



# Tibetan Homes Foundation

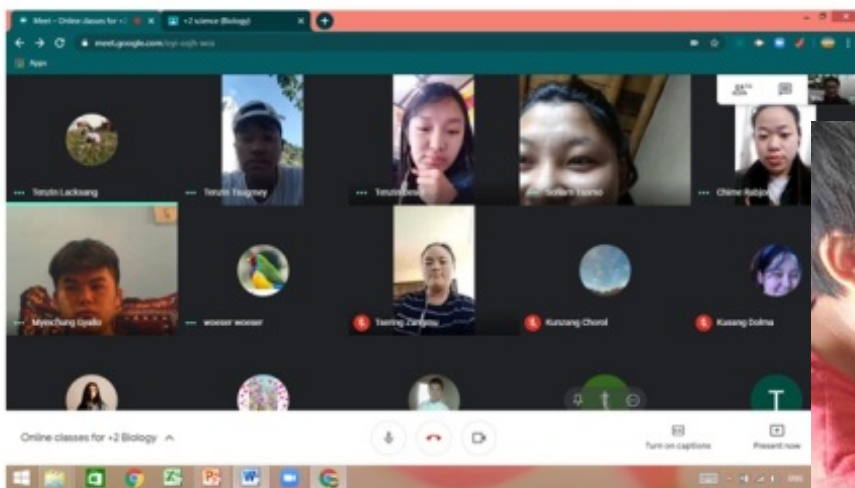
Registered under the Societies Registration Act XXI of 1860 In the year 1963

## **Covid – 19 The Global pandemic** **And** **The life in our school in Tibetan Homes Foundation, India**

The news of the Global pandemic became an anxiety in India around the end of February with few cases found in New Delhi, the national capital of India. It was also the time when we have our children rejoining to school and the start of new academic session. Somehow, the situation worsens and the Indian government had issued a notification to close all the schools as one of the best safety measures. Following, we have circulated a notification for all the parents to receive their children for an indefinite time till the next circular for school re-opening. Hence, all our children left the school campus from March 16 onwards. At present, we have a remaining of 57 children with us in different hostels. The government extended the national curfew and Lock down in four different phases. At present, the situation in our town is also very bad with 76 positive cases in our district and 317 cases in our state Uttarkhand. But, life has to go on and in this unprecedented period, our school teachers have started with the “Online Teaching” to impart the continuity of the school syllabus and the education as a whole. A “Socially Productive Works” were also started under the projects for our non-teaching staff. The period is difficult with the dramatic change in everyone’s life with the deadly spread of the virus. The sanitization, mask, online education, awareness talk and the travelling of facility provision staff incurs extra expenses to the school’s fund. In addition, the recent change in the banking norms with the reduction in the interest rates was an alarming stage for the sustainability of our school as a whole. Since a part of the school’s expenses were covered from the interest, we received from the banks. The present instability everywhere because of the pandemic has created a long run impact on the sustainability of our school of more 1792 children, 67 elderly people and 340 staff. To try to bring a positive impact out of this difficult period, we have started with the Socially Productive Works for our non-teaching staff to work in parallel with the online classes taken by our teachers.

### **Online classes for our children**

Our educators have started with the online teaching for our students from grade IV to XII from April 1<sup>st</sup>. Teachers makes use of user friendly apps so that our students can easily join the classes. Majority of our teachers makes their presence in the school campus during the school hours to take online classes. This was maintained following the safety measures including the physical distancing either in the school computer labs or at the school grounds.





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## Socially Productive Works

- ✓ **Face Mask** : A part of our hostel parents became a part of the face mask project. A room below the vocational training centre was used as a productive centre. The project started three weeks ago and we are close to complete this project. Our facemask team was able to make more than 3000 face mask which will also be useful to provide to our staff and our children who will be joining school as the situation gets better.
- ✓ **Project – Yarn**: A total of 19 of our hostel mothers were under the project – yarn. Each hostel mothers were provided with a certain amount of yarn by the office to knit products of their choice considering the usage and the suitability. The mothers came out with an awesome output with beautiful muffler, neck wraps and headwraps. Our kindergarten teachers of five at THF Mussoorie and a team of seven at branch school Rajpur knit socks of different varieties including ankle and indoor socks.
- ✓ **Butter lamp wicks**: A total of 11 of our home mothers who have children's remaining in their homes volunteered to make butter lamp cotton wicks. Three different sizes of wicks were prepared by the home mothers that will be useful for our homes, temples and for staff as well.
- ✓ **Chumi Gudril Thread**: Three of home mothers who knew how to make a “chumi gudril thread” volunteered to prepare the same.
- ✓ **Opera costume – Mask**: School drivers and a part of home fathers joined the vocational centre as a productive team towards cultural opera costume – mask.
- ✓ **Mending team**: A part of hostel fathers and mothers who knew stitching, sewing and darning volunteered to form a mending team. The team mends the blankets, curtains, bedsheets and cushions. A bed covers and cushion covers were also made by the team as a reusable product.
- ✓ **Thangka and Brocade**: Vocational training centre instructor and few home fathers were painting and completing the Thangka's with the brocades.
- ✓ **Door curtains**: Apart from the mending team, few home mothers who were either an ex-student of Tibetan Homes Foundation Vocational training centre or who knew tailoring were preparing traditional door curtains.
- ✓ **Tibetan Prayer flags**: A team of three to five male staff were in the project “Tibetan Prayer Flags”. We have started this in our Rajpur branch school at the moment based the availability of the color and the printing material.
- ✓ **Keychains**: We have started with the keychain team at our branch school Rajpur based on the availability of materials. The female staffs including primary teachers form the team.
- ✓ **Woollen caps**: In addition to the yarn knit team producing muffler, head wrap, neckwrap and socks, our Rajpur branch school started with the knitting of handmade woollen caps.





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## Power Parenting talk series

The dramatic change in everyone's life with the covid-19 spreading over the globe and the situation getting worse, General Secretary Mr. Karma Chungdak has started with a talk series focusing on the parenting of children. Each talk series is for 15 minutes and the feedback from the parents, also the children's were inspiring. The home environment playing a major role in the parenting was one of the main highlights of the talk series.

The link for the parenting talk series V is

<https://youtu.be/3JKz4VXx934>



## Health team visit

Health team makes a frequent visit to the children hostels, staff quarters and the elderly home to check body temperature, blood pressure and any health related problems.





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**Sanitization** Estate and development section of all school makes sure with the proper sanitization of the functioning infrastructures including offices, school blocks, hostels, health centre, elderly home and the staff quarters. The sanitization was carried every weekend. This also includes the washing and the sanitization of the school vehicles that needs to goes out of campus or down to the town.



Take care! Stay Safe!

Sending prayers to end the pandemic earliest !