Gamru Village School

Charity School & Community Growth Society project (Registered Charity No: 182450068)



2nd Annual School Magazine: Student Edition 2012 This magazine was sponsored by local businesses in McLeod Ganj.

This cover was designed by Priya



Sonu and Sameer

in 6th class















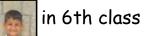


Inside cover designed by Jyoti









Mrs. Meenakshi Sharma - School Principal



A lot has happened in the short time since our last magazine was published in November 2011. 2012 has been an exciting year so far. Although we still face the same challenges concerning funding (the cost of living having increased dramatically this year for everyone), we are still here and have completed this school session successfully. I am therefore very grateful to all our kind sponsors, especially Anna-Marie, Ivon, Rachel and Simon, Michel and Anneke, Jeanine, Philip and Mr. N. D. Kulkarni, without whose help the school would

not exist. There have been many developments, but our biggest achievement this year has been to receive our FCRA certificate, allowing us to receive funds directly from abroad. Thank you to all those who helped us get there, and to Rachel (UK) and Roscoe (U.S.A) for their hard work in helping us connect with foreign donors and receive their donations tax free. I would also like to say a big thank you to Ronnie, who has been working on producing a short documentary to help the school reach a wider audience. Thank you also to Rachel for connecting us to the whole world via our new Facebook pages, for updating the website and for writing a brand new English curriculum for all classes. We have also been extremely lucky to learn something new this term thanks to Fujifilm Poland. Our students were given the opportunity to learn photography skills during their 2 day visit to the school, and thanks to their donation of 30 digital cameras, are now enjoying new extra-curricular activities. It also goes without saying that there have been new donors, visitors and volunteers along the way. Thank you for believing in us, our students and what we do. Your support gives us the strength, determination and opportunity to achieve greater things and all of our students are very appreciative of your help and faith in our school. Thank you everyone. We are always looking for new sponsors. So, why not join us in our journey? I hope you enjoy our magazine! The students certainly enjoyed producing it! My sincere best wishes to all of you.

Hello everyone. My name is Rachel and I'm a sponsor of the school. I have been incredibly fortunate to have spent time in Dharamsala this year and have enjoyed my time with the staff and children at this very special place. I am always blown away by the enthusiasm of the students, their respect and love for the teachers and their commitment to learning. As a teacher, it is an absolute pleasure to come and help them learn and offer them new experiences, especially as they come from poor, disadvantaged backgrounds. Without this school, they would



have no future. I'm very proud of the students in classes 5-8. This year they have learned many new skills involving computers. To see the joy on their faces as they helped create this magazine was a very humbling experience. They have edited their own photos, created the collages and produced much of the work throughout this magazine. All in all they have achieved a lot in 4 months, and I hope they will continue to improve their skills and use them to write about their future experiences.

Finally, a very big 'thank you' to the local businesses who supported the production of this magazine, to help us raise awareness for the school. If you have enjoyed reading this magazine and believe in what is being achieved here, please pass it on or come visit us if you are in the local area. We need your help. These children are special, and just as deserving as anyone else of a chance to do great things in life. Please continue to support their journey and dreams. Thank you to all who have already given so generously. x

Our Mission Statement:

To provide free, high-quality education and care to Indian children who face serious barriers to education and a low standard of living, regardless of caste, creed, sex or disability.

- We provide meals, uniforms, books & stationery and medical care free of charge.
- We encourage full participation of girls in education and full involvement in all activities.
- We provide a feeding program; a nutritious meal, plus breakfast for nursery students.
- We provide a day care centre so older siblings are free to attend school.
- We teach an innovative curriculum including many extra-curricular activities.
- We provide hygiene awareness education and medical help where applicable.

Our hopes for the future

- To purchase land and build a bigger, better, safer school for our students.
- Extend our curriculum to include 9th and 10th standard classes so our students can stay.
- Offer vocational training courses: e.g. carpentry, electrician courses, plumbing.
- Money needed: 45-50 lakh rupees (\$100,000-120,000, £60-000-65,000, €62,000-68,000)

Where do your donations go?

You money provides:

- all books, equipment, materials and stationery for daily lessons.
- food for the daily meal: Rice, dal, vegetables, porridge, potatoes and some fruits.
- all uniform and clothing for the children.
- a small salary for the teachers.
- dental care, First Aid supplies and vitamin supplements.

It also covers the monthly rent of the building, all utilities and maintenance costs as well as affiliation to the Himachal Pradesh Board of Education and all examination fees.

Breakdown of costs:	Rupees	U.S \$	£	€
Everything for school for 1 year	1,200,000	\$21,818	£14,460	€17,780
Rent costs for 1 month	15,000	\$275	£180	€225
All food costs for 1 year	150,000	\$2,800	£1,820	€2,100
All costs for 1 student per year	7,400	\$140	£90	€100
Food costs per student per year	950	\$17.50	£12	€14
All costs for 1 student per month	675	\$12.50	£8.50	€10
Daily cost of running the school	3,500	\$63.50	£43	€52

Our breakdown of costs*

* Based on exchange rates at 31/07/2012

How you can donate

If you are in the Dharamsala / McLeod Ganj area why not come and see us? Our students love visitors and are always happy to show you their work! We are easy to find. We are 10-15 minutes walk from either Lower Dharamsala or the Tibetan Library / Delek Hospital (down Jogiwara Rd)

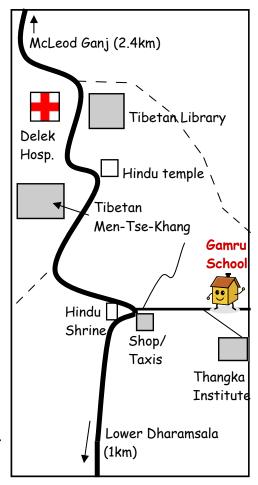
So how can you help?

- You could volunteer your time and expertise.
- Donate materials. We are always grateful for books, arts & crafts materials, stationery, games, toys for the nursery, medical supplies & food (rice & dal especially welcome)
- Make a one-off donation.
- Become a regular sponsor (see details below).
- Sponsor a 9th or 10th standard student.
- Tell others of our school and help spread awareness by • showing them this magazine & sharing our website address.
- Become a friend of the school on Facebook, follow our progress and share our page with your friends.

If you are interested in helping our school please contact the Principal, Mrs. Meenakshi Sharma in the following ways:

By Phone: 0091 9816105554

By Post: Gamru Village School, Gamru Village, P.O Kotwali Bazaar, Dharamsala, Distr. Kangra - 176215, H.P. India. By Email: gamruschool@gmail.com, tashu72004@yahoo.com



For donations within India - You can donate money straight into these 2 bank accounts:

Jammu and Kashmir Bank

Account Name: Community Growth Society Account No: 0354010100000164 ISSC Code: JAKAODSHALA Type of account: General Current account Both banks addresses are: Kotwali Bazaar, Dharamshala - 176215, H.P India

Punjab National Bank

Account Name: Gamru Village School Account No: 0136000100264133 IFSC Code: PUNB0013600 Type of account: Savings account

For international donations:

We have an account with the Dove Trust in the UK, who send us all donations together at the end of the month. This means there are no transfer fees for you.

To donate in £ pounds, Euros and \$ U.S Dollars and other currencies, please click here: http://www.charitygiving.co.uk/gamruvillageschool

UK Taxpayers please tick Gift Aid box so the school receives 25% extra free of charge to you!

For donations straight into our FCRA account please see our website for details. www.gamruschool.com ('support us' page)

Thank You to our Sponsors - November 2011 - July 2012

Our Principal Sponsors

We only exist because of YOU .		
Anna-Marie	Belgium	
Ivon	Belgium	
Michel & Anneke	Belgium	
Jeanine / Meditation Group	Belgium	
Rachel & Simon	U.K	
Phil Adams	U.K	
Mr Roscoe Hill/Denver University	U.S.A	
Mr. N. D. Kulkarni	India	

New Regular Sponsors

John & Anne Cusworth	U.K
Joy & Mithi Bhowmik	U.K
Jason England & Cristina Bertuccio	U.K
Richard & Kate Cobb	U.K
Gwyn & Peter Maude	U.K
Gowri Bhavadas & Raju Joseph	India
Jisha Chandran	India
Prem Chand	India
Vijai Kanojia	India

Sponsors of 9th Standard students (2 years) Mrs. Beena Butail India

MITS. DEEMA BUTAII	Thaia
John & Anne Cusworth	U.K
Alan & Denise Edwards	U.K
Tom Daly	Ireland
Marie & Cedric Savignac	France
Jess Lower	U.K



Other donations received	from:
Nicola Tansley	U.K
The Bear Family	U.S.A
Om Prakash	India
Floriane Clement	France
Amita & Lalit	India
Brendan Jones	Ireland
Sanjeer Mohanty	India
Hari Bhavadas	India
Kunchok Rabgee	U.S.A
Roopa Ramesh	India
Sue Burton	U.K
Mr. Kishori Lal	India
Marie & Cedric Savignac	France
Mosaic & Martin Pike	U.K
Surinder Chaudhary	India
Manju Khadse	India
Sarikha Singh	India
Rajesh Saklani	India
Chloe de la Harpe	S. Africa
Angela	Hong Kong
Nadia Abdoune	India
Mr & Mrs Tandon	India
Rotary Club Dharamsala	India
Innerwheel Club	India
David MacEuchern	Canada
Snow Lion Restaurant	India
Ram Swarup @ Kareri Lodge	India
Dr. Vijay Sharma	India
Mr. Rakesh Sharma	India
Katy Batterham	Australia
Jyoti Awasthy	India
Rajesh Thakur	India
Ashwani Sharma	India
Ghamandi Lal	India
Vimla Devi	India
Norling Restaurant	India
Partap Singh	India
Haus Bormann	India
Sh. Rashan Lal	India
Mukand Lal	India
Mr. Sood	India
Mr. Jamlo @ Tara Café	India
Parbeen @ Aasma Colour Centre	India

GAMRU VILLAGE SCHOOL TEACHERS & STAFF

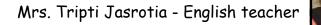


Mrs. Meenakshi Sharma - Principal & Social Sciences teacher

Mrs. Sushma Chaudhary - Deputy Principal & Hindi teacher



Mrs. Rekha Guleria - Maths & Sanskrit teacher





Namrata - Science & Art teacher

Naresh Chaudhary - G.K, Maths & P.E teacher



Nisha Devi - 2nd class teacher & Maths teacher

Mrs. Ranjana Thakur - Nursery teacher



Usha Devi - Assistant nursery teacher



Pawan Kumar - Caretaker



Manju Kumar - Cook

OUR SCHOOL COMMITTEE MEMBERS

Dr. Vijay Sharma Mr. U.M.A Bhagat Mr. Rakesh Sharma Mr. Ashwani Sharma Mr. V.S. Parmar Dr. Kishwar A. Shirali Mr. Rajan Dewan Sh. Kishori Lal Sh. Surender Chaudhary Ms. Daisy Sareen Mr. Navneet Dogra Mr. Wangdue

President Vice President Secretary Convener Adviser Member Member Member Member Member Member Member







SUCCESS!

All of our 8th standard students passed their exams in March. The following are now studying at the local government schools in Dharamsala and are being sponsored individually. Well done to you all! Work hard and make us proud!



Satyam



Abhishek



Rahul



Harbans



Kundan



Daman



Prerna



Kajal



Meenakshi



Shikha



Kundun

OUTSTANDING PERSONAL EFFORT AND COMMITMENT TO STUDIES



Deeksha

At the end of November 2011 our school received some excellent news! The Science & Technology Department of the Central Government in Delhi held a competition called "Inspired Students Award". Students who had worked hard in school the previous year had the chance of winning a personal prize of Rs.5000 as an incentive to keep studying diligently in the future. Teachers from every school were asked to nominate 1 or 2 students for the prize. In Kangra District 734 students won awards. 464 came from private schools, 270 came from government schools and 2 came from an N.G.O - our very own Gamru School! Both of our nominated students were selected; the only 2 students in the local area comprising 15 schools.

Congratulations to Diksha from 9th standard and Kundan from 8th standard. May you both go on to do well and be successful in the next round of the competition!

We are all very proud of you!

This section was produced by Rahul



and Neelam



from 7th class.

Here are some examples of 5th class work, as they learned new computer skills



My name ís Muskan. I love my school. I am 8 years old . I want to be a doctor.

My name is Akhil. I like bananas. I am a boy in 5th class. I love my school.





My name is Bodhram. I'm in 5th class. I like cricket. 9 enjoy Maths.

Who am I ?



My name is Madhuri. I'm eleven years old. I love my school. I want to be a teacher.

<u>This is me</u>

My name is Bharti. I'm in 5th class. I am 10 years old. I enjoy Hindi.

BII



My name is Dinesh. I like red. I am in 5th Class. I am 9 years old





My name is Kuldeep. 9 am 10 years old. 9'm in 5 class. My favourite fruit is apple.





My name is Diksha. I'm in 5th class. I want to be a teacher. I love my school.





My name is Ankita. I like Badminton. My favourite colour is yellow. I love my school.





MY NAME'S AKSHAY. I AN IN 5TH CLASS . I LOVE MY SCHOOL. I ENJOY ENGLISH.



The students would like to share their work with you 8th Class



Kusum











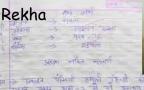


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गार्व असार नहीं है। राष्ट्रति में को सालग रतना नाम्न्य गाँव प्रजी सार्ग्य राग्व संसालग रनगणित करने गा। प्रतारना नन्दरे है।

Santosh



ALL + 3

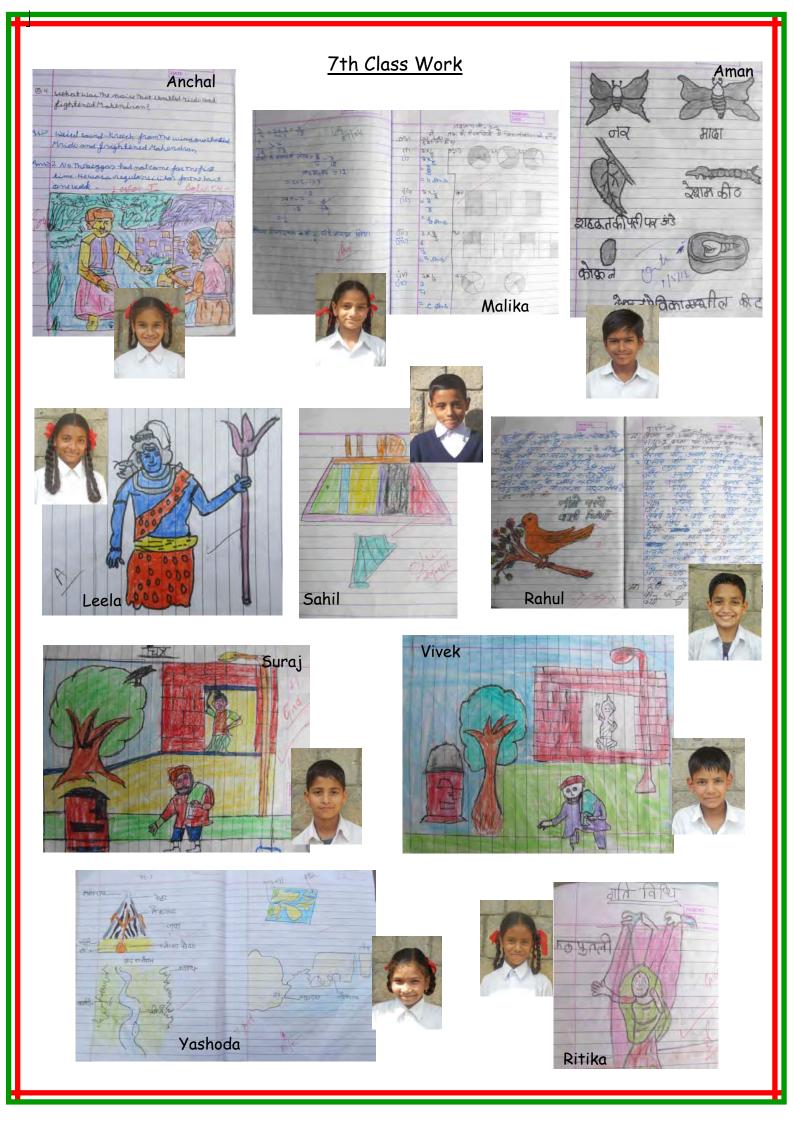
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इसिक्स काले जेपून राजी के पर केंद्रन को के रिका की है कि उद्योग के पर केंद्रन को के रिका की है कि उद्योग के राज राज की जो का राज की राज के राज को की को जाननी से प्रदर्भाषा के राजका है ता राज के राजनी से प्रदर्भाषा के राजका है तो की की राज के राज की राज से नीजा संसदान प्रभोग पास राजिक राजि दूर राजी में सीज जीवने केंद्रन संसद देखा कि जी की उत्तर देखा की के पर चेका है ांगर की मिल נוצו להינשה א מאל אל שמושטות היהו א אליי

Pankaj



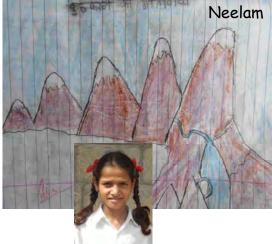


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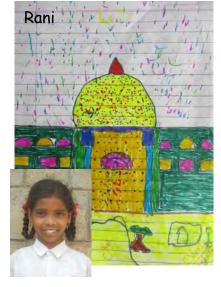






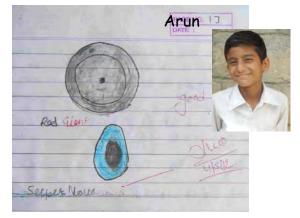
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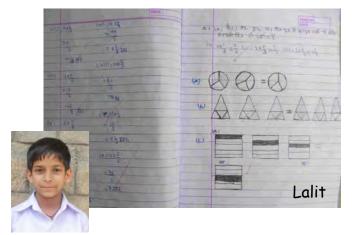
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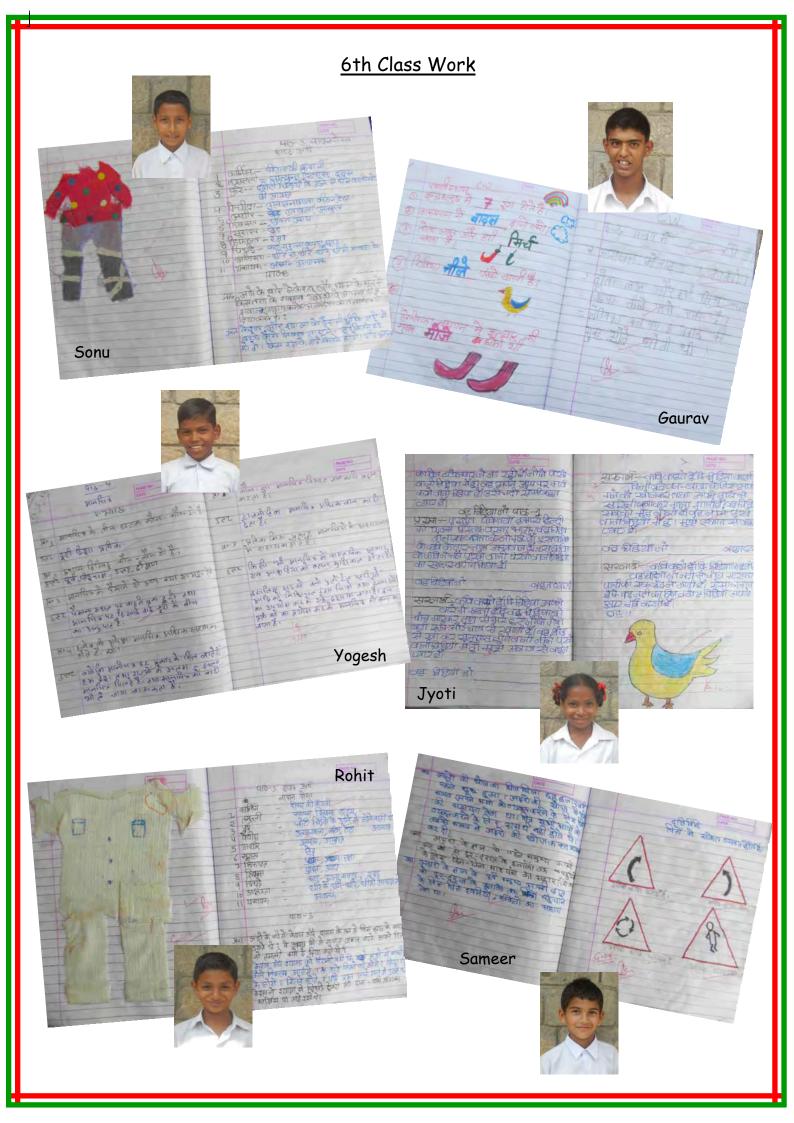






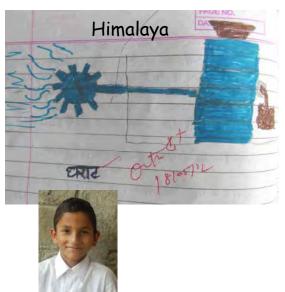












Activity Kuldeep

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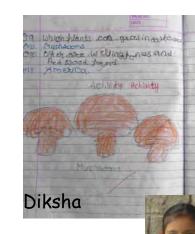
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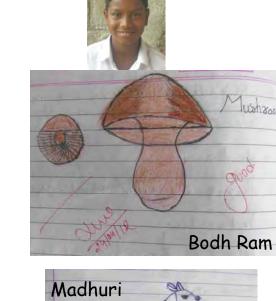
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NOVEMBER 2011

Every year at Diwali time we enjoy making Rangolis. Rangolis are colourful designs made from tikka powder. Traditionally they are drawn outside houses to welcome the goddess Laxmi. This year's designs were stunning. Well done everyone!



This page was produced by Manohar



and Pankaj





NOVEMBER 2011

Our Annual Functions just get better and better! Everyone performed so well and the audience was blown away by the talent at our school. A great, fun day! A lot of hard work, practice and preparation but it's always worth it.



This page was produced by Kiran



and Shiwani



from 7th Class



This page was produced by Priyanka



Kanika

& Rekha



from 8th Class

DECEMBER 2011

We had a lot of fun on Sports Day! There were sprinting events, frog races, sack races and lemon 'n' spoon races as well as games of Koko and Kabbadi.



DECEMBER 2011

On Christmas Eve Rachel and Simon came to school and gave all the students and teachers a present to celebrate. There was also singing and dancing and Harbans from 8th class played Santa for the younger students. It was fun!



This page was produced by Komal



Santosh





from 8th class

FEBRUARY 2012

In February 6th, 7th and 8th class always have a board decoration competition. There are 3 teams and each tries to win with its bold designs. This year everyone did very well don't you think? All teams were winners.



This page was produced by Vivek, from 7th Class



Suraj





FEBRUARY 2012

The end of February is always a sad time for us, as we wish farewell to our 8th Class students before their final exams. They all passed this year and most have gone on to study in the local government schools until 10th standard. Well done and 'Good Luck' to you! We wish you a successful and happy future. Study hard!



This page was produced by Lalit



and Yuvraj

from 7th Class

APRIL 2012

This year's flower arranging competition was very difficult to judge. Everybody did very well and our sponsor Rachel had a tough decision to make. Well done to all our students in classes 3-8. Your work was very impressive this year.



This page was produced by Anchal, from 7th Class



Diksha,









JUNE 2012

This year we were very lucky to be selected by Fujifilm Poland for their project. 28 students were given digital cameras and shown how to use them. They had 2 days to take as many photos as they liked, before they were judged and 3 winners chosen. It was a fantastic experience our students will remember for a long time.



This page was produced by Diksha,





R



from 7th class

And here are some of the results! None of these photos have been enhanced, cropped or changed in any way. They appear exactly as the students took them.

In 1st place - Kiran from 7th class. The Fujifilm photographers said she was a natural photographer with an artistic flair. Great portraits. Well done Kiran!











In 2nd place - Shiwani from 7th class. The photographers were impressed with her composition, framing and use of light. Well done Shiwani!







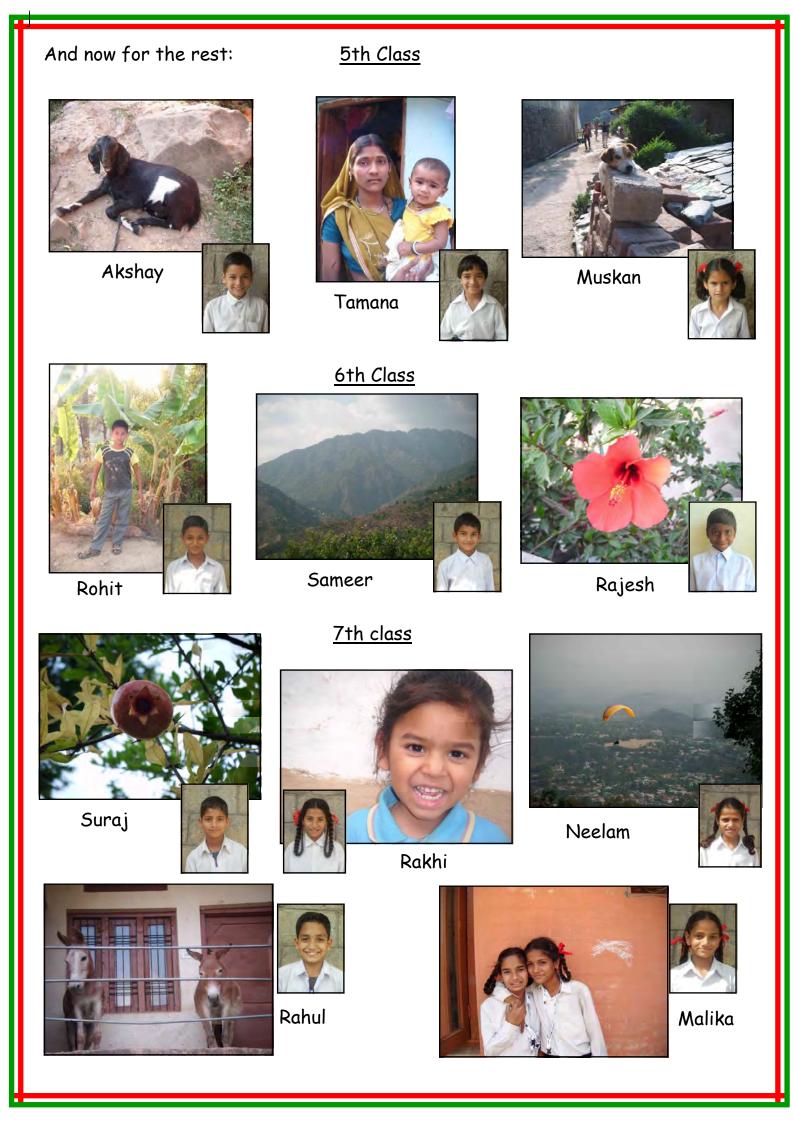
In 3rd place - Sonu from 6th class. The photographers were impressed with his original and different ideas and macro shots of nature. Well done Sonu!













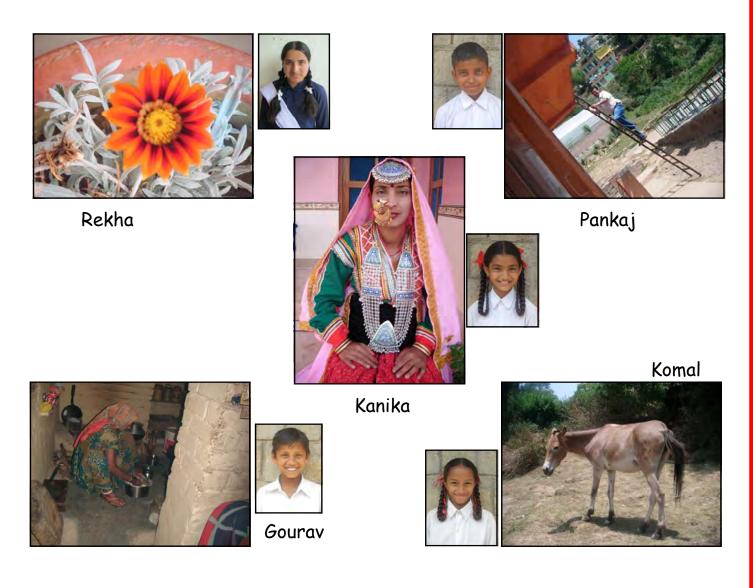
Anchal







<u>8th Class</u>





Priyanka





Kusum





Veeru







Manohar









Kundan

JUNE 2012

This year our 3rd - 8th class students were asked to take a flowerpot home and grow their choice of flower or plant as an environmental project. After 6 weeks Mr. Kishori Lal kindly judged their work and gave them useful advice for next year's competition. We have some future gardeners and florists at our school!



This page was produced by Ritika





& Yashoda



from 7th class

JUNE 2012 - Last day of term

We all enjoyed a picnic up at Dal Lake. The weather was glorious and everybody had a good time. The students happily snapped away all day with their new cameras donated by Fujifilm Poland and these are their best results. Aren't they good?

















































We hope you enjoyed reading about our progress and achievements this year. Please follow us at <u>www.gamruschool.com</u> and <u>www.facebook.com/gamruschool</u>



This page was produced by Suraj



and Gaurav



from 6th Class

'Thank you' to these individuals and local businesses for sponsoring this magazine. Please help support them also if you are in the McLeod Ganj area. Where are they?



