



KEP GARDENS NEWSLETTER



DECEMBER 2024

Hi Everyone,

MERRY CHRISTMAS

Andrew and I hope you have a great Christmas with family and friends.



We began the new school year the second week of January with a record number of students, 440. We had 17 classes plus 2 Khmer language classes. We had 8 teachers, 2 full-time and 6 part-time plus 2 school assistants and Janine, the Principal. We closed our waiting list towards the end of 2023. We had over 300 students on the list but were able to reduce it when new class rolls were prepared in December. We still have 120 odd on the waiting list that remains closed. Of course, we are flexible when asked to help very poor families, and we often are, for a variety of reasons. From 8.00-10.00am, 2.00-5.00pm and 5.15-8.15pm every classroom is utilized as well as the shed where a classroom has been set up in one corner. The place is buzzing with activity and enthusiasm that makes it a great place to work and soak in the atmosphere.

If anyone needs a water bottle, make your own like Mr Huch. A pumpkin scrapped out and allowed to dry. Mr Huch is a very traditional Khmer but he does love his phone as he can play Khmer music all day. Also loves sending photos.



VOLUNTEERS



Anette

Anette works with special needs children in Denmark. She spent 2 months in Kep and was a great help with Playgroup and Kindergarten, training teachers and speaking with parents. Her husband worked with disabled people at a farm in Kep. This couple give up their holiday time from work volunteering in a different country each year learning and absorbing themselves in the culture.



Meier



Yilmaz

Again, we can't thank and praise our volunteers enough. The students gain so much interacting with the volunteers. Next year we will have 3 Project Trust girls living at Kep Gardens for 8 months. Still have room if other people would like to volunteer. If you want the luxuries of life, you can commute from Kep each day. We can easily cater for your needs.

SPORTS DAY

Our sports day has become an annual tradition at Kep Gardens. Lots of puddles for the younger classes but dry for the main day on Sunday.



END-OF-YEAR CONCERT

Another tradition at Kep Gardens is our end-of-year school concert. As usual, a fun night was had by all. Great excitement in the air leading up to the concert as practices intensified for their performances. On the night, impressive performances, handing out of award certificates and this year Father Christmas made an appearance.





So much has happened this year, I think I will post a couple of pages of pictures.



Andrew and I send our love and best wishes for 2025.



Christmas is a time when people may give to charities. If you would like to donate you may use the Kep Gardens account Commonwealth Bank in Australia account no. 065-116 1015 8168.

or

Global Development Group not only provide tax deductible receipts for donations but also provide support for their members in many varied ways.

Use this link to go direct to Global Development Group to ensure a tax deductible receipt for your donation or sponsorship.

<https://globaldevelopmentgroup.org/au/projects/j674n-kep-gardens-community-project/>

Don't forget, tax deductible donations can be paid through GDG Project J674N.







