



Newsletter
October-December
2019

Nuwakot (Betini)
Education Scholarship Program

Dear Kathmandu Kids,

Welcome to our last quarterly Newsletter for 2019! Some of the key highlights include:

- Outstanding 1st term exam results
- Monitoring from our team brings irregular children back to school
- Education material distribution
- More goats!
- Child Clubs in action
- International Children's Day
- Maintaining transparency and accountability through Social Audit



"Where-ever you go, go with all your heart." – Confucius

Dedicated monitoring provides children and families support and motivation

Despite a busy festival season with Dasain and Tihar, our dedicated team successfully visited **93 students' homes** across **24 schools/colleges** across October, November and December.

The visits involve interacting with the children and parents in the school and home and ensuring the children are being protected and supported and there is no risk of them being

separated from their family. The team provides a listening ear and provides guidance to help keep the children regular in school and help overcome any issues they may be facing. They provide encouragement to broaden their development by participating in extra-curricular activities and continue to emphasise the importance of education to the families in breaking the poverty cycle.



Above: Program Manager during home visit of Jay, Shiva and Shanker



Above: Budhumaya with her father



Above: Mahesh with his mother



Above: Aruna and Ashika at their home



Above: Bishal's grandmother



Above: Sadhana with her father

Parent Teacher Meetings and school visits help keep children regular in school

This collaborative gathering gives teachers, guardians and children the opportunity to share any issues they may be facing and receive helpful guidance and counselling in the presence of our team. This quarter the focus was on the children's 1st term exams result and their progress and further sensitising the family about their important role in make the children regular at school.



Above: PTA meeting at Gophubhanjyang School



Above and below: Monitoring visit of scholarship students of Kalyan School



Above: Monitoring visit of students of Mahendra School



Above: Monitoring visit of students of Kamalmanik School



Above: Monitoring visit of students of Sundhara School

Education materials support

It continues to be important to provide a range of support to meet the children's needs, including their basic school needs. This quarter we distributed stationary items, Winter sweaters and trousers and soap. Having these basic items continue to help encourage them to attend school regularly.

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Above: Students of Golphubhanjyang School receiving school materials and soap



Above: Students of Kamalmanik School



Above: Amisha Shahi receiving school materials and soap



Above: Dipisha receiving the SCAI education and hygiene kits



Above: Students of Kalyan School

Child Progress

Outstanding 1st Term Exam Results

147/157 (93.6%) students passed their 1st term exams with **2 Distinctions**, 26 1st Divisions, 78 2nd Divisions and 41 3rd Divisions.
Congratulations to all!



Above: Phurpi with 88% in 1st term exams



Above: Sangita with 80% in 1st term result

Extra-curricular activities through child clubs

Bisaya Guragain from Kalyan SS participated in an essay competition organized by their school child club on International Children Day 2019 and she secured **2nd position**.



Above: Bisaya receiving the 2nd prize in essay competition on International Children's Day

Livelihood Program continuing Savings groups

As well as empowering the children in the scholarship programs, we also place strong importance on **empowering the family**, so gradually they have greater capacity to take over the full care of their children.

Saving groups were formed as the 1st stage of our livelihood intervention in Feb 2019. There are **9 saving groups with 134 members** who meet on a monthly basis to deposit what savings they can, and **issue loans** to some families.

Our team facilitated **27 savings group meetings** this quarter, 3 for each group.



Above: Savings group meeting of Jimnang Savings Group

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Above: Group meeting of Golphubhanjyang Savings Group



Above: Group meeting of Kalyan Savings Group

More goats handed on

This quarter 2 more goats were handed over to the tier 2 families, so they too can now start breeding.



Above: Mother of Khawa Tamang handing over goats to Pritimaya's father

Child Club Activities

Child club members initiating programs to address social issues

At the **Dupcheswor Rural Municipality Fair 2019**, 3 of our child clubs performed street dramas in order to raise awareness about social issues like child marriage, child labor and child violence through street dramas in front of approximately 300,000 people over the 4 days event.



Above: Child club members initiating programs to address social issues



Above and below: Some of the activities of the child club members during the Dupcheswor Fair



Empowering the child clubs through orientation

Change is possible if we continue to strengthen the community-based child/youth clubs, so we continue to sensitize then youth about the problems that are prominent in the community get them to take a degree of leadership and ownership of the issues, so they can help educate others and bring about positive change.

Nepal has one of the highest rates of underage marriage in the world. This quarter we continued to focus on **"Child Marriage"**, including legal provisions of the Nepalese Government, consequences on health and the ongoing cycle of poverty to the next generation. The session ended with an open interaction and all **members taking an oath to not participate in child marriage.**



Above and below: Orienting child club members about child marriage



Above: Youth take an oath to not partake in child marriage

Maintaining Accountability through Social Audit 2018-19

In December 2019 we held our annual social audit where we and our NGO partners shared an overview of the project activities, progress made, financial reports and held open discussion about any challenges the beneficiaries, stakeholders or SCAI/NGO teams are facing and how collaboratively we can further improve our programs and their impact.

The session was facilitated by an independent facilitator with presentations by key stakeholders. Attendees included SCAI, NGO partner, Ward Chairperson, School Management Committee, parents and teachers.



Above and below: Glimpses from the Social Audit



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International Children's Day activities

The United Nations' (UN) Universal Children's Day, which was established in 1954, is celebrated on November 20th each year to promote **international togetherness and awareness among children worldwide.**

This year we organized various activities:

- An **essay writing competition** amongst the students on the topic of '**Importance of Education and Role of Education in Development**' and distributed prize for the winners.
- An interaction session with the child club leaders, where our SCAI Country Manager Raj oriented them about the UN Convention on the Rights of the Child.



Above and below: Glimpses of International Children's Day activities



International Volunteer Day 2019

To appreciate the key committee members from our NGO partners and other key people that have contributed to SCAI's projects, we organized a simple but much appreciated social function where everyone had the opportunity to share their experiences working with SCAI and we gave special thanks through words and certificates of appreciation. The **Deputy Mayor of Shivapuri Rural Municipality also happily attended the event** as Chief Guest.



Above: Our SCAI and NGO team from RUDEC with the Deputy Mayor. Below: Appreciation speeches



We hope you enjoyed reading the highlights from this quarter, and we look forward to bringing you more exciting news in 2020.

Thank you all for your ongoing support which makes it all possible.

Emma, Raj and Mansingh
SCAI Australia/Nepal