

CHUMKRIEL LANGUAGE SCHOOL NEWSLETTER SEPTEMBER 2024

Dear,

Happy Pchum Ben ceremony from Kampot, where we are gathering with family to honour our ancestors.

Thank you for your ongoing support to help the children of our Chumkriel community turn disadvantage into success. CLS is committed to providing students with the skills and knowledge they need to thrive and secure a better future for themselves and their families. We are forever grateful for our wonderful donors, volunteers and supporters who partner with us in this important mission. I hope you are inspired by the stories of our students' achievements and encourage you to share our story with others.

I wishes you have a good luck and happy Phchum Ben ceremony.

Mr. Thy,

Director,CLS





EVENING ENGLISH LESSONS EMPOWER OUR YOUNG PEOPLE



CLS's Evening School provides 531 students from Chumkriel and the surrounding area with high quality and affordable English lessons. The Evening School is supported by our donors and parents' contributions. Studying English at the Evening School prepares the young people for study at high schools and universities and their future career.

Students undertake monthly tests, with a significant majority of students achieving an impressive pass rate of 92.83%. A recent survey conducted by the Evening School involving 139 students revealed that 76.3% passed their English exams at the government school, demonstrating the positive impact of Evening School programs on academic performance. The programs help students understand challenging concepts in English.

Five CLS students - Rathana, Sovannut, Nita, Sreypich, and Emily - have been volunteering as teacher assistants at the Evening School. These enthusiastic students provide support to homeroom teachers, assisting in various classroom activities and helping to create a conducive learning environment. Their motivation is fueled by a shared aspiration to become English teachers in the future. We are excited to witness our students stepping up to contribute positively to our school community, demonstrating their commitment to education and their desire to make a difference.

## **GROWING OUR CHILDREN'S FUTURE**



Our 84 students enjoy spending time in our beautiful garden learning how to grow vegetables for the school's soup kitchen, which provides meals for 36 students in need. Students get their hands dirty composting, watering, planting and harvesting. The vegetable garden uses compost made from local organic waste.

Sometimes students are given nursery seedlings to take home. While most produce is used in the soup kitchen, surplus vegetables are shared with staff, students or the community.CLS also shares the recently built greenhouse with the secondary school to teach propagation techniques to 159 students.

## STUDENTS EXCEL IN OUR LEARNING CENTRE



Our 84 Learning Centre students have achieved outstanding results this year with 90% of students passing the basic speaking level test showing a significant improvement in their English language speaking proficiency.

Many students could not even recite the alphabet when they joined the centre; PM Reading Benchmark results now show 84% of students can read books at levels 1-25.We are extremely proud of their achievements and of their dedicated teachers.

Our students are also sharing their knowledge with others. 30% of them have

taught their siblings and cousins some of the lessons they learned at school. To further support our students, we have implemented a learning club where fast learners assist slower learners for one hour before class each afternoon.

The annual test results are equally impressive, with 81% of students passing. Additionally, 56% of students reached level 80 or higher in the Reading Eggs program. This indicates that our phonics-focused approach is fostering a love of learning.

We are particularly pleased to see that 13 slower learners have made significant progress in their studies. Their success stories inspire us to continue providing personalised support and engaging learning opportunities for all our students.



# NEW CHAPTER FOR OUR LIBRARY



This year, the CLS library is launching eight exciting book clubs, including one Khmer club, two English clubs, and five from local state schools. Each club has 6 to 10 members who meet weekly to discuss their chosen books, fostering engaging conversations about themes, characters, and ideas. All the students offer new insights and make connections through storytelling.

Our library continues to promote a love of reading and research by curating

diverse collections, offering research support, and facilitating literacy programs to enhance lifelong learning in the community.

Watch this video where the book clubs' students, share their impressions.

## **BIKES AND CLASSROOMS- CAN YOU HELP OUR STUDENTS?**



We are thrilled that seven students from the Salt Field School, in one of our most disadvantaged areas, are continuing their education at the secondary level. The secondary school is a long way from the Salt Fields and the students walk several kilometres to get there often missing valuable school time and risking their safety. Can you help us buy bicycles for the students, so they can go to school regularly and arrive safely? **We need seven bicycles at a cost of US\$80.00 each.** Your generous donation will directly support these students' dreams and make a lasting impact on their lives.

#### **DONATE TO BUY A BIKE**

Our school is growing! This year we are excited to welcome 25 new students to CLS to improve their English and general knowledge... but we need a new classroom to teach them in. We now have three classes of students but just one indoor classroom for general teaching and one outdoor learning space. We have plans to build and fit out a new classroom next to the computer room at a cost of US\$1500. This new teaching space will help us educate more young people of Chumkriel opening up a world of opportunity for them. We'd love your support to help us achieve this ambitious project. Every dollar helps.

### DONATE TO BUILD OUR NEW CLASSROOM

# THANK YOU!

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