year round to improve the students' hygiene and promote healthy bodies. We have received feedback from the school that the tap water was flowing even on the coldest days during the winter of 2014 –2015.



Rinpoche shared pictures of the cracked and falling walls next to the sinks. The school has reported that the water taps are leaking and cannot be closed tightly. E@E will change out the taps and plans to hire locals to rebuild the water room and add a roof.



For those who love science and details of the water system, E@E installed two temperature probes and loggers on site one year ago to record the air and water pit temperature automatically. We will be excited to share this information with you once our team returns from the school later this year.



## *Thank You From Our Hearts to Yours!*

### *Results from Spring Fundraiser: MUSIC + LOVE = EDUCATION*

We raised \$3,150 the evening of May 9, 2015. The donated funds were used to help pay for food and other necessities for the students and to fund college scholarships for two young Tibetan girls, Yangchen and Deyang (learn more about them below).

10% of the money raised, i.e. \$315, from the fundraiser was donated to the Nepal Earthquake Support fund administered by FPMT Foundation.

It was a great night. A huge THANKS to Yaima and Tony Smiley for playing their beautiful music. Unique in their sounds, and equally generous in their compassion and talents. Everyone had a great time out on the dance floor!



The event wouldn't have been possible without the generous support of our event sponsor Protingent. We would also like to thank our sweet vendors: Shafina for her amazing henna designs, and Usanza Designs and Ferocious Love for donating a percentage of sales of their jewelry and clothing lines.



We've received letters and photos from both Yangchen and Deyang, the students that E@E is sponsoring to attend college. Over the summer both young women visited their families. Yangchen also experienced the hospitalization of her uncle in Xining, functioning as a Tibetan/Chinese interpreter for him, and the experience made her more aware of the preventive health needs of many Tibetans. She writes that "the experience has taught me [to] appreciate my good health and be more aware of keeping my health in good shape in the future."

Deyang reports "I am very excited because I [like] my Multi-Media major very much... Study of multi-media is never boring and every new trick and skill I learn [is] such a rewarding experience." She is enjoying using her creativity in this major.

The school semester began in September, and both students thank E@E for supporting their studies and wish everyone "good health, fortune, and happiness."

## Bellevue Festival of Arts/ Jamba Juice BOGO Cards Campaign Results

The summer campaign started with Jamba Juice BOGO cards in July and ended with a booth at the Bellevue Festival of Arts on July 25, 2015. Sales at the Bellevue Festival of Arts combined with the sale of 70 Jamba Juice BOGO cards raised about \$700. The donated funds were used to provide **multi-vitamins for kids in Eastern Tibet**. They lack fruits and green vegetables in their diet due to the high elevation (14,000 ft).

Bellevue Festival of Arts once again sponsored the booth for E@E. Thank you so much! Thank you Jamba Juice for an amazing deal! Also thank you, Vijaya and Swetha, for your lovely henna designs! And a big thank you to our volunteers for taking time from their busy summer schedules to help out at the booth!



Thank you, Leslie, for your hand drawn art to promote the Jamba Juice BOGO card!



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[info@educationatelevation.org](mailto:info@educationatelevation.org)*

## Summer/Fall Newsletter 2015

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Thank You so Much, Team!

**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 initiated 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 [www.educationatelevation.org](http://www.educationatelevation.org)

For questions or more information, please email [info@educationatelevation.org](mailto:info@educationatelevation.org)

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