



The Kaghan Flame

A Quarterly Newsletter of The Kaghan Memorial Trust

Winter 2010 (October-December)

KMS School Uniforms Selected

Most of the population of the Kaghan Valley lives at basic subsistence levels, which means that children in these communities generally have to confront the extreme winters with the few ragged clothes they own and with whatever footwear they can find.

As lack of adequate protection against the harsh mountain climates affect the health, and consequently the studies of children, KMT has decided to introduce uniforms at the Kaghan Memorial School to provide its students with suitable clothing. These uniforms will protect the children to a considerable extent against weather changes, thereby reducing their susceptibility to common health problems such as colds, flus, fevers, chest infections etc. Another purpose of these uniforms, coupled with the health and hygiene education provided by the teachers in the classrooms, is to help introduce basic concepts of cleanliness and hygiene amongst the students.



The uniform programme was originally conceived in the 2009 Academic year, but due to shortage of funds that year, uniforms were given to the girls only, whereas winter warmers were issued to all children. The warmers included long sleeve and short

sleeve jumpers, thermal tops and bottoms, socks, gloves and hats. These went a long way towards protecting the children from the cold during the winter months. The girls' uniforms that were tailor made that year, however, proved to be complicated in design and not as practical as desired.

KMT started the process of selecting and purchasing winter warmers for the winter of 2010/2011 during October, surveying different markets for rates and selecting the most suitable materials. In November, the students were again issued their warmers that included the same items as those handed out during the previous year, but in better quality. These have again had a big positive impact on the comfort of the children, both within the classroom and also outside.

Furthermore, based on experiences gained during the previous year's exercise with the girls uniforms, the KMT Head Office team also started, in September, redesigning and selecting more practical and suitable uniforms for both boys and girls this second time around. The materials were chosen based on their durability, warmth and comfort, and various design samples were produced in conformity with local sensibilities while keeping aesthetics in mind. After considering different options and having various samples made by local tailors, the final designs for the girls' and boys' uniforms were finalised in December.

The uniforms shall be ordered in different standard sizes prior to the start of the new academic year in March 2011 and the 280-odd students enrolled in KMS for the year will each receive their sets within the first few weeks following the re-opening of the School.

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The Managing Trustee's Quarterly Overview

Dear Friends and Supporters of KMT,

The end of the 2010 calendar year coincided with the conclusion of another academic year at the Kaghan Memorial School (KMS). Once again, this year can be termed a success for the School as the broad academic goals have been met and the children are ready to graduate to their next grades in 2011. To summarize, some of the highlights during the past 12 months included:



- ◆ The successful enrollment of the required number of boys and girls in the School to fill the available seats;
- ◆ The successful organisation of several fundraising events;
- ◆ The strengthening of the teaching team at the School;
- ◆ The approval of a substantial grant for KMT from UNICEF;
- ◆ The initiation of construction work on a new Academic Block for the Junior School;
- ◆ The construction of a third teachers' residence at the School;
- ◆ Completion of the ground floor structure of the KMS Administration and Library Block;
- ◆ The strengthening of the KMT Head Office infrastructure in Islamabad with the establishment of an Academic Coordination Unit and the acquisition (through lease) and furnishing of a residence for our international volunteers;
- ◆ The completion of another academic year at KMS.

There is still considerable room for improvement, of course, but KMS is a young school and KMT is developing and strengthening its academic team and teaching model each year, both through experience and also through the gradual provision of more facilities and resources to the teaching team. This evolution will go on for the next few years, and through this process, we are determined to eventually produce a truly special academic programme for this institution.

The successful completion of the year is especially satisfying in light of the financial difficulties that KMT had been going through since the previous year and that continued well up to the middle of 2010. We have reported extensively on the problems faced by KMT at the beginning of the year, and I will therefore avoid describing them again here. Suffice it to say that a year which started with considerable financial challenges has, by and large, concluded positively.

Whereas we are still a long way from being fiscally comfortable, and whereas we are aware that the new academic year will bring with it a new set of trials, we are grateful, nonetheless, to be entering 2011 on an optimistic note and with considerably more experience under our belts.

Thank you sincerely; all of you who helped us through the year!

With warm regards,

Khuram Khan
January 2011

This quarter we say goodbye and thanks to



Ms. Jennifer Ankrom
Programme Manager
September, 2008 - December, 2010

The longest serving volunteer in KMT's history who played an invaluable role in setting up the KMT Head Office in Islamabad. Jenny was always a generous and supportive colleague who will be missed by the KMS and KMT teams who relied so much on her support. But even though she has left her full time position with us, she has committed to remain an active supporter and friend of the Trust, volunteering her time to KMT when possible.

We appreciate all your hard work for KMT and KMS and we wish you both all the best in your future endeavours.



Mrs. Adrienne Ramari Scott
Senior Teacher and Academic Advisor
April, 2009 - December, 2010

A wonderful person and teacher who taught as a volunteer at KMS for two academic years, Adrienne was loved by her students and she will be sorely missed by all of them and by her colleagues.

She will always remain a part of the KMT family, and we look forward to her visits to Pakistan and to the School in the future.

KMS End of Term Report by Sharon Heywood, STA

It's been a fun packed and energetic Second Term at The Kaghan Memorial School. Among the highlights for students and teachers were the Sports Day and the Annual day. Two months on and you can still hear children excitedly cheering each other on as they eagerly practice and run their own races during break and lunch times.

All aspects of health and hygiene continued to be a strong focus in Term 2; along with receiving weekly vitamin supplements and regular de-worming, students were taught how to wash their hair with medicated shampoo and comb for head lice.

The Physical Education lessons for all grades now also include time spent in the specially constructed playground built with funds kindly donated by UNICEF. There is always much excitement and glee as the

children learn to travel over, under and through equipment, learning to balance and climb in a safe, structured environment that they would otherwise be highly unlikely to have access to.

Local Teachers continue to work hard in partnership with the international Senior Teachers and Academic Advisors (STAs) to develop their teaching skills. They are all very aware of the huge benefits of using practical teaching methods to

make learning meaningful and memorable for the students and they are doing their best to learn how to make their lessons more interactive and participatory.

At the end of term, Jonelle Lorantas, our STA from Australia responsible for coordinating Math, demonstrated a fun and effective way to gather data on the impact of our new school meals in which 'lobia' (red kidney beans - a high protein pulse) has been added to the menu. Children were taught how to weigh themselves with real scales and G2 students recorded the data in bar charts that were then proudly displayed on the classroom walls. Jonelle said: "it was particularly satisfying to see that despite the increasingly cold weather all students had either gained weight or stayed the same since being weighed at the Medical Camp in June. No child had lost weight - what a great way to end the school year!"



Student Profile

Maryam Bibi Class 2B

by Adrienne Ramari Scott, STA

It is very easy to overlook this small framed little girl in class 2B. However when I sat down to talk with her I knew immediately she had been a pupil of Teacher Lauren as she spoke such precise English with an ever so slight accent. As we talked she told me how she loves school, especially Art. When asked what she enjoyed most in art, she described the paper-mache mask she had made. During lunch break she likes to talk with her friends and play "kho kho", a local running and catching game played in a circle.

She was also more than happy to tell me about her family. She lives in the local village Kawai, with her parents, one sister and brother. Her sister taught her how to write her name in Urdu before she started school. Her father, like so many of the men in this popular tourist destination, is a local jeep driver. Maryam is one of the many children who clammers in and out of the school jeep each morning and afternoon to travel to and from school. When she grows up she says she would like to be a doctor.

Some of the comments

about Maryam from her various teachers include "One of the sweetest and brightest children in the class", "A friendly thoughtful girl", "Her creative confidence sets her apart from other students as she continually creates new and intensive projects", "She is a model student as she gets along with everyone, makes friends easily, and listens to her teachers".

A teacher's dream student and a young girl with a bright future.



KMS SPORTS DAY



The second annual KMS Sports Day was held on campus on October 9, 2010. In the lead-up to the day, and as part of the School's interest in developing concepts of teamwork, cooperation and a healthy sense of competition amongst its students, the children were divided into four houses - Bear, Eagle, Ibex and Wolf - all named after animals found in Northern Pakistan. The KMT and School staff members and Trustees were also divided amongst the houses in order to further promote team spirit, and each house was assigned a house master/mistress.

On the day of the competitions, the students participated in various track and field events that included 50 and 100 meters races, relay race, long jump, egg-and-spoon race, 3-legged race and tug-of-war. All competitions except for the tug-of-war and the relay were organised on a class-wise basis. The variety of events allowed all children to participate in at least one contest each, with many competing in several. The children demonstrated their sporting talents throughout the day while their house mates supported them enthusiastically and in good spirit. The competition between the houses took place in a positive and festive atmosphere with a friendly rivalry in evidence all day and especially in the final tug-of-war event, which was eagerly contested amongst all four houses.

While we are proud of all the students for their efforts on the day, special congratulations are due to members of the Eagle house for winning the Champion House 2010 trophy. Ibex house also got a consolation by winning the coveted tug-of-war trophy.



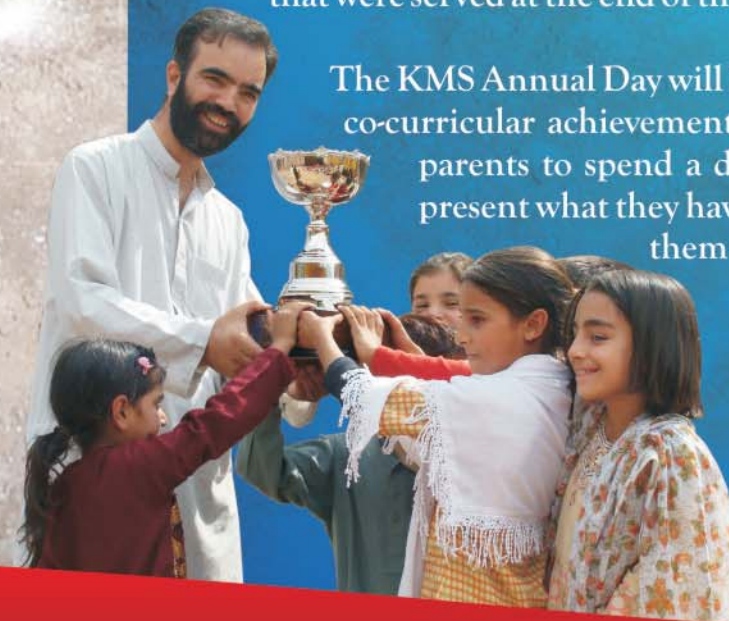
KMS ANNUAL DAY



Following up on the successful Sports Day, the first KMS Annual Day was organised on October 10, 2010. A large number of parents and KMT Trustees and staff were in attendance while the former Member of Provincial Assembly (MPA) from Kaghan, Syed Mazhar Ali Shah, was the chief guest. The largely informal event focused exclusively on the children, showcasing performances of all the students ranging from Kindergarten to Grade 2. The children presented a truly colourful and entertaining programme as they performed skits, poems and recitals with great enthusiasm, many revealing previously hidden talents for stage performance. This was an excellent opportunity for the children to show their parents and families what they had learned at school.

The guests genuinely enjoyed the proceedings, as evinced from the loud applause that regularly punctuated the performances. Many of the parents also made it a point to convey their compliments and appreciation to the School staff during refreshments that were served at the end of the programme.

The KMS Annual Day will be organised every year to celebrate the academic and co-curricular achievements of the students during the year, and to allow the parents to spend a day at the School to see their children perform and present what they have learnt for them.



New Student Admission Interviews – December 11 & 12, 2010 - by Jonelle Lorantas, STA



On December 11th and 12th the Senior Teachers and Academic Advisors (STA's), with assistance of the local teachers and administration staff, conducted interviews for the two new Kindergarten classes to be inducted into KMS for the new school year starting in March 2011. Each class shall consist of 34 children, 17 boys and 17 girls. To ensure the interviews would attract a large and varied number of applicants, the School's administration department advertised the admissions interviews in the surrounding villages both through flyers and through word of mouth. On the days of the interviews, children ventured to the School with parents or other relatives from the villages of Kawai, Paras, Bela Sacha, Shogran, Sangar, Ghanool and Balakot.

The teachers interviewed 176 children over two days to fill 68 positions; of these, 122 were boys. Although 54 girls were interviewed, a lot of them were unsuitable for Kindergarten class, mostly because they were too young, or

because their parents could not provide their transport to school. KMT provides jeep services to some of its students who travel to School from villages that are beyond walking distance, but at this point in time it cannot provide transport to all students and preference is therefore given to children whose parents can arrange for their pick and drop services on their own. Due to the unsuitability of many of the girl applicants, there were therefore still some vacancies for girls at the end of the interview process, and the STA's will hold another round of interviews before First Term commences in March to fill the vacancies. The selection of boys was, however, successfully completed.

The interview team use a standardised questionnaire for each interview that lists questions for both the parent/guardian as well as the child. Whilst questions for the parents/guardians are related to family background and living conditions, the majority of the questions for the children aim to assess their age (as ages are often misrepresented or confused in rural Pakistan), imagination and character traits. For some of the more reserved children answers are coaxed out with toys and rewarded with a

sticker. Some of the more boisterous children act like they have known you their whole life, while others answer some questions as only children can. When some were asked what they wanted to be when they grow up, the responses were: a human; my Uncle; and a son.

Earthquake Memorial

On October 8, 2010, the students and staff of the Kaghan Memorial School observed the 5th anniversary of the massive earthquake that devastated the Kaghan Valley in 2005. The ceremony comprised of a commemorative assembly including prayers for the victims and their families followed by a one minute of silence.

Five years on from the Earthquake, the KMT team are continuing to hear stories from children and their families who were deeply affected by the disaster. Some children had lost mothers and fathers in the Earthquake, and a few children had lost both parents and are now living with other relatives. One very sad young man had lost his father in the Earthquake. His mother had since remarried and moved away and could not take him with her. He now lives in Kawai with his grandfather, but still maintains that his father, whom he never met, is his favourite person.



Autumn Social, October 23, 2010



décor were elegantly stunning, and with the weather turning out perfectly for the evening, everybody had a truly wonderful time. This was also the perfect opportunity to introduce KMT, and many new friends and contacts were made for the Trust before the night was over.



significant return.

KMT hosted its Autumn Social fundraiser in Islamabad on October 23, 2010. The formal event was attended by more than 170 guests who were entertained to a spectacular night comprising of a reception, a 5 star dinner and quality music played by one of the top DJs from Karachi. The setting and

Better publicity was not, however, the main purpose of the event; raising funds for the School was, and this proved to be another successful fundraiser. Donations given by the guests allowed KMT to save over Rs. 300,000 (US\$ 3,500) from the evening after covering all organisational costs; a

We would like to thank Raheel Events, Mint Restaurant and Red Bull for their support in organising this event and for helping keep our costs low. Most of all, we are grateful to all the guests who participated and generously supported us.

Abu Dhabi Triathlon Team, UAE and Cranmere Primary School, Surrey, UK donate to KMT for Flood Relief



Cranmere Primary School

The Abu Dhabi Triathlon Team generously contributed Euros 5,000 to the flood relief effort being coordinated by KMT in collaboration with its partner NGO, De Laas Gul Welfare Programme (DLG). This was supplemented by a further donation of approximately Pounds Sterling 500 from the Cranmere Primary School, Surrey, United Kingdom. This second donation was particularly special because children had collected the funds during a non-uniform day arranged at their school in aid of the victims of the Pakistan flood. For a donation of £1 each to the fund, students were allowed to come to school in their casual clothes on the day.

provide beds, bedding, blankets and food for 50 flood victim families (304 individuals) in the Sardaryab area of District Charsadda. Cranmere Primary School's donation helped provide food packages to families in the village of Hassan Khel in District Nowshera. Both districts are located in the Khyber Pakhtunkhwa (KP) province, and are amongst the areas worst hit by the flood.

These donations by Abu Dhabi Triathlon and Cranmere Primary School allowed KMT and DLG to deliver vital supplies to victims in genuine need of assistance. Both KMT and DLG would like to extend their sincere gratitude for the support given by both of these donors for this worthy cause.



The Abu Dhabi Triathlon Team's donation was used by KMT/DLG to





Contact Us

The Kaghan Memorial Trust

House 1, Old Firing Range Drive, Main Bani Gala Road, Bani Gala
Islamabad, 44000, Pakistan

Phone: +92 (0) 51 2612678, 2612541 Cell: +92 (0) 300 8551322
Fax: +92 (0) 51 2612678 E-mail: info@kmt.org.pk



About the Trust

The Kaghan Memorial Trust (KMT) is a non-profit Charitable Trust registered in Islamabad in January 2006 in the aftermath of the 2005 earthquake in Northern Pakistan.

The sole immediate objective of the Trust is to establish and operate the Kaghan Memorial School in the Kaghan Valley of Northern Pakistan. This School offers a first-class education to children of this underdeveloped region that was severely hit by the earthquake. Through the provision of quality education, KMT contributes towards sustainable long-term development in the Kaghan Valley.

About the School

The Kaghan Memorial School (KMS) is the first of its kind in Pakistan, in that the highest quality of education is being made freely available to some of the poorest children in the country. When fully operational, the resources and facilities being provided and developed in this school will rival those at the best institutions in Pakistan.

The Kaghan Memorial School is dedicated to the memory of the thousands of children who lost their lives to the earthquake.

New Contributions October to December 2010

Child Sponsorships (New)

Dr. Noraisha Oyama & Mr. Karuru Wamahiu	2 children
Lahore 4 Wheel Drive Club	2 children
Mr. Abdul Ghafoor Khudaybirdi	2 children
Mr. Casper Helling	1 child
Mr. Kamran Waheed	1 child

Child Sponsorships (Renewals)

Ms. Maryam Khan	3 children
Mr. Martin Krieg & Friends	1 child
Mr. Muhammad Kousar Shakeel	1 child



General Donations

Khurram Khan (Trustee)	Rs. 700,000
Syed Junaid Qasim (Trustee)	Rs. 700,000
Kashif Khwaja (Trustee)	Rs. 200,000
Ms. Cecilie Bergseth	Rs. 139,454
Dr. Noraisha Oyama	Rs. 15,958

Donations in Kind

Mr. Robert Scott and Mrs. Adrienne Scott	Rs. 120,000
<i>750 children's hats, 10 plastic tables and 41 plastic chairs</i>	
Dr. Murad Afridi	Rs. 57,000
<i>15 outdoor benches (4 seaters)</i>	

Interest Free Loans (Outstanding on December 31, 2010)

Mr. Khurram Khan (Trustee)	Rs. 7,092,024
De Laas Gul Welfare Programme	Rs. 250,000
Mr. Tashfeen Sarfraz	Rs. 169,200 (US\$ 2,000)

Donations received for Pakistan Flood Relief

Abu Dhabi Triathlon Team, United Arab Emirates	Rs. 595,000 (Euros 5,000)
Cranmere Primary School, Surrey, United Kingdom	Rs. 66,174 (Pounds 500)

Friends of KMT

Pakistan

Munawar B. Ahmad	Tariq Husain
Meraj Humayun Khan	Maryam Shahid Khan
Dr. Tasleem Akhtar	Carmen Fabian
Dr. Murad Afridi	Faridullah Khan
Dr. Hina Inayat Khan	Tahir Ayub Khan
Mehr Zeb	Jawwad Abbasi
Shakir Hussain	Nadeem A. Sheikh
Anam Zeb	Mahe Nau Haider

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New Zealand	USA
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Robin Reid	Elizabeth Logan
Britta Martin	
Jamila Ahmed	UAE
	Ijaz Anwer
Iran	Akbar Ahmed
Mitra Sarraf	Yousaf Ghous
	Ayesha Ahmed
United Kingdom	Holland
Jeremy 'Jez' Cox	Francis Linthorst
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KMT Board of Trustees

Khurram Khan Syed Junaid Qasim Kashif Khwaja Naila Hussain Ali Bajwa Mohsin Hayat