



Introduction

It has so far been a very happy, very busy New Year here at The Global Child!! Our students ended last year with a bang, and 2014 has swung into full gear. Read about what we have been up to in the first 2014 TGC Newsletter, from our exciting and colorful Christmas party, to our newly instituted health and mental health education classes, to our Grade 9 girls' relentless pursuits of academic excellence and the exciting university graduation of our brilliant student, Pisey! Thank you all for your continuing support of our TGC family, and we hope that you enjoy hearing all about our newest updates!

Opening Day!

All of the students and teachers, old and new, came to school bright and early with their family members for the TGC updates and programs. This was also the first time that a member of the Department of Education in Cambodia came to see the school as well, and he was very impressed! The day began with announcements from Teacher Sopha, Principal Dara, and the member of the Dept. of Education. Also, our own Sari spoke, our 2012-2013 student council president, to inform the parents about her time at TGC. "The TGC School has taught me so much and I have become a good person here." She explained. "I could not speak



English before and now I can. I would like to thank TGC for choosing me to study here and help educate me to do good things and I am committed to study and be an outstanding student and friend. Thank you, teachers." Opening Day continued with the announcement of the "Outstanding Student Awards" followed by performances from the students. Nari played keyboard, Piron sang and danced, Marot played guitar, and many of the students had their first dance performance which included hip-hop and salsa dancing. It was so heart-warming to see how proud their parents were. The afternoon was filled with ice breaker games including the shoe game, musical chairs, Indian chief, freeze dance, etc. It was a great way to welcome our new students!

Pisey's Graduation

Pisey was admitted to TGC when it first began in Phnom Penh. She was a 12 year old, street working child, who was devoted to education and strived for a better life. When asking her now about her life before TGC she just says, "Before I came to TGC, I was nothing." She would constantly ask for extra work in school and she truly loved learning. In November, TGC had a university graduation party for Pisey. All of the students, faculty, and family members attended for a meal, a slideshow, and awards. It was an exciting day for all, and everyone was thrilled and proud of Pisey for her accomplishments.



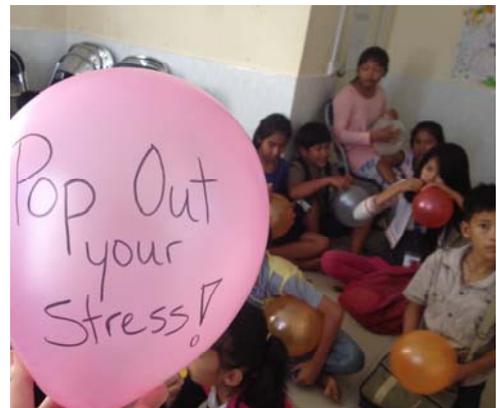
Student Achievements- Ratha, Marot, & Piron

We are very proud to announce the exciting achievements of our students. First of all, our two oldest students, Pisey and Ratha, have garnered our further respect and admiration by becoming full-fledged employees! Pisey works as the accountant for an organization called World Vision, and Ratha is working for a travel company. Furthermore, Marot and Piron have been hired to teach Karate for a local school. We also elected the students a new Student Council, lead by President Kontea. We are sure that our new Student Council will lead our student body with great success. Finally, both Marot and Piron competed in their first singing competitions on New Year's Eve at the New York International School. The boys were very nervous, but Marot was awarded the first place prize, and Piron won the second place prize!! We have very talented, very hardworking students here at TGC and it is so exciting for us that this is being recognized across the Siem Reap community.



Health/Mental Health Program

Union College volunteer teachers, Becca Duffy and Ariel Blum, have recently designed and implemented weekly classes for the TGC students. Their goals are to introduce students to various aspects of mental health and physical health. Becca's class focuses on basic health care. She was a Biology/Pre-Health major at Union, and she has designed a curriculum that focuses on understanding the human body, with a focus on puberty and sexual education. The children are divided into a boys' class and a girls' class. The classes themselves include everything from basic anatomy, sexual education, and internet safety. Her goal is to empower her students so that they will make the smartest, safest, and healthiest choices in their future.



Ariel instituted the mental health class after observing the struggles that the students face with both education and family situations. As a psychology major at Union College who had been involved with several mental health organizations on campus, she uses her background to help the students develop positive mental health habits. She teaches various topics such as methods for coping with stress, preventing bullying, dealing with peer pressure, time management, and developing good study skills. The classes are interactive and include role playing, writing your stress on a balloon and popping them together, and writing compliments on post-it notes and posting them around the school. The health/mental health program so far has shown to be effective and it is a great addition to the students' electives at TGC.

Collaboration Cambodia

Collaboration Cambodia is an NGO networking event that occurs on the first Sunday of every month. It is a great way to meet volunteers and expats to learn about NGOs in Siem Reap. On January 5th, we had the opportunity to host the Collaboration at Joe to Go. This event was a huge success. About thirty people arrived to learn about The Global Child and the Angkor Centre for Conservation of Biodiversity (ACCB). Joe to Go served delicious appetizers and had 25% off the menu the entire night. With the new renovations, it was the perfect space. Everyone was there to represent our school. The staff spoke about their role at TGC and how we work together to teach and provide a better future for our students. It was truly an incredible evening and the

perfect opportunity to share our special NGO with the community. SO incredible that we were even asked to host this event at Joe to Go again next month. Amazing!

Holiday Season Festivities

This holiday season Joe to Go added special seasonal drinks to their menu! We now offer peppermint mochas and cinnamon dolce lattes. In addition to seasonal coffee drinks, The Global Child celebrated their most anticipated party of the year- their Christmas party. As holiday cheer filled the air, the students couldn't be happier to play games and decorate the school for the holidays. The students were able to show off their creative abilities, once again, making stockings which were filled with little treats and holiday cards and snowmen made out of paper plates and colored paper. As you walk upstairs, you would always hear either Marot playing a Christmas song on guitar or one of the younger students playing songs on the keyboard. Despite the lack of snow, you could definitely tell it was a holiday season. We played freeze dance, had a banana eating contest, relay races, create your own Santa costume (this was absolutely adorable), and more. We also had 8 girls volunteer to be a part of a Christmas dance that we performed. Volunteer teacher Ariel choreographed a dance to "All I Want for Christmas is You" and the girls did a wonderful job performing with their Santa hats.



Soccer Updates

Our 2013-2014 soccer season has officially begun in full swing, and we have lots of news to share. First and foremost, we have our very own TGC Boys under-14 team registered and playing in the Globalteer Junior Soccer league thanks to the new boy-heavy Grade 5 class. Our TGC boys are partnered with the Honor Village boys, who are exceptional players. Our newer players are still learning the rules and basics, but they have great instruction in Lida and Young Chhy, their older counterparts. They celebrated their first big win last week after a powerful goal by Young Chhy in the last five minutes of the game. The girls' program has been very strong. Our girls are very dedicated players whose focus and determination in practices has definitely paid off on the game field. They have a winning record thus far, and they look better everyday, lead by captains Kontea, Nari and Srey Khouch. We are also proud, and very thankful, to announce that both of our soccer programs are now sponsored by local businesses!! The boys' team is now sponsored by The Siem Reap Hostel, and the girls' team is now sponsored by Angkor Expeditions. These businesses have paid for brand new uniforms for both teams, so now not only are we formidable on the field, but we look the part. The kids are very excited about the uniforms and have been playing better than ever in recent weeks.



Continuation of Some Amazing Programs: Mentoring, Physical education, Dance

We are very excited to report that our Mentoring Program, Physical Education classes and Dance classes have been very successful and popular amongst our students, and they are going to be continued through the 2014 academic year. In our mentoring program, our older students get the chance to be the teachers with the younger students, and then they take their talents to the government schools in the villages, where they teach essential skills to the school children. The Physical Education classes give the kids the chance to unwind, play and exercise with each other in the middle of their strenuous workdays. Twice a week before lunch, they gather and play games at the Woodhouse lead by Becca. On Saturdays, Ariel leads a wildly popular dance class with the students. They study all types of dance, from hip-hop to the Macarena. The students have enjoyed participating in these programs, and we are very happy that they will be continuing. These activities give the TGC students the chance to participate in different types of study and exercise and it's great to see them taking advantage of all these new opportunities.

Outstanding Student Program

Our Grade 9 girls have yet again impressed us with their insatiable hunger for educational success as they prepare themselves for the Outstanding Students Exam this coming March, 2014. In taking this exam, they are competing with more than 50,000 students from 128 schools around the Siem Reap province. We are encouraging our girls to take this highly competitive test because we want them to continue to pursue the top-quality education. We want them to realize that they can compete amongst the best students in Siem Reap with great success. In preparation, our girls are not only studying tirelessly at school and performing very well in their classes, but they are also taking extra classes each day at the 10th of January Government School. We are excited that our Grade 9 girls are not only gaining extra hours of study and extra help from the government school teachers, but they are also broadening their academic experience by studying outside of our school with new friends and new teachers. We are very proud of them and wish the best of luck and success.

Cycling Trip

On December 7th, 2013 the TGC students and staff joined together for a cycling trip. We cycled 14km to the Brasat Chrung, Ankor Thom Area. One route had such beautiful sites to see; the Temples, a waterfall, and the many wonders of Cambodia. At our final destination, we enjoyed a barbecue picnic with hotdogs and sweet potatoes. They were delicious! Some of our students even caught some fish in the lake. It was a very fun day and we all appreciated our wonderful adventures.

Dance-a-thon Coming Soon!

A dance-a-thon is an event in which you see how long you can dance and stay on your feet! It can be used as a fundraiser for admittance or a dance performance. The Global Child will be hosting a dance-a-thon on March 1st, 2014 at 2-5pm in the school's courtyard. The purpose of this event is to teach the TGC students about fundraising. THEY will be preparing for the event and THEY will be teaching expats, volunteers, and locals how to dance. The students will learn how to organize an event and raise money for their school while dancing and having fun! The TGC students will perform what they have learned in their dance classes including Apsara and hip-hop. After their performances, they will teach the audience how to dance. Following their lessons, anyone from the expat community can teach the students how to dance as well. All attendees will donate any amount that they choose. A website will be created to reach out to people from the US or other countries who would like to donate to our school. A computer will also be set up at the school during the event for anyone who

would like to donate through the website instead of using cash. Hope to see you there and get ready to 'dance your heart out'!

Joe to Go's Renovations

Within the past few months, Jo to Go has been undergoing several renovations, such as changing the color of the restaurant, the style of the menu, putting in air conditioning on the second floor, creating a new staircase, and adding an art exhibit. The focus of Joe to Go now gives us the ability to support TGC while enjoying the art exhibit in a wonderful air conditioned environment. Flyers were created, new posters for Remorke (Tuk Tuk) were displayed, and we were also featured in the Phnom Penh Post! The event itself was a huge success. Our new cocktails were served for our many guests (at half price) and everyone enjoyed free appetizers, 30% of the menu, and Savann's art exhibit. In addition to the art exhibit, Mike, one of our TGC Board members played lovely music on his guitar during the event. Marot and Piron, two of our older TGC students, also guest starred- Marot played the guitar while Piron sang for everyone. They were wonderful representatives for our school. This event was an amazing success. Many people attended and everyone had a great time. For all of you Siem Reapers reading this, hope to see you at Joe to Go again soon!



TGC Needs Your Support

We always need your help to keep the school running. A small donation goes a long way. To donate go to www.theglobalchild.org

To send a check by mail to:

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Should you have any questions or would like to discuss ways to help The Global Child, please don't hesitate to contact me at judy@theglobalchild.org. Please join us in the fight to destroy corruption, poverty and the withholding of education in Cambodia. Please remember that *Today's Children are Tomorrow's World*.

Warmest Regards,
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