



Chim Kosal Launches a New Era in Education at NFC



Photo by Ngoun Makra

After a lengthy process, NFC is excited to have chosen Chim Kosal as education manager for NFC. He comes with a wealth of skills and a thorough knowledge of the needs and possibilities for education for the children at NFC.

Cheat Hean receives high Score at New World Institute



Photo by Opmeer Reportages

Hean received the highest score of any of the NFC children attending New World Institute. Thanks Hean for this excellent achievement!

NFC Students Recognized!



Photos by Opmeer Reportages

Lay Lily and Ngoun Cheata received special presents from the director of NFC, Suon Socheat, for placing #1 and #2 in their respective classes in primary school.

Cooking Class is a Special Treat!



Photo by Opmeer Reportages

Ratanna who runs a catering service, Pepper East, volunteered her time to teach some of the NFC children how to cook three delicious Thai dishes. Thanks so

much Ratanna! We hope you will volunteer again soon!

Used NFC Computers Donated to Lakeside School



Photo by Ngoun Makra

NFC, after needing to upgrade their computers once the Internet was installed, prepared and donated their used computers to Lakeside School.

Students begin Web Design Course using PHP

Three NFC students, Ly Borey, Cheat Hean and Ngoun Makra have started a computer class on web site design using the PHP language. The cost of the course is being paid for by Kit Hargreaves of Arocore. Thanks Kit!

Dental Hygiene Workshop at NFC



Photo by Elizabeth Gjemmestad

Elizabeth Gjemmestad, Hem Mol and Doch Mnorsen conducted a very successful dental hygiene workshop at NFC for children and staff. Thanks so much!

Zaman International School visits NFC and gave presents to children



Photo by Ngoun Makra

The children of Zaman International School visited NFC and brought gift boxes for all of the children! They also shared songs and dances they had learned. Thanks so much!

NFC hosts Party for Aziza Students



Photo by Ngoun Makra

NFC decided to host a party for the students of Aziza after some of them lost their homes in Dey Krahom. This turned

out to be the largest NFC party ever with over 235 registered guests!



Photo by Ngoun Makra

The day began at 3:30 p.m. with games and activities for NFC, Aziza and Chibodia children organized by Aziza and NFC staff members.



Photo by Ngoun Makra

The games were followed by rousing performances from Aziza's and NFC's Khmer Traditional and Break Dance teams and a moving original story written and played out by the Aziza children.

Afterwards everyone enjoyed a family style traditional Khmer dinner. The excitement of the day culminated in everyone letting themselves go in the most cathartic and spirited dancing I have ever witnessed at NFC.

New Lockers for Children

- Florent Zwiars



Photo by Ngoun Makra

Up until now, none of the 61 children have had individual storage space for their school material or personal items. An example of the effect this has is that English classes at NFC tend to start with the teacher waiting ten minutes while the students frantically run around the orphanage looking for their workbooks.

Most of you are probably aware that Dang Kosal, an NFC graduate, performed in the rock-opera "Where Elephants Weep" (WEW) a few weeks ago. In a subsequent visit to the orphanage by Courtney James, stage manager for WEW, she decided to do something about this problem. She kindly donated money to have lockers made for the NFC children. NFC now sports 72 wooden lockers, in three separate units, sturdy enough to survive both monsoon showers and the kids using them as jungle gyms.

The lockers are already in full use and very few remain undecorated, especially on the inside. I couldn't exactly report to you all that's being kept in the lockers, seemingly everything from books to plastic jewelry, but I guess that's the point of private lockers in the first place. I can tell you, however, that the English classes finally tend to start on time!

Keeping the Wheels Moving

— Florent Zwiars



Photo by Ngoun Makra

In the essay ‘Taming the Bicycle’ Mark Twain wrote, “Get a bicycle, you will not regret it, if you live”, a quote that was alarmingly true at NFC. The NFC bicycles are not known for their high-quality and were on the verge of falling apart. The children did their best to patch them up, but both the tools and the know-how were lacking.

Luckily Chris found us a mechanic, Christo, who was willing to do bicycle repair work. And Yours Truly being from Holland, a country known for its cycling habits, felt compelled to honour his ancestral roots and help as well. So every Sunday Christo, an amiable bicycle enthusiast, and I come to NFC to fix up as many bikes as possible.

We’re also trying to teach some of these skills to a regular band of NFC boys who are quickly picking up what needs to be done and are working as hard as we are. So, what seemed to us like an almost endless task at first, will soon be at the point where we’ll just have to do some maintenance once in a while. By then things will finally be put back right again: Phnom Penh traffic will be more

dangerous than the bicycles the kids are riding on!

Arocore Donates Office Chairs to NFC



Photo by Ngoun Makra

Kit Hargreaves of Arocore donated their office chairs to NFC after their recent move to a new office. Thanks so much!

1st NFC Party of the Year!

— Doch Mnorsen

On 4th January 2009 an USA group from Minnesota sponsored a wonderful dinner and party at NFC to help usher in the New Year! The party started with performances by NFC children of two exquisite traditional Khmer dances. The guests were transfixed by the grace and beauty of the dances and applauded wildly!

For the first time ever, NFC children performed, an original, hilarious and moving multi-scene, Khmer language comedy/drama created, scripted costumed, with sound effects and an original song created completely on their own. I was told the NFC staff, volunteers and other children were stunned, as well as the other guests, at the sophistication of the production considering the children had absolutely no outside assistance.