



This is Chenda!

N°3 - June 2020

Discovering solidarity with the NGO PSE For a Child's Smile!



Cambodia during Covid-19

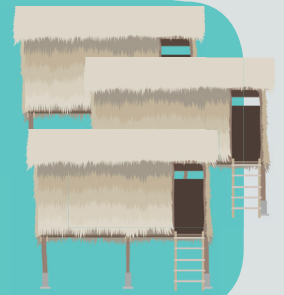
1

The whole world has been affected by Covid-19, these past months. Measures have been taken in all countries to protect their populations.



2

In Cambodia, as in other countries, schools have closed. The children from PSE must stay at home, in difficult conditions: they live in very poor and dirty areas, which rarely have access to clean water or electricity. Their houses, which only have one room, are made of wood, sheet metal and tarpaulins.



3

Without school, life is very hard in Cambodia... Instead of studying, the children sometimes work with their parents.

For example, some children help their parents pick up rubbish, which can be sold for a bit of money.



4

For children at PSE, it is not easy to organise education remotely, because they do not have the tools necessary to do so: internet connectivity, computers, ...



5

Our team in Cambodia distributes homework to the children, and then collects it to be corrected by their teachers.



6

PSE also continues to help families by distributing rice and food baskets.



7

Parents and children can call one of PSE's doctors, whenever needed. Thanks to this, we make sure that everyone is protected.



Did you know ?

In Cambodia, the new year is celebrated in April, at the end of the dry season. According to their calendar, we are starting the year 2564 – the year of the rat! This is a very important celebration that lasts 3 days. Families decorate their homes, make offerings at the pagoda*, exchange gifts, participate in traditional games, and sprinkle water on themselves. Normally, large celebrations are organised throughout the country. But this year, the celebrations were cancelled to avoid spreading the virus. Families celebrated in their homes, in their own way.

* A pagoda is a place of worship for Buddhists, the official religion in Cambodia.





Photos of Karuna's confinement



Karuna is 18 years old, she is a student at PSE. For the last 10 years, she has boarded at PSE because she was in danger in her family.



Since school closed, Karuna has been taken into foster care, with 12 other children from PSE. So she is still with friends from PSE ! Isn't that good news ?



Karuna is learning lots of new things from the family that has welcomed her ! She also helps the younger ones in their studies. She hopes to be able to return to school soon.



We are all eager to return to our normal activities, but we must be patient. Currently, Karuna cannot do her favourite pastimes : football and dancing !



Questions and Answers



What is solidarity ?

Solidarity is a feeling that encourages you to **help others**, those who need help, without asking for anything in exchange.

Currently, you may have noticed that many people are even more supportive than usual. Some vulnerable or lonely people cannot go on with their everyday lives. It is therefore important that we help them, so they can live normally.

It is thanks to solidarity that PSE exists! For nearly 25 years, many people have committed together to help poor children in Cambodia.

Nowadays, many parents are without a job, and cannot buy enough food. That is why **PSE distributes food baskets**.

With Covid-19, it is important that we all stay united and supportive.



Distribute smiles to children in Cambodia

Support actions to help PSE

Camille and her brothers and sisters have organised an internet-based fundraising scheme to help PSE pay for the food baskets that support vulnerable families. To encourage their family and friends to make donations, they organised small sporting challenges as a family, which they shared on their funding-raising page. Many thanks to them !



Every initiative counts, and all help is welcome. You can help us in different ways: with each edition of this newsletter we suggest a project you can carry out on your own, with your friends or with your class. You can also send us your ideas, with some photos, so we can share your actions in this newsletter!

Contact : journaldechenda@pse.org

If you want to find out more, look on our website: www.pse.ngo