

**CHUMKRIEL LANGUAGE SCHOOL
NEWSLETTER MARCH 2023**

THE ADVENTURE BEGINS AGAIN!



It's an exciting time – the start of another year of learning and growing together. More than 100 students arrived at our Learning Centre on the first day back at school. The older ones so happy to be back studying and playing with their friends again, the smaller ones excited and, for some, a little apprehensive to be coming to school for the first time.

At Evening School the same excitement, only here there are almost 600 students, including 100 on scholarships who don't have to pay. And it is pleasing to see five of our former CLS students volunteering to come early to Evening School to help and encourage the younger children with their reading.

In the salt field, a tireless workhorse, our truck purchased in 2014 with funds from donors, brings students to school each day, taking them home again after lessons.

And among all the returning children, 180 from the poorest families received uniforms and stationery for the school year thanks to the generosity of our wonderful donors!

OUR ACHIEVERS



Ten former CLS students completed Grade 12 last year and we're delighted that all ten are continuing their studies at university. A number of these and other former students regularly visit us to encourage the children and to assist with school events. And four, Sreyka, Channa, Socheata and Channet, teach English at our Evening School. They are giving back so other children of our community and theirs will benefit from their knowledge and from their enthusiasm for learning!

WOODLEIGH COMES TO CHUMKRIEL



It was wonderful to have four teachers and twelve students from Woodleigh, our partner school in Australia, visit for two weeks in December. They came full of energy and enthusiasm, and our children just loved classes and learning activities with them. There was also lots of football played, and a clean-up and recycling campaign.

This was the first visit by Woodleigh since Covid stopped international travel three years ago. It marks the beginning of a closer relationship that will link CLS with both their Primary and Senior Campuses, and will see regular on-line dialogue between their teachers and ours.

You can watch a [short video of the Woodleigh visit](#) on YouTube.

A VISIT FROM THE US EMBASSY



On 25 February Mr Michael De Tar, Deputy Chief of Mission from the US Embassy, and Cambodian government representatives visited to open the Embassy's Access English program. Forty of our top students participate in this program which provides two years training to build on their English language skills and knowledge, further advancing their job and educational prospects.

It was a proud occasion hearing seven students speak fluently and confidently, explaining why knowledge of English is so important in opening opportunities for them to work, travel and meet people.

Mr De Tar spoke about the origin and purpose of the Access program in providing a foundation of English language skills to talented youth from disadvantaged backgrounds. It's a program which has spread world-wide in the 19 years since it commenced. He graciously stayed after the formal proceedings to mix with staff and to learn more of the work of CLS.

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