



THE GOOD SHEPHERD AGRICULTURAL MISSION
BANBASA, UTTARAKHAND, INDIA

ANNUAL REPORT 2023/2024



DIRECTOR'S DESK

To our dear friends, supporters, and the GSAM family,

As I reflect on this past year, my heart is filled with gratitude for the extraordinary journey we've shared. The Good Shepherd Agricultural Mission continues to thrive, thanks to the unwavering support of our global family—volunteers, donors, staff, and the vibrant children who make this place a home.

The pages of this report tell a story of resilience and growth. Our campus weathered challenges, including significant flooding during the monsoon season, which tested the strength of our infrastructure and community spirit. Yet, amidst these trials, we saw incredible teamwork and perseverance. Children and staff came together to protect what we hold dear, turning obstacles into opportunities for learning and bonding.

One of the highlights of this year has been the steady progress on our ambitious construction projects. The new kindergarten building, "Sam's Garden," is taking shape, thanks to the generosity of the Samartha Saxena Foundation and TURBOCAM. This space, designed with early learners in mind, will be a sanctuary of discovery and creativity for generations to come. Similarly, our new carpentry workshop has already begun transforming lives, providing a safe, professional-grade environment for skill development and practical learning.



Our Maxton Strong School continues to shine as a beacon of opportunity for Banbasa's children. This year, we've made strides toward CBSE accreditation, expanded co-curricular activities, and witnessed our students excel academically and beyond. It is heartening to see how our efforts to make education accessible—through scholarships and quality teaching—are breaking the cycle of poverty for so many families.

This year's celebrations, from Holi and Basant Panchmi to the 10th Annual Summer Games, have brought joy and unity to our community. These moments are not merely events; they are lifelines of hope and happiness for children who often come from challenging backgrounds. Whether flying kites, competing in a scavenger hunt, or cheering on their teammates, our children have grown in confidence, creativity, and camaraderie.

I am especially proud of the strides we've made in self-sufficiency, with our farm delivering positive results despite challenging weather. This farm remains a cornerstone of the Mission, not only providing food for our children but also serving as a model of sustainable agricultural practices for the region. These efforts ensure that GSAM remains resilient and prepared for whatever challenges may come.

Beyond our immediate campus, GSAM's influence continues to ripple outward. Our animal rescue project has safely relocated dozens of creatures back to their natural habitats, and our partnerships with local institutions like Hindustan Scouts and Guides are providing our children with invaluable life skills. Each step we take is a step toward a better future, not just for our children but for the entire Banbasa community.

It has been an absolute pleasure to use my photography skills in creating this newsletter. Capturing the incredible moments and milestones happening here is always a joy, and I am grateful for the opportunity to showcase the beauty and impact of our work through these images. For those who wish to stay even more connected, I encourage you to sign up for our weekly newsletter on our website. Each edition is filled with inspiring stories, updates, and plenty of photos that bring the vibrant life of GSAM directly to your inbox.

As we look to 2024, I am filled with anticipation for the opportunities ahead. We are committed to completing our current construction projects, expanding vocational training programs, and continuing to strengthen our community outreach initiatives. These efforts will deepen our impact and help us create a brighter, more sustainable future for those we serve.

I am humbled by the trust placed in me and our team to lead this incredible work. With every child's laugh, every new skill learned, and every life changed, we are reminded of the profound impact of coming together for a common purpose.

Thank you for being part of this family. Your support is not just a gift—it is a legacy that will inspire and empower countless lives for years to come.

With deep gratitude and hope for the future,



Rev. Clifton S. Shipway
Director

ORGANIZATION STRUCTURE

The Good Shepherd Agricultural Mission (GSAM) is an independent, non-governmental, social development organization that has provided support to those in need since 1952. 'The Mission' works in an array of areas: education, support to lepers, community training & development, as well as disaster relief. However its primary focus is the care and protection of children.

The Mission works hard to provide a loving home for every child in its care; working diligently to promote family relationships and impart a spirit of responsibility in every member of the organization.

REGISTRATION DETAILS:

The GSAM is a non-profit that is registered under the following Acts/Government Offices:

Societies Registration Act

UK0650162021006196

Income Tax Act

Section 12A, 80G, PAN: AAATG3113G

Foreign Contribution Regulation Act (FCRA)

Registration Number: 136620006

Uttarakhand Education Department

Registration Number: 779-53/2015-2018

BOARD OF DIRECTORS:

The following people make up the elected Board of Directors of The Good Shepherd Agricultural Mission as of March 31st, 2024:

Name	Gender	Position	Occupation	Meetings Attended
Clifton Shipway	Male	Director	Photographer	7 / 7
Eugene George	Male	Secretary	Agriculturalist	7 / 7
Paula Karada	Female	Deputy Director	Teacher	6 / 7
Priscilla Shipway	Female	Treasurer	Childcare Worker	7 / 7
Simeon Karada	Male	Member	Teacher	5 / 7
Josie Singh	Female	Member	Agriculturalist	7 / 7
Jack Johnson	Male	Member	Social Worker	7 / 7



THE GOOD SHEPHERD AGRICULTURAL MISSION

Strong Farm, PO Banbasa
Dist. Champawat, Uttarakhand

Balance Sheet as at 31st March 2024

	Sch. No.	March 31, 2024		March 31, 2023
SOURCES OF FUNDS				
Capital Fund			50,343,350.70	49,479,790.88
Add : Excess of Income Over Expenditure			2,807,561.62	863,559.82
			53,150,912.32	50,343,350.70
Secured Loan	10		1,937,925.97	290,258.00
TOTAL			55,088,838.29	50,633,608.70
APPLICATION OF FUNDS				
Fixed Assets		58,171,482.64		
Less- Depreciation for the Year	1	3,643,410.00		
Written down Value			54,528,072.64	48,924,511.72
CURRENT ASSETS , LOANS AND ADVANCES				
Cash and Bank Balances	2	1,921,640.65		2,886,909.98
Loans and Advances	11	1,157,780.00		1,055,183.00
Sundry Debtors	12	19,638.00		
			3,099,058.65	
Less: Current Liabilities & Provisions			57,627,131.29	52,866,604.70
Sundry Creditors	13	1,915,421.00		1,325,479.00
Salary Payable		431,750.00		844,017.00
Audit fees Payable		60,000.00		60,000.00
EPF Payable		103,554.00		-
TDS Payable		27,568.00		3,500.00
			2,538,293.00	2,232,996.00
NET CURRENT ASSETS			560,765.65	1,709,096.98
TOTAL			55,088,838.29	50,633,608.70

Significant Accounting Policies and Notes to Accounts (As per Schedule 'A')

FOR THE GOOD SHEPHERD AGRICULTURAL MISSION

For
The Good Shepherd Agricultural Mission
Clifton Shipway
Director

For
The Good Shepherd Agricultural Mission
Eugene George
Secretary



FOR AKRSS AND ASSOCIATES

Chartered Accountants

Firm Reg. No.016798C

S.Shukla
Partner



(M.No. 411346)

UDIN- 24411346BKADYG3381

DATE : 27.09.2024
PLACE : Banbasa

THE GOOD SHEPHERD AGRICULTURAL MISSION

Strong Farm, PO Banbasa
Dist. Champawat, Uttarakhand

Income and Expenditure Account for the Year Ended March 31, 2024

	Schedule No.	As at March 31 2024	As at March 31 2023
		Amount (Rs)	Amount (Rs)
INCOME			
Agricultural Income		1,306,400.00	616,922.00
Other Income	3	27,795,317.45	27,764,973.49
Total Income		29,101,717.45	28,381,895.49
EXPENDITURE			
Direct Expenditures			
Agricultural Expenses		2,233,537.00	1,982,450.00
Children's Home Expenditure	4	5,127,165.00	6,905,420.13
School Project	5	5,007,805.00	5,133,626.00
Indirect Expenses			
	6	13,925,648.83	13,496,839.54
Total Expenditure		26,294,155.83	27,518,335.67
Excess of Income over Expenditure		2,807,561.62	863,559.82


Significant Accounting Policies and Notes to Accounts (As per Schedule A)

FOR THE GOOD SHEPHERD AGRICULTURAL MISSION


Clifton Shipway
Director

DATE : 27.09.2024
PLACE : Banbasa




Eugene George
Secretary

FOR AKRSS AND ASSOCIATES

Chartered Accountants
Firm Reg. No.016798C


S. Shukla
Partner
(M.No. 411346)
UDIN- 24411346BKADYG3381



THE GOOD SHEPHERD AGRICULTURAL MISSION

Strong Farm, PO Banbasa
Dist. Champawat, Uttarakhand

Schedule (2) cash and Bank Balances	March 31, 2024	March 31, 2023
	Amount (Rs)	Amount (Rs)
Cash FCRA	44,683.00	54,055.00
Cash Domestic	107,619.00	6,941.00
	152,302.00	60,996.00
Bank Accounts		
SBI FCRA 3109	544,991.37	102,762.92
SBI FCRA 1135	605,355.76	319,499.73
BOB FCRA 175	37,588.38	420,367.80
BOB FCRA 188	41,782.36	819,760.70
SBI CA 6345	306,688.07	449,917.43
BOB CA 128	232,932.71	713,605.40
	1,769,338.65	2,825,913.98
TOTAL	1,921,640.65	2,886,909.98

Schedule (10) Loans Liabilities	March 31, 2024	March 31, 2023
	Amount (Rs)	Amount (Rs)
Cholamandalam Investment & Finance Co Ltd	5,951.00	290,258.00
IndusInd Bank Vehicle Loan	1,931,974.97	-
TOTAL	1,937,925.97	290,258.00

Schedule (11) Loans and Advances	March 31, 2024	March 31, 2023
	Amount (Rs)	Amount (Rs)
Ansar Plywood Store	79,197.00	-
Bharti Tent & Light House	3,400.00	-
MHA	867,274.00	867,274.00
Ram Ballabh Pandey (Electrician)	20,000.00	-
Security with Uttarakhand Power Corp	187,909.00	187,909.00
TOTAL	1,157,780.00	1,055,183.00

Schedule (12) Sundry Debtors	March 31, 2024	March 31, 2023
	Amount (Rs)	Amount (Rs)
Sahkari Ganna Samiti	19,638.00	-
TOTAL	19,638.00	-

Schedule (13) Sundry Creditors	March 31, 2024	March 31, 2023
	Amount (Rs)	Amount (Rs)
Amar Ujala Ltd	-	14,999.00
Amit Arya (Amit Enterprises)	-	21,977.00
Amit Srivastava (EPF Advocate)	-	9,000.00
Arun Kumar Singla	-	14,206.00
Akbar Ali	236,000.00	-
Dev Plywood & Glass	18,242.00	2,160.00
Girdhari Lal	924,520.00	790,000.00
Janki Eye Clinic (Khatima)	-	-
Jitendra Prajapati Sand & Gravel	335,466.00	247,380.00
Kamal Medical Store	3,556.00	8,349.00
Kohinoor Battery Service	6,290.00	-
M/S Gurdeep & Company	-	-
M/S Pooja Brothers	51,182.00	-
Modern Footwear	-	-
Nanda Trading Company	-	75,442.00
Prayas Medical Store	3,828.00	13,794.00
Rahul Dev Prajapat (Tile Contractor)	16,380.00	-
Sarnath Autozone	235,074.00	-
Schoolpad Technologies	2,183.00	-
Sher Khan Chicken Center	11,650.00	11,532.00
Sorari Ply & Glass House	-	23,544.00
Sparsh Medical Store	7,708.00	17,153.00
Uniyal Kirana Store	21,342.00	24,438.00
VRD Consultants	42,000.00	42,000.00
Zakir Khan & Company	-	9,505.00
TOTAL	1,915,421.00	1,325,479.00



FOR THE GOOD SHEPHERD AGRICULTURAL MISSION

Clifton Shipway
Director

DATE : 27.09.2024
PLACE : Banbasa

For Eugene George

Eugene George
Secretary

FOR AKRSS AND ASSOCIATES
Chartered Accountants
Firm Reg. No.016798C

S.Shukla
Partner
(M.No. 411346)

UDIN- 24411346BKADYG3381



THE GOOD SHEPHERD AGRICULTURAL MISSION

Strong Farm, PO Banbasa
Dist. Champawat, Uttarakhand

Schedule (3) Other Incomes	As at March 31, 2024	As at March 31, 2023
	Amount (Rs)	Amount (Rs)
School Fees & Miscellaneous	7,540,544.00	7,761,645.00
Domestic Contribution/ Donation	321,180.00	168,500.00
Foreign Contribution/Donation	19,387,003.45	19,834,828.49
EPF Paid By Govt.	546,590.00	-
Total	27,795,317.45	27,764,973.49

Schedule (4) Children's Home	As at March 31, 2024	As at March 31, 2023
	Amount (Rs)	Amount (Rs)
Food & Consumables	959,001.00	1,201,406.13
Children's Clothing & Wearings	108,172.00	253,264.00
Medical & Health Care	414,841.00	525,965.00
Children's Education & Tutions	3,645,151.00	4,924,785.00
Total	5,127,165.00	6,905,420.13

Schedule (5) School Projects	As at March 31, 2024	As at March 31, 2023
	Amount (Rs)	Amount (Rs)
Salary & Wages	4,385,520.00	4,551,229.00
Staff & Workers Welfare	45,450.00	41,875.00
School General Expenses	477,627.00	194,913.00
Software Subscription	99,208.00	97,702.00
Right to Education	-	247,907.00
Total	5,007,805.00	5,133,626.00

Schedule (6) Indirect Expenses	As at March 31, 2024	As at March 31, 2023
	Amount (Rs)	Amount (Rs)
Advertisement	13,340.00	15,783.00
Audit Fees	60,000.00	60,000.00
Bank Fees & Charges	51,470.25	38,261.60
Contribution & Disaster Relief	-	850.00
Depreciation	3,643,410.00	3,681,396.00
EPF Employer Contribution	643,135.00	406,438.00
Festivals & Ceremonies	872,629.14	645,735.31
Interest Paid on Loan	34,611.97	46,784.00
Interest Paid on TDS	-	-
Legal & Professional Fees	446,520.00	486,000.00
Newspapers & Periodicals	20,700.00	28,065.00
Office & Admin	138,820.89	75,153.00
Postage & Couriers	140.00	1,150.00
Printing & Stationary	268,450.00	271,154.00
Salary & Wages	1,345,227.00	1,291,488.00
Staff & Workers Welfare	717,615.00	605,384.00
Telephone & Internet	97,473.00	48,083.50
Travel & Conveyance	351,523.00	267,515.80
Vehicle Insurance	263,795.00	228,546.00
Water & Electricity	1,369,253.00	1,690,085.00
Diesel & Fuel	1,767,879.00	1,709,604.00
Repair & Maintenance of Agricultural Equipment	-	31,414.00
Repair & Maintenance of Buildings & Furnitures	715,883.43	719,566.87
Repair & Maintenance of Computers	140,584.00	201,145.90
Repair & Maintenance of School Projects	21,724.00	174,143.00
Repair & Maintenance of Vehicals & Generators	630,587.00	400,262.00
Miscellaneous Expenses	310,878.15	372,831.56
Total	13,925,648.83	13,496,839.54



FOR THE GOOD SHEPHERD AGRICULTURAL MISSION

For
The Good Shepherd Agricultural Mission

Clifton Shipway
Director

DATE : 27.09.2024
PLACE : Banbasa

For
The Good Shepherd Agricultural Mission

Eugene George
Secretary

FOR AKRSS AND ASSOCIATES

Chartered Accountants
Firm Reg. No.0167980

S.Shukla
Partner
(M.No. 411346)

UDIN- 24411346BKADYG3381

THE GOOD SHEPHERD AGRICULTURAL MISSION

Strong Farm, PO Barbasa
Dist: Champawat, Uttarakhand

Consolidated Schedule "I" of Depreciation for the FY 2023-24

ASSET	PREVIOUS	ADDITION		DELETION	TOTAL	Rate (%)	DEPRECIATION	CURRENT
	WDV as on 1.4.2023 Amount (Rs)	More than 180 days Amount (Rs)	Less than 180 days Amount (Rs)		Amount (Rs)		Amount (Rs)	WDV as on 31.03.2024 Amount (Rs)
BUILDINGS								
Building (Girls Hostel)	2,131,834.00				2,131,834.00	5%	106,592.00	2,025,242.00
Building (Kindergarten) WIP	8,682,647.00	2,097,585.00	3,659,441.69		14,439,673.69	5%	708,050.00	14,439,673.69
Building (School)	14,160,997.00				14,160,997.00	5%	226,575.00	13,452,947.00
Building (Library)	4,531,492.00				4,531,492.00	5%	12,141.00	4,304,917.00
Building (Workshop)	121,408.00				121,408.00	10%	898,938.00	109,267.00
Building (Staff Accommodation)	8,989,380.40				8,989,380.40	10%	8,090,442.40	8,090,442.40
Building (Sewing Center)	56,226.75				56,226.75	10%	5,623.00	50,603.75
Building (Leper Colony)	79,266.00				79,266.00	5%	3,963.00	75,303.00
Building (Dining Room)	1,067,176.00				1,067,176.00	5%	53,359.00	1,013,817.00
Building (Carpentry Shop)	533,060.00				985,060.00	10%	98,506.00	886,554.00
AGRICULTURAL EQUIPMENT								
Hydraulic Tractor Trailer	42,741.00				42,741.00	15%	6,411.00	36,330.00
Fishfarm Tubewell	4,267.00				4,267.00	15%	640.00	3,627.00
Orchard Tubewell	35,332.00				35,332.00	15%	5,300.00	30,032.00
General Agricultural Equipments	38,245.00				38,245.00	15%	5,737.00	32,508.00
GENERAL ASSETS								
Boundary Fence	940,795.00				940,795.00	15%	141,119.00	799,676.00
Live Stocks	760,500.00				760,500.00	0%	-	760,500.00
Furniture & Fixtures	1,229,653.00	15,152.00	55,803.00		1,300,608.00	10%	127,271.00	1,173,337.00
Electrical Fittings	1,236,358.00		17,000.00		1,253,358.00	10%	124,486.00	1,128,872.00
Office & Miscellaneous Equipments	63,931.00				63,931.00	15%	9,590.00	54,341.00
Garbar Gas Tank	16,120.00				16,120.00	15%	2,418.00	13,702.00
Generators	173,523.00	153,400.00			326,923.00	15%	49,038.00	277,885.00
Washing Machine	4,424.00				4,424.00	15%	664.00	3,760.00
Laundry Machine	19,261.00				19,261.00	15%	2,889.00	16,372.00
General Equipments & Machines	1,010,539.97	97,970.00	10,367.23		1,118,877.20	15%	167,054.00	951,823.20
School General Equipments	17,402.00				17,402.00	15%	2,610.00	14,792.00
Musical Equipments	19,535.00				19,535.00	15%	2,930.00	16,605.00
Library Resources	6,215.60				6,215.60	40%	2,486.00	3,729.60
Computers and Tech	627,982.00	140,652.00	254,900.00		1,023,534.00	40%	358,434.00	665,100.00
Solar Power System	2.00				2.00	80%	2.00	-
VEHICLES								
Vehicles	136,564.00				136,564.00	15%	20,485.00	116,079.00
Motor Cycle	21,382.00				21,382.00	15%	3,207.00	18,175.00
Car (UK031A1455) - Bolero Plus	595,850.00				595,850.00	15%	89,378.00	506,472.00
Car (UK03C3057) Suzuki S-Presso	390,810.00				390,810.00	15%	58,622.00	332,188.00
Motor Cycle (DL3SDW5587) 500 cc Bullet	50,575.00				50,575.00	15%	7,586.00	42,989.00
School Bus (UA072661)	70,430.00				70,430.00	15%	10,565.00	59,865.00
Bolero Utility (UK03CA708)	130,863.00				130,863.00	15%	19,629.00	111,234.00
School Bus (UP290382)	100,159.00				100,159.00	15%	15,024.00	85,135.00
School Bus (Ashok Leyland)	736,355.00				736,355.00	15%	110,453.00	625,902.00
School Bus (UK03PA0143)	2,292,700.00		2,292,700.00		2,292,700.00	15%	171,953.00	2,120,747.00
School Van (UK03TA0749)	91,210.00				91,210.00	15%	13,682.00	77,528.00
	48,924,511.72	2,956,759.00	6,290,211.92		58,171,482.64		3,643,410.00	54,528,072.64

Notes:
The Depreciation is calculated as per Written Down Value Method and Rate of depreciations are as per Income Tax Act 1961

FOR THE GOOD SHEPHERD AGRICULTURAL MISSION

Director
Clifton Shipway

Secretary
Eugene George

DATE : 27.09.2024
PLACE : Barbasa

FOR AKRSS AND ASSOCIATES
Chartered Accountants
Firm Reg. No.016/798C

S.Shukla
Partner
(M.No. 411346)

UDIN- 24411346R/KADG3381



THE GOOD SHEPHERD AGRICULTURAL MISSION

Strong Farm, PO Banbasa
Dist. Champawat, Uttarakhand

Receipt & Payment for the Year Ending March 31st 2024

Receipt	Amount	Payment	Amount
Opening Balance			
Bank	2,825,913.98	Agricultural Expenses	2,314,479.00
Cash	60,996.00	Children's Home Expenditure	
Agricultural Income	1,286,762.00	Children's Eduction & Tuition Fees	3,645,151.00
School Fees & Miscellaneous	7,540,544.00	Children's Clothes & Wearing	108,172.00
EPF Paid By Govt.	546,590.00	Food & Consumables	958,883.00
Domestic Contribution/ Donation	321,180.00	Medical & Health Care	439,045.00
Foreign Contribution/Donation	19,387,003.45	Children's Miscellaneous Expenses	310,878.15
IndusInd Bank Vehicle Loan	1,957,626.00	School Project Expenses	
		Salary & Wages	
		School General Expenses	477,627.00
		Software Subscription Fees	99,208.00
		Staff & Workers Welfare (School)	29,974.00
		EpF Employer Contribution	534,874.00
		EpF Charges	44,204.00
		Advertisements	28,339.00
		Audit Fee	54,000.00
		Bank Fees & Charges	51,470.25
		Diesel & Fuel	1,767,879.00
		Festivals and Ceremonies	872,629.14
		Interest Paid on Loan	34,611.97
		Legal & Professional Fees	469,326.00
		Newspaper & Periodicals	20,700.00
		Office & Administration Expenses	138,710.89
		Postage & Couriers	140.00
		Printings & Stationary	268,450.00
		Salary Other	191,361.00
		Salary & Wages (GSAM Staffs)	1,362,140.00
		Salary & Wages (School Staff)	4,559,992.00
		Staff & Workers Welfare (GSAM)	730,216.00
		Telephone & Internet	95,290.00
		Travel & Conveyance	351,523.00
		Vehicle Insurance: General	263,795.00
		Water & Electricity	1,369,253.00
		Repair & Maintenance	
		Repairs & Maintenance of Building & Furnitures	725,225.43
		Repairs & Maintenance of Computers	140,584.00
		Repairs & Maintenance of School	21,724.00
		Repairs & Maintenance of Vehicles & Generators	380,942.00
		Repairs & Maintenance School Vehicles	243,355.00
		Fixed Assets	8,590,864.92
		Payments not taken as Application	
		Repayment of Loan - Cholamandalam	284,307.00
		IndusInd Bank Vehicle Loan	25,651.03
		Closing Balances	
		Bank	1,769,338.65
		Cash	152,302.00
TOTAL	33,926,615.43	TOTAL	33,926,615.43

FOR THE GOOD SHEPHERD AGRICULTURAL MISSION

For
Clifton Shipway
Director

For
Eugene George
Secretary

DATE : 27.09.2024
PLACE : Banbasa

FOR AKRSS AND ASSOCIATES

Chartered Accountants
Firm Reg. No.016798C

S.Shukla
Partner
(M.No. 411346)
UDIN- 24411346BKADGX3381



KINDERGARTEN CONSTRUCTION

Construction of the new 14,000 square-foot kindergarten building, named “Sam’s Garden,” is well underway, bringing us closer to a dedicated space for our youngest students. Designed with the specific needs of early learners in mind, this building will provide a safe and inspiring environment where they can learn, play, and grow. Sam’s Garden will allow us to create a distinct area for our younger students, tailored to their developmental needs and designed to foster curiosity and creativity in a setting all their own.

The spacious facility will include nine classrooms, a large multipurpose room for assemblies and activities, administrative offices, and a secure, separate play area for outdoor learning and recreation. Each element has been planned with care, ensuring that the space is equipped to meet both current needs and future growth. The 14,000 square feet of this building will give young learners room to explore, while offering flexibility in how we organize activities and lessons.

This significant project has been made possible through the support of the Samartha Saxena Foundation and TURBOCAM, whose generosity and vision have been vital in bringing Sam’s Garden to life. In recognition of this invaluable support, we are honored to name the kindergarten building after Samartha Saxena, whose legacy will continue to impact young lives for years to come.

Construction progress has been steady, and with each new phase, excitement grows among staff, students, and the GSAM community. Sam’s Garden will be a place where children embark on their first educational experiences in a nurturing and dedicated space. We look forward to opening its doors soon, knowing it will stand as a welcoming start to our students’ educational journeys, promoting early learning in an environment built especially for them.



FLOODING AT THE MISSION

This year's monsoon season brought heavy rains and significant flooding to Uttarakhand, affecting the Mission and surrounding areas. While our campus drainage is designed to handle substantial rainfall, the intensity of this year's downpour pushed the system to its limits. Water levels rose quickly, inundating some fields and low-lying areas, although the main buildings and dormitories remained safe. Children and staff worked together to keep walkways clear and maintained safety precautions as rain continued. Throughout this period, the children found creative ways to embrace the season, playing rain-soaked games under close supervision. Although challenging, the flood was a reminder of nature's power and demonstrated the resilience of our big family.



BASANT PANCHMI CELEBRATION

Basant Panchmi was a highlight for the children at the Mission, marking the onset of spring with vibrant energy, creativity, and fun. This Indian festival brought the beautiful tradition of kite-making and flying to campus, filling the skies with color and excitement. The children were thrilled to design and create their own kites, experimenting with a variety of colors, patterns, and designs. Once ready, they eagerly gathered on the school fields, where the steady wind made for perfect kite-flying. Laughter and excitement filled the air as kites soared and dipped, with plenty of friendly kite battles taking place. This cherished activity brought everyone together, creating warm memories that truly embodied the joyful spirit of Basant Panchmi.



CRICKET MATCH WITH LOCAL POLICE

The Mission hosted an exciting cricket match with the local police force, bringing friendly competition and community spirit to the field. The children eagerly prepared, practicing their batting and bowling skills in the days leading up to the big event. As the match began, the kids were full of energy, determined to put on a strong performance against their well-trained opponents. Laughter and cheers filled the air as each team celebrated wickets, boundaries, and impressive catches. The police team, equally enthusiastic, shared tips with the kids, creating a supportive atmosphere. In the end, the day wasn't about the score but about building bonds and enjoying a shared love for the game. That said, we did lose - so a rematch is definitely due soon so we can try again!

CHANDRAYAAN-3 LAUNCH

This August, we joined millions across the world watching history unfold as India successfully landed its Chandrayaan-3 mission on the moon's south pole. The children and staff gathered with eager anticipation to witness this proud achievement, sharing in the excitement of the nation's accomplishment. The Chandrayaan-3 mission not only marked India as the fourth country to reach the lunar surface but also as the first to land at the lunar south pole, an area with potential resources for future space missions. The mission's success was a significant moment for India, especially given the modest budget compared to other lunar projects. Watching this event together was inspiring for the children, sparking curiosity about space and science and instilling a sense of national pride.



MICAH AND ESHIKA'S WEDDING

We celebrated the wedding of Micah and Eshika, Eugene's daughter and our first Mission University student. The event spanned multiple days and brought together friends, family, and Mission members for a truly memorable celebration. Festivities kicked off with a lively dinner and dance at the Tharu Village, followed by a mehendi ceremony at Eugene's home, where the girls decorated guests' hands with intricate henna designs. The wedding tent was set up on the school grounds and Clifton officiated the ceremony. Following the ceremony, our kids performed songs, and guests celebrated with a reception featuring cake, music, and a dance party—complete with pyrotechnics. The next day, the couple joined family and friends for a final reception hosted by the groom's family.



ANIMAL RESCUE PROJECT

As part of our ongoing animal rescue efforts, GSAM has safely captured and relocated nearly 40 venomous snakes, a crocodile, and several Indian monitor lizards this year. These rescues take place in the Banbasa community, often near homes or farms, where encounters with wildlife can pose serious risks to people and animals alike. With the support of the Forestry Department, our team carefully captures each animal and transports it deep into the jungle, where it can live safely in its natural habitat. This project not only protects local residents but also preserves wildlife, offering the animals a chance to thrive away from populated areas. It's a meaningful effort that promotes coexistence and safety for both the community and the rescued wildlife.



NEW CARPENTRY SHOP COMPLETED

This year, we celebrated the completion of the new carpentry shop, a significant upgrade from the original 1960s building. The old shop, constructed from mud bricks held together with clay mortar, had become increasingly hazardous. Its cobblestone floor made a rough and uneven surface for our carpenter, Ganesh, to work on, and roof collapses over the years had rendered parts of the building unusable. The dark, damp space even attracted cobras, adding a real danger to an already deteriorating structure, which had long outlived its practicality and safety.

The new shop, by contrast, offers a clean, organized, and safe environment with a smooth, durable floor and ample lighting. Ganesh now has dedicated workstations and secure storage for tools, allowing him to work efficiently on projects essential to campus life—everything from furniture repairs to crafting items that support various Mission needs. The shop's improved layout also means there's enough room for training sessions, where older students can learn foundational carpentry skills that may open doors to future careers. This new workshop is not only an asset for daily Mission operations but also a place where students can gain hands-on learning experiences. By engaging students in practical projects, the carpentry shop reinforces values of self-sufficiency and skill development that will serve them well in adulthood. The presence of a dedicated, professional-grade workspace introduces them to vocational training opportunities that could lead to further education or job prospects, contributing to their independence and confidence.

The new building represents GSAM's commitment to quality, safety, and skill-building for the benefit of the entire community. This milestone wouldn't have been possible without the support of Bruce, whose generosity made the project a reality. We are deeply grateful to him for enabling this essential addition, which will not only benefit Ganesh in his work but will also serve future generations of GSAM students. With this completed shop, we look forward to many creative and practical projects that will support the Mission for years to come.



THE JUNGLE IS ONE OF OUR FAVORITE SPOTS, JUST A SHORT WALK OVER THE RIVER TO REACH A PLACE OUR BIG FAMILY HAS VISITED FOR GENERATIONS. WHETHER WE'RE THERE FOR A PEACEFUL WALK, A PICNIC LUNCH, OR A REFRESHING SWIM, THE JUNGLE NEVER DISAPPOINTS. IT'S THE PERFECT WAY TO SPEND AN AFTERNOON TOGETHER!





OLYMPIC DAY

This year, GSAM kids had the special opportunity to travel to Tanakpur to celebrate Olympic Day with other schools from the region. Organized to promote sports, fitness, and teamwork, Olympic Day encourages young people to embrace an active lifestyle. The GSAM team proudly joined hundreds of students in a rally through the streets of Tanakpur, carrying banners and chanting in celebration of sportsmanship and unity. The rally provided an inspiring experience for the kids, allowing them to connect with peers from other schools and feel the excitement of participating in a large community event. This day not only highlighted the importance of physical fitness but also fostered a sense of camaraderie that extended beyond GSAM's campus (also we got free t-shirts!).



HOLI CELEBRATION

This year's Holi celebration at GSAM was a vibrant, joy-filled day with many visitors joining us throughout the festivities. Among them was our dear friend Dr. Umesh from Khatema, who came with his family, bringing extra warmth and laughter to the event. The children and staff embraced the day with enthusiasm, throwing colors, dancing to festive music, and sharing traditional sweets. Holi is a cherished celebration here, and Dr. Umesh's visit made it even more special, as he has been a valued friend and supporter of the Mission for years. The kids were thrilled to have his family join in, adding to the joy and excitement. By the day's end, everyone was covered in color, sharing laughter and marking another unforgettable Holi—one that strengthened the friendships and sense of community we hold dear.



DANNY THE HAIRDRESSER

In March, we welcomed our friend Danny, a talented hairdresser from Bangalore, who brought both his skills and adventurous spirit to the Mission. Traveling across India in his 4WD, Danny stopped by to give many of our kids fresh haircuts, setting up a makeshift barber's chair outside the Dining Room. Alongside styling tips, he offered practical advice on hair care, sparking interest, especially from Rampal, who was eager to learn.

Danny's visit didn't stop there—he also coached the boys on cricket techniques, sharing tips he personally picked up from legends like Sachin Tendulkar. His generosity extended further as he donated clothing, sports gear, hair products, and even treated the kids to ice cream, making his visit one to remember.

NEW GENERATOR

This year, we acquired a new generator, bringing reliable backup power to essential systems across campus. The new 15KVA unit replaces our older 5KVA generator, which often needed repairs, and is powerful enough to support key operations, like running the water pump, and workshop tools etc during frequent power outages.

Installing the generator near the front gate was no easy feat, requiring a crane, a tractor, and a team effort. Sunny and others carefully guided it into place, ensuring it was safely housed and ready for action. Now, with this dependable backup, we can maintain vital functions without interruption, even during outages, adding much-needed security and efficiency to the GSAM's power supply.



BOYS BATHROOM RENOVATION

We recently completed a much-needed renovation of the Small Boys' Bathroom, which took over three months. The bathroom, previously renovated in 2011, had issues with drainage, broken tiles, and plumbing that made daily use challenging. The old entrance led directly into the bedroom, allowing odors and limiting ventilation, so the entrance was moved to the open-air courtyard, improving airflow.

The renovation included new plumbing, tiling, and windows, allowing more natural light and privacy. With fresh paint, durable fixtures, and proper cubicles, the bathroom is now cleaner and more comfortable. Thanks to support from our friend Eryka, this project has greatly improved living conditions for the boys.



PAINTING OF THE POOL

With summer approaching, our team took on the task of refreshing the pool area, which had become grimy over the last few years; monsoon rains being the leading force behind the deterioration. Armed with 40 wire brushes, brooms and scrapers, our kids, staff, and volunteers spent the day scrubbing down the concrete walls, making it a fun, "all hands on deck" effort. The following day the team was back to paint the pool wall with a cost-effective local paint called "samosam," mixed with water and glue. This affordable option, costing just \$36 for 100kg, gave the pool a vibrant new look. The kids then painted a few murals on the walls - just for fun. The fresh coat of paint has brightened up the space, transforming the pool into a welcoming spot for the kids to enjoy all summer long.



EASTER EGG HUNT

This year's Easter Sunday at the Mission featured our much-loved annual Easter Egg Hunt, bringing joy and excitement to kids and staff alike. In the morning, everyone gathered to paint boiled eggs in vibrant colors, as chocolate eggs (if they were even available) would melt in the hot climate. The children's creativity shone as they added bright designs to each egg, preparing for the big hunt. Once decorated, the older boys helped hide the eggs across the school campus, finding creative spots to challenge the younger kids. The hunt began with the youngest children eagerly sprinting through the mango orchard and garden to find hidden treasures. Afterward, everyone enjoyed ice cream as a refreshing end to the festivities, making this Easter another cherished memory for all.







THIS YEAR WE CELEBRATED OUR 10TH ANNUAL SUMMER GAMES! THE GAMES BRING MONTH-LONG EXCITEMENT AND TEAMWORK TO THE SUMMER HOLIDAYS, CHALLENGING KIDS IN FRIENDLY COMPETITIONS THAT BUILD CONFIDENCE AND RESILIENCE. EACH TEAM'S UNIQUE COLORS AND BANNERS CREATE A VIBRANT ATMOSPHERE AS THE CHILDREN COMPETE, SUPPORT EACH OTHER, AND SHARE IN THE JOY OF THE GAMES.

SUMMER GAMES 10.0

The 10th annual Summer Games at GSAM were a remarkable milestone this year, as each team proudly donned their new uniforms – matching shorts and shirts – in team colors and with team logos. This special addition underscored the sense of unity and excitement that has grown over a decade of Summer Games. Designed to help the children build confidence and self-esteem, these games also introduce our kids to new experiences and challenges, making each day memorable and engaging.

Throughout the summer, the games provided an active way to fill the holiday months with meaningful, character-building fun. Kids participated in a variety of events, from the Blindfolded Maze Challenge to the fun and competitive Balloon Pop Elimination, each event emphasizing teamwork and resilience. One of the favorite activities, the Ten Rupee Meal, tested dexterity and patience, as children attempted to stack coins using chopsticks—leading to laughter and triumph as they improved with each attempt.

The focus on teamwork was evident in events like Tug-of-War and the daily effort to capture other teams shields to steal points, where groups relied on each other's strengths, forming bonds that went beyond the competition. These team-based games helped children develop trust and teamwork skills that are critical both on and off the field. Every team, regardless of who won or lost, celebrated their shared efforts and cheered each other on, creating a supportive and uplifting atmosphere.

By turning the school holidays into a time of adventure and activity, the Summer Games gave the kids an outlet for energy, focus, and growth. As they marched under their banners and cheered for each other, they were creating memories they will cherish for years, memories that are filled with laughter, camaraderie, and the simple joy of a summer well spent with good friends doing amazing things.



TEAM SHIELDS

Team Shields are a central feature in the Summer Games, adding strategy and excitement to the event. Each team is given a wooden shield at the start of the Games, and their objective is not only to protect their own shield but to steal those of other teams. Every shield successfully captured deducts points from the opposing team's score and adds it to your own, making it a high-stakes target throughout the Games. This dynamic encourages kids to practice both vigilance and teamwork, as they must work together to guard their shield at all times, whether during games or downtime. Bringing their team shields to the daily events is a requirement and the constant responsibility of keeping the shield safe helps the kids learn about accountability, tactics, and collaboration.



MEDALLION OF POWER

The Medallion of Power is a coveted feature of the Games, offering teams a chance to boost their scores and gain strategic advantages. Each day, clues are hidden around campus, leading teams on a treasure hunt to locate the medallion (a small wooden disk on a lanyard). Sometimes, finding it requires deciphering riddles or even securing a hidden key, adding an exciting layer of challenge. Teams that find the medallion earn extra points or even an advantage in the next challenge, making it a game-changer in close competitions. This daily hunt keeps kids engaged, building problem-solving and teamwork skills as they race to interpret clues. Winning teams experience a morale boost, making the medallion one of the most anticipated parts of the Games.



TEAM BANNERS

Team Banners add excitement and unity to the Games, a bit like the banners carried by Roman soldiers to rally their troops! Each team designs a unique banner, decorating it with colors and symbols that proudly represent their group. These banners aren't just for show; they play an important role throughout the Games, marking team areas, tables, and workspaces.

Every morning, teams bring their banners to the Games, with points awarded for punctuality and proper care of their banner. If a banner falls to the ground, the team can lose valuable points, encouraging everyone to handle them with care. Team Banners inspire creativity, pride, and a sense of responsibility, reinforcing team spirit throughout the Games.

CATCH AND COOK

The “Catch and Cook” event during this year’s Summer Games was an exciting challenge that combined outdoor skills with cooking creativity. Kids took to the campus fishpond, armed with simple gear like nets and hooks, and captured an impressive haul of 436 fish—some weighing over 2 kg! The task was designed not only to hone their fishing skills but to teach the kids about food preparation and teamwork. After catching the fish, each team cleaned and prepared their catch, putting their culinary talents to the test. Each team was provided a budget of \$20 to buy additional ingredients, and there were strict rules: no outside help, and everything had to be cooked over a wood fire. The teams went above and beyond, creating elaborate three-course meals complete with side dishes and desserts



SCAVENGER HUNT

The Scavenger Hunt holds a special place in the Games, as it was the very first event in GSAM’s very first Summer Games ten years ago. Since then, it’s remained a beloved tradition, always kicking off the month of competitions. This year’s hunt was as lively as ever, with kids eagerly racing to gather items from a list that included everyday objects, unique finds like yellow flowers, and even silly items like “the hairiest non-living thing” or “something precious of no value”. The scavenger hunt combines strategy and fun, as teams split up to find as many items as quickly as possible. It’s the perfect way to launch the Games, bringing out enthusiasm, creativity, and teamwork from the very first day, creating lasting memories that set the tone for the rest of the month.



A MINUTE TO WIN IT

This year's Summer Games brought a series of "Minute to Win It" challenges, adding quick bursts of excitement between longer competitions. Kids competed in the Cookie Face challenge, trying to maneuver a cookie from their forehead to their mouth without using hands, sparking laughter and determination. The Dice Stacker and Dice-A-Pault required coordination and patience, especially under the pressure of the ticking clock. Each challenge lasted just sixty seconds, but they made every second count. These games provided a fun breather, emphasizing that everyone's efforts mattered while giving kids a confidence boost as they met each quick task head-on. By the end, the Minute to Win It events became a favorite part of the Summer Games.



KICKBALL TOURNAMENT

This summer, GSAM kids eagerly joined the Kickball Tournament, a thrilling addition to the Games that brought out everyone's competitive spirit.

Kickball is an old favorite - returning for perhaps the 10th year in a row. Combining elements of soccer and baseball, kickball challenged both skill and strategy as teams aimed for quick runs and fielding. The kids' quick thinking and teamwork shone during close plays, especially in the final match, where each team fought for the win. Loud cheers filled the field as teams showed off their best kicks, catches, and sprints. Kickball added an exciting and familiar flavor to the Summer Games, allowing players to test their agility and strength while building friendships and confidence with every match.



PIRATE DAY ADVENTURE

One of the most anticipated events this summer was Pirate Day, when the campus transformed into a lively treasure island! Kids dressed up as “pirates” with team colors and banners, adding a fun twist to their Summer Games team spirit.

Teams embarked on a treasure hunt, scouring the campus for hidden clues that led to the “treasure” chest, challenging their problem-solving skills and teamwork. Along the way, pirate costumes, maps, and lively games turned this event into an adventure of discovery and camaraderie. Pirate Day gave everyone a chance to work creatively with their teammates, ending with a great treasure find that rewarded the collaborative efforts of the winning team.



TRIP TO THE MOUNTAINS

During this year’s Summer Games, GSAM kids and staff took an exciting mountain trip to Sattal, the “Land of Seven Lakes.” The group stayed on a spacious property, giving the kids freedom to explore, play games, and collect pinecones. Each day, they took turns in the kitchen, learning teamwork while preparing meals. Evening storytime with Uncle John became a cherished tradition, and daytime activities included a lively game of Mafia.

The trip’s highlight was a visit to the nearby lakes, where kids eagerly rented kayaks and zipped across the water, turning kayak tipping into a favorite game. The mountain trip gave everyone a refreshing break, building friendships and unforgettable memories.



FUN CITY WATER PARK

A special highlight of this year's Summer Games was the trip to FunCity Water Park, giving everyone a well-deserved break from competition and a chance to cool off and have some serious fun! After days of games and events, the kids and staff enjoyed a day of water slides, splash zones, and wave pools. The park's lively atmosphere and refreshing water activities helped everyone unwind, creating an unforgettable experience of pure joy. The water park trip wasn't just a day of fun; it was a chance for kids and staff alike to relax together, leaving behind their routines and just enjoying life as a big family. Everyone returned to GSAM exhausted with sun-soaked memories, ready to wrap up the Summer Games with fresh energy and big smiles.



FINAL SHOWDOWN

The Summer Games wrapped up with an epic final obstacle course, set against the backdrop of monsoon rains that added a thrilling twist to each challenge. Kids scrambled through tires, completed bottle flips, and braved the infamous "Net of Death," where teams bombarded each other with water balloons. Emerging from the net, participants paused for a quick drink of Kool-Aid before pressing on. The challenge intensified as kids hunted for "Medallions of Power" worth extra points, raced through monkey bars, and solved puzzles. With all 24 pieces, each team solved a riddle to find the key to victory. As darkness fell, Team Crocodile emerged victorious, sparking a final celebration in the rain, filled with shared stories and laughs.



MAXTON STRONG SCHOOL

Our School, the Maxton Strong School, is dedicated to uplifting the local population of Banbasa by providing high-quality English education to children who might not otherwise have access to it. With around 700 students currently enrolled, we strive to offer an inclusive, supportive learning environment. Approximately 30 of these students come from our Mission's hostels, bringing with them a high proficiency in English that enriches the classroom experience for all students. Their presence not only benefits their own education but also fosters peer-to-peer learning among local students.

Our School offers heavily discounted fees to make quality education accessible to the community, with almost half of our students benefiting from full or partial scholarships. These scholarships are provided to children from low socio-economic backgrounds or those facing difficulties or disabilities. Fees collected are crucial in supporting teacher salaries, maintenance, and ongoing development of our facilities. Our commitment to affordable education ensures that even the most underserved families can give their children the gift of a strong academic foundation.

Currently, we operate classes up to Grade 8 under the Uttarakhand State Board. However, we have ambitious plans to secure CBSE registration in the coming years up to Grade 12, which will further enhance our curriculum and make the School even more appealing to parents seeking comprehensive education for their children. This transition, while costly, is a high priority for us as we look toward the future growth of our institution.

Spanning over five acres, our campus includes well-maintained classrooms, a library/computer lab, playgrounds, and expansive sports fields. A new kindergarten building is also under construction, which will expand our offerings for younger students. Our recently completed library and computer lab, the Samartha Saxena Memorial Learning Resource Center, is a rich resource for our school community with 40 computers, almost 10,000 books and hundreds of magazines. Our students excel not only academically but also in co-curricular activities, particularly kabaddi, soccer, and chess. The School has proudly produced graduates who have gone on to top universities across India and even pursued studies and careers abroad.

Our dedicated team of trained teachers places a strong emphasis on professional development, ensuring they bring the best teaching practices to the classroom. By investing in both our teachers and our students, the School remains committed to its mission of transforming lives and building a brighter future for the Banbasa community.





INDEPENDENCE DAY

This year, our School marked India's Independence Day with great enthusiasm. Celebrations began with a flag-hoisting ceremony, followed by the singing of the national anthem. Our students proudly showcased their talents through a series of cultural performances, including traditional dances and skits highlighting the country's rich history. The event emphasized the importance of unity and freedom, reminding everyone of the sacrifices made by countless freedom fighters. The day concluded with a heartfelt speech by our Chairman, inspiring everyone to cherish the values of freedom, equality, and integrity in their daily lives. It was a day filled with pride, learning, and joy and we are proud of the way all of our staff and students participated in the days events.



REPUBLIC DAY

On Republic Day, our School celebrated the spirit of the Indian Constitution with a blend of patriotism and pride. The day began with the tricolor flag being unfurled and hoisted amidst cheers, followed by a speech reflecting on the significance of the Constitution and the rights it guarantees. Students participated in a colorful parade, proudly displaying their house flags, symbolizing unity and diversity. An inspiring skit depicting India's journey to becoming a republic was performed by our senior students, leaving the audience both educated and moved. The event ended with the distribution of sweets and certificates to participants, leaving everyone inspired to uphold the values of democracy, justice, and equality.



EARTH DAY AT THE SCHOOL

To celebrate Earth Day, our School organized a series of activities aimed at raising environmental awareness among students. The day kicked off with a special assembly discussing the importance of protecting our planet. Students enthusiastically participated in a campus-wide clean-up drive, collecting plastic waste and planting saplings around the school grounds. In addition, each class created art projects and posters emphasizing eco-friendly practices and the need to conserve resources. The event concluded with a quiz focused on environmental conservation, where students demonstrated their growing knowledge about sustainability. This Earth Day was a meaningful reminder for all of us to commit to a greener, more sustainable future.



ANNUAL TEACHER ASSESSMENTS

This year, the School conducted its Annual Teacher Assessments with a focus on continuous improvement and professional development. Teachers were evaluated on classroom performance, student engagement, and lesson planning through a mix of classroom observations, student feedback, and self-reflections. Following the evaluations, individual meetings were held with each educator to discuss strengths and areas for growth. Personalized strategies were provided to enhance teaching effectiveness. These assessments offered valuable insights while fostering an atmosphere of collaboration and growth among the staff. This initiative is part of our commitment to maintaining high educational standards, ensuring that every student receives the best possible learning experience.



MOTHERS DAY

Mothers from the School were invited for a special day filled with games, activities, treats, and snacks. The event was designed to promote community among our students' families. The day was packed with fun, featuring interactive games that had everyone laughing and enjoying themselves. The highlight of the celebration was a pool party where the mothers got to relax and unwind in our swimming pool. It was a joyful day that strengthened the bond between families and the School, leaving everyone with wonderful memories and a deep sense of connection. The event truly showcased the spirit of love and appreciation for the incredible mothers in our community. We hope this special day left the mothers feeling appreciated and deeply connected to the School family.



KINDERGARTEN GRADUATION

This year Maxton Strong School's special Kindergarten Graduation was a heartwarming celebration of our youngest learners as they took their first step into formal education. The event was filled with proud smiles from parents and teachers alike as the children performed songs, dances, and recited poems they had learned throughout the year. Each student walked across the stage to receive their certificates, marking the end of their early childhood journey and the beginning of a new chapter. The ceremony highlighted not just academic progress but also the confidence and social skills they developed. It was a joyous occasion, filled with laughter, cheers, and fond memories that will stay with the children for years to come.



SCOUTING ADVENTURE

This year, our students had the exciting opportunity to join a Scouting program in collaboration with Hindustan Scouts and Guides. The students practiced setting up tents, honing their outdoor skills, even though they didn't camp overnight. They also worked on tying various knots, an essential scouting skill, while learning about the core values of discipline, teamwork, and responsibility. The activities emphasized the importance of service and leadership, encouraging students to step up as confident and capable individuals. The hands-on experience left the children eager for more, building both their practical skills and character in a fun, supportive environment. It was a rewarding initiative that brought new learning opportunities to our students.



SCHOOL PICNIC IN THE JUNGLE

This year, our School organized a special jungle picnic for students from Grades 5 and 8, creating a day full of adventure and fun. The children eagerly boarded buses and set off to a nearby forest, ready for a day away from the classroom. Activities included rock-cairn building along the riverbed, games like cricket, kabaddi, and kho-kho, as well as dancing and nature walks. The scenic surroundings provided the perfect backdrop for students to explore and connect with nature. Eugene and the staff prepared a delicious lunch, complemented by pre-meal treats and even a birthday cake for one lucky student. The day concluded with everyone returning home, tired but full of joy after bonding with classmates and teachers in the great outdoors.



SCHOOL SWIMMING LESSONS

With the summer heat in full swing, our School has reopened its pool, much to the delight of the students. This season, swimming lessons have been in full flow, focusing not only on fun but also on essential water safety skills. Led by Avinash Sir, the lessons include mastering basic strokes like freestyle and backstroke, with students from all age groups participating enthusiastically. The pool is divided into sections based on depth, ensuring safety for beginners while allowing more confident swimmers to practice advanced techniques. The lessons have been a great way for the kids to cool off, overcome their initial fears, and build confidence in the water. It's been an enriching experience, blending exercise with enjoyment.

TEACHERS DAY

This year, Teachers Day was celebrated with a special program organized entirely by our students. The day was filled with heartfelt performances, including songs, dances, and speeches, showing appreciation for the dedication of our teachers. Some senior students, like Kevin and Ajay, even stepped in as “teachers for the day,” managing classes and adding to the fun atmosphere. After the program, the students were sent home early, while the staff gathered for a delicious lunch prepared by Eugene. Clifton handed out gifts to all the teachers, expressing gratitude for their hard work and commitment. The highlight was a surprise quiz game that brought laughter and friendly competition among the staff. It was a day filled with joy and appreciation, making every teacher feel special.



SCHOOL POTLUCK

Our end-of-year Potluck Lunch was a delightful event that brought the entire School together in celebration. Students were encouraged to bring dishes from home, resulting in a delicious spread of Indian, Western, and Chinese cuisines, along with an array of desserts and snacks. The excitement was palpable as students shared their homemade meals with classmates, creating a joyful atmosphere of togetherness. Teachers managed the event seamlessly, ensuring everyone had their fill of the diverse offerings. The Potluck provided not only a feast for the stomach but also an opportunity to build stronger connections among the School community. It was a perfect way to close out the year, leaving everyone eagerly anticipating the next gathering.



NATIONAL SPORTS DAY

This year, our annual School Sports Day was a grand two-day event, packed with energy, excitement, and friendly competition. The students participated in a wide range of activities, including traditional track and field events such as running races, shot put, and high jump. Younger students brought laughter to the grounds with sack races and the classic egg-and-spoon race—using lemons to avoid waste! A special highlight was the kabaddi matches, where students showcased their agility and strategy, earning enthusiastic cheers from their classmates. The event concluded with an award ceremony, where winners were celebrated not just for their achievements but also for their sportsmanship and teamwork. It was a day that embodied the spirit of competition and camaraderie.



ANNUAL SCHOOL CHRISTMAS PROGRAM

This year's Annual School Christmas Program was a spectacular event filled with joy, music, and community spirit. Preparations began weeks in advance, with students practicing diligently to perfect their performances. Invitations were sent out to parents, friends, and members of the local community, and the event drew an enthusiastic crowd of almost two thousand attendees.

The program featured a diverse lineup of 25 performances, with nearly 300 students from all grades participating. The evening kicked off with a vibrant opening dance by our youngest students, setting a festive tone for the night. A touching highlight was the Nativity play, where students beautifully portrayed the story of Jesus' birth, bringing a sense of warmth and reflection to the celebration. The audience was captivated as they watched the story unfold, complete with traditional costumes and heartfelt acting.

In addition to the Nativity play, there were several group dances, choir performances, and skits that showcased the students' creativity and hard work. The senior students impressed everyone with a dramatic play that carried a powerful message of hope and kindness, resonating with the true spirit of Christmas. Jack, serving as the anchor, kept the audience engaged with his lively commentary and quick wit, ensuring there was never a dull moment.

The highlight of the evening came when Santa Claus made a surprise appearance, delighting the children with sweets and gifts. The event concluded with a joyful dance party under twinkling fairy lights, where students, teachers, and parents joined together in celebration. The night was not just a display of talent but also a reflection of the unity and community spirit that defines our School. As the evening came to a close, everyone left with smiles, happy hearts, and cherished memories to carry into the new year.







HOW YOU CAN GET INVOLVED..



VOLUNTEER | www.indianorphanage.com/volunteer

Our Volunteer Program is now open for applicants! Whether your talents lie in teaching, farming, construction, or mentorship, your skills can make a tangible difference. From helping in our classrooms to working on the farm or running workshops, we have a variety of roles available that could match your expertise.



FUNDRAISING | www.globalgiving.org/projects/indianorphanage

Become a champion for our cause by organizing a fundraising initiative! Whether it's raising awareness for one of our larger projects like the Kindergarten, or supporting our ongoing education programs, your efforts can help ensure that the Mission continues to thrive. Let us know how you'd like to help, and we can provide you with resources and ideas.



DONATE | www.globalgiving.org/projects/indianorphanage

While we strive to be self-sufficient, we rely on donations to fund major projects and ensure the sustainability of our programs. A one-time gift or monthly donation at any level can go a long way in transforming lives. We're committed to full transparency, so you can trust your contributions are used effectively.



SPONSOR | www.globalgiving.org/projects/indianorphanage

Every child at our Mission is sponsored, but we're always in need of sponsors for other crucial needs—such as providing monthly meals, maintaining our facilities, or helping cover tuition fees for our older students. Your support helps ensure that these children receive the care and opportunities they deserve.



SUBSCRIBE | www.indianorphanage.com/subscribe

Stay updated on the latest news from the Mission by signing up for our weekly newsletter. With beautiful photos and inspiring stories, it's a great way to follow along with what's happening on the ground. You can also follow us on social media for more regular updates!



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10TH SUMMER GAMES

The Good Shepherd Agricultural Mission
Strong Farm, PO Banbasa
Dist. Champawat
Uttarakhand, INDIA, 262310

www.IndianOrphanage.com