## REMOTE EASTERN BHUTAN - NEY PRIMARY SCHOOL PROJECT PROPOSAL – GIRLS TOO FUNDING



Moral story reading-Morning Assembly, Attentive Listening! Beautiful flowers

## A BRIEF BACKGROUD OF NEY COMMUNITY

Ney village is a community of recently resettled typically uneducated Bhutanese citizens and depend on agriculture for their livelihood besides growing vegetables and fruits for family consumption. Rice is grown as major farm produce.

## **School Profile**

Name of the school	:	Ney Primary School
Gewog	:	Gangzur
Dzongkhag	:	Lhuentse, Eastern Bhutan
Year of establishment	:	1991-2011 As Ney Extended Classroom
Upgrade	:	Ney Primary School – 2012.

Distance from the District Headquarter (motorable road): Approximately 28 kilometers

Name of the principal: Mr. Gangchuk

## The key objectives of the Ney Primary School are:

- To provide free primary education and complete care for needy children of the most destitute families in the Ney community through wholesome education
- Build a strong student foundation and prepare children for secondary schooling opportunity.
- Socializing and Mainstreaming children from the community
- Introducing new ways of living, new routines, responsibilities, new technologies and new fellow students
- Students realization and appreciation for the value of education
- Fairness and equality towards all
- Promote social and spiritual values
- To inculcate in students a sense of ownership and belonging to the community and nation

#### **Student Information 2014**

Sl.No	Class	Boys	Girls	Total
1	PP	7	8	15
2	Ι	9	3	12
3	II	2	1	3
4	III	7	7	14
5	IV	4	6	10
6	V	6	5	11
7	VI	4	1	5
	Total	39	31	70

With His Majesty's resettlement program in 2013, today there are around 130 households in the whole of Ney. Landless farmers from all over Lhuentse were given five acres of land each together with food items, agricultural tools, CGI sheets and Nu.50, 000 to each household for construction of their homes. The resettlement area is just about 30-40 minutes' walk above the school. With this the number of students in our school increased to 70 compared to 32 in 2012 We expect more enrollment in 2014 after the additional infrastructure building is complete this November.



Infrastructure building in progress

## **School Staff Information 2014**

Teaching Staff: 6 Cook: 2 Office Assistant: 1

Sl.	Name of staff	Designation	Qualification	Subject	No. of years
No					in service
1	Mr. Gangchuk	Principal	B.Ed	English	9
2	Mr. Nadola	Teacher	ZTC	Dzongkha	13
3	Mr. Lethro	Teacher	B.Ed	English	3
4	Mr. Sonam Phuntsho	Teacher	B.Ed	Mathematics	3
5	Mr. Sonam Phuntsho	Teacher	PGDE	Dzongkha	Intern
6	Ms. Lemo	CBT	Higher	Dzongkha	1
			Secondary		
7	Mr. Sonam Tshering	Cook	VIII		1
8	Mr. Sonam Rinzin	Cook			3
9	Mr. Thinley Norbu	Office Assistant	V		4

Ney school is operational with 9 staff on board, 8 male and 1 female. One additional year of secondary schooling alone would boost a girl's earning potential

B.Ed- Bachelor in Education ZTC-Zhungkha Teaching Certificate, PGDE-Post Graduate Diploma in Education CBT-Community Based Teacher

#### **Brief History of the school**

Ney Primary School was established in 1991. *Ney* literally means a sacred site. The people of Ney believe that their place is the door to the secret land of *Khenpajong*, which was once blessed by Guru Rimpochhe.

The School is situated in the north of remote Lhuentse District of Bhutan in the midst of towering snow-capped mountains, some of which remains glistening even throughout summer. The school is accessible by feeder road extending over approximately 28 kilometers from the Lhuntse District Headquarter.

The school was first started by a lone teacher in-charge Mr. K.Dhan Sharma with 49 students attending Primary Class in 1991. The school was then known as Ney Extended Classroom and established as a means to provide access to learning prospects of children from underserved communities.

The second head was Mr. R.B. Sharma who joined the school in 1995 and stayed till 2001. He was relieved by Mr. Sangay Dorji who served from 2002 to 2004. Three additional units to classroom block and the present principal's quarter was built during his time. Ney Extended Class room was then upgraded to Ney Primary School.

Mr. Ugyen Penjore took charge of the school as the fourth principal in 2005 till the mid of 2012 as he had to urgently go to India for his masters. The present principal joined the school in October, 2012. The school constructed one multipurpose hall in 2013 with support from the resettlement budget. The construction of a four-unit staff quarter and classroom which is under progress is targeted for completion by the end of November, 2014.

The school was awarded recognition for **best school for green environment in 2011** at the District level.

## Daily activities carried out in the school

The school conducts remedial classes for low-performing students from 7:30 to 8:00 am every morning supervised by respective T.O.Ds. Following remedial classes we have 15 minutes of Socially Useful and Productive Works (SUPW) like tidying up classrooms, picking up papers, cleaning the school surroundings, school gardening and correct disposal of garbage. Students are then served breakfast from the school food program at 8:15 am. Classes start at 9:00 am after the morning assembly. We have six periods every day of 50 minutes each. Students are taught English, Dzongkha, Math and Science. The school ends at 3:20 pm followed by evening prayers and co-curricular activities from 3:30 to 4:30 pm for one hour.

Day	Activity
Monday	Moral story reading (Upper primary)
Tuesday	Poem recitation (Upper primary)
Wednesday	Buddy reading (PP-VI), outdoor sports
Thursday	Spell well (Upper primary)
Friday	Nursery rhyme (Lower primary)
Saturday	Art & Drama, Community Volunteer Activities V(Upper Primary)

## Co-curricular activities carried out in the school

Sl.No	Day	Activity	By whom
1	Monday	Life skill education (IV-VI)	Principal
2	Tuesday	CUBS (selected)	CUBS in-charge
3	Wednesday	Club day (II-VI)	Club in-charges
4	Thursday	Cultural programme (IV-VI)	Cultural in-charge
5	Friday	Games (IV-VI)	Games in-charge
6	Saturday	Literary activities/social work	All students from classes II-VI

#### Inter-house activities

- ✓ Inter-house subject based spelling contest
- ✓ Inter-house khuru (dart throwing) competition
- ✓ Poem recitation

- ✓ Inter-house Dzongkha essay writing competition
- ✓ Inter-house football completion
- ✓ Inter-house subject based quiz competition
- ✓ Inter-house English essay writing competition
- ✓ Inter-house badminton competition
- ✓ Cleaning campaigns
- ✓ Musical classes

#### **Government Support**

The school received WFP day meal in 2003 and we still have access to this program. Students are served breakfast and lunch at school. Learning materials like writing books, pens, pencils, crayons, text books are also provided for free to the children. An additional classroom building and teacher's quarter's are currently under construction.

#### **Community Support**

Volunteers are engaged in the ongoing school infrastructure building process.



Lined up for Breakfast

## **CHALLENGES** –Ney Community and Primary School

## **Parental awareness**

To make uneducated parents conscious that Education is one of the most powerful tools to enable girls to develop skills that could help them earn an income and lift them and their children out of poverty. That girls too need education for their personal development, their preparation for adulthood, and their ability to contribute to their family and community.

## **Keeping Children in School**

Increase Enrollment of children in school after completion of infrastructure building and most importantly keeping them in school.

## **Opportunity costs & Remote rural difficulty**

Associated with school uniforms, school carry bags, shoes & socks and wet weather gear

## Home & farm help

- Reliance on children for farm labor and household incomes
- lack of interest
- the perception in this remote community that girls' higher education is less important than boys

## Shortage in Recreational Material Resources

Hard Administrative decisions on priorities...short the school in one area in order to afford something else

# NAY PRIMARY SCHOOL'S REQUEST TO TRAVELER'S PHILANTHROPY - GIA GIRLS TOO FUNDING

## Parent education material recourses

• Focusing on enhancing parenting practices and behaviors, such as promoting positive interaction between uneducated parents and children, developing and practicing positive discipline techniques, learning age-appropriate child development skills and importance of effective relationship between parents and school.

## Toys and materials for primary school play in child developmental domains

- Outdoor play ground equipment- swings, merry go around, sea saw, slides
- Tricycles, wagons, Big Wheels
- Balls, skipping ropes, badmintons & accessories
- Clay
- Puzzles
- Art supplies (finger and water paints, brushes, markers, crayons, scissors, writing slates etc.)
- Beads for stringing

- Construction materials (small blocks, Legos, etc.)
- Color Books, Writing materials (notepads, chalkboard, pens, pencils,)
- Simple board games
- Simple card games

#### In transition to secondary school

• Primary education incorporates one year of pre-primary education, which provides an opportunity for all children to prepare for the formal education programme. The new constitution provides for 11 years of free basic education for every Bhutanese child from pre-primary to class 10. No tuition fees are charged and rural children receive free stationery and textbooks, but education can still be costly for parents because of the opportunity costs and lack of cash income.



Tshering Yangki Class II Norbu Lhaden Class V Karma Yangzom Class III Sonam Yangzom Pre primary

These children request for funds to purchase school uniform, shoes, school bags, socks, rain gear, sports uniforms and toiletries through Primary and Secondary Schooling.

#### Objectives

- rural parents understand the role of the importance of education for their children's future
- Support school attendance with creative & developmental play facilities
- Schooling support to 5 girl children in transition to secondary schooling

The smallest gestures can impact lives in a big *way*......Thank you



Classes V & VI – temporary shed used for multi class learning



Class III students in class

Gngchuk (Principal, Ney Primary School, Lhuentse)