



This is Chenda!

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



In Cambodia, Back to School with a Twist

In Cambodia, many children will not be able to go back to school since many schools have no way to put social distancing rules in place.

All PSE staff are looking for solutions so that children can go back to school as soon as possible, but it is very difficult. For now, only 9th and 12th graders can go back to school so they can prepare for their "brevet" (a test that happens at the end of Middle School) and their "Baccalaureat." Both exams will take place in December.



Even though children are not able to go to school, it is important that they keep studying!

You may remember from the previous issue of this newsletter that our team in Cambodia hands out homework to the children and collects it afterwards for teachers to correct. Because it is not always easy to study and do homework alone some children can come to school to meet their teachers and ask them questions.



Sophalmean – 9th grade student at PSE

Sophalmean is a 9th grade student at the PSE school. Ever since the school had to close because of Covid-19, the PSE team hands out lessons and homework to her.

"In the morning, I help my mother with household chores and then I spend my afternoons and evenings studying and doing homework. It takes me much longer than before because I don't understand everything".

Sophalmean's parents put all their savings together to give her a used smartphone: It allows her to find help on the Internet.

"Studying at home is hard because the teacher is not there to help explain things. When I don't understand something, I can search on Google or YouTube."

On top of that, Sophalmean also goes to the PSE Centre, once a week, to meet her teachers and ask all her questions. When she gets there, Sophalmean is very careful: she washes her hands, wears a mask and stays away from other children and teachers.

Sophalmean's dream is to work in a bank one day. She wants to pass her Bac and then study at PSE's Management and Sales School. She knows that, thanks to the school, she will find a job and be able to help her family financially.





Photos of the life at PSE without the children



In the PSE daycare facilities, our team has painted nice pictures on the walls. Do you think the children will like them when they come back?



Here is a drawing painted at one of the PSE daycare buildings. Can you guess which country's flag the little boy is holding in his hand?



The canteen team has repainted all the tables where students normally eat lunch. Quite colourful, don't you think?



What a pretty garden so full of colour! We hope the children will like it and look after it.



Q&A



Why do we go to school?

Going to school seems pretty much the standard, but there are still many children in the world who cannot get an education.

Many of these children live in places where conflicts or wars are going on, and so schools are closed. Sometimes going to school is expensive so poor families cannot afford it, or the children have to work to help pay for food and housing instead of going to school. In some countries, girls don't get to go to school because in their society there is the belief that they do not need to learn.

However, school is essential: it is where children learn to read, to write and count, also how to think by themselves and to socialise. This is where they will learn enough to figure out what kind of job they will want to do.

In Cambodia, PSE allows very poor children to go to school instead of working to help their families. Thanks to PSE, they will be able to choose a job they like and to earn enough money to live a decent life, help their families and later send their own children to school.



Give smiles to children in Cambodia

Solidarity actions to help PSE

Over the last year, students from the PSE's Hospitality and Tourism School have raised money to go on an end-of-year trip. The trip was cancelled due to the Covid-19 epidemic. The students decided to donate the money they raised to PSE. We thank them for their generosity!



Every action counts, and all help is welcome. You can help us in any way you choose: in each issue we will suggest a project you can do alone, with your friends or with your class. Also, be sure to send us your ideas for activities with a few pictures, and we will showcase them in this newsletter!

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Visit our website if you want to learn more: www.pse.org