

pestalozzi

NEWSLETTER



Spring/Summer 2014

www.pestalozzi.org.uk



Notes from our Chief Executive Susan Walton

Behind the scenes

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Spring is here, bursting with promise and hope for the year ahead. There are fat green buds on every tree, bright yellow daffodils bring a taste of the summer to come and shy primroses bloom quietly on the grass verges.

Nature's energy is more than matched by the buzz of activity at Pestalozzi. Our second year students are beginning the long slog towards their final exams and the first years are stepping up the pace of their own studies. Yet students still find time to participate in events like our International Celebration and the Hastings Half Marathon. Balancing the three elements of the Pestalozzi ethos of education for the Head, Heart and Hands is an important part of life here, as is maintaining the diversity of the multi-faith, multi-cultural community that is Pestalozzi.

I am sorry to report that the Education Funding Agency remains steadfast in its refusal to reinstate the fee exemption which Pestalozzi students have enjoyed since the first children displaced by conflict arrived here in the late 1950s. This one act has increased our costs by 30%, forcing us to significantly reduce our student numbers while we try to raise the additional funds.

This year, as the country commemorates the 100th anniversary of the beginning of



the "war to end all wars", we need more communities like Pestalozzi where young people can learn to welcome difference and embrace diversity. Read how the students experience this multi-cultural, multi-faith community on Page 12.

As you can see from Thomas Kasonde Mukonde's story on Page 9, as well as the biographies on our website, Pestalozzi alumni really do go on to make a difference in the world. With your help, we hope to be in a position to increase student numbers again as soon as we can. Whether you join **Pestalozzi 200** (see Pages 3 and 14), hold a fundraising coffee morning, run a marathon or remember Pestalozzi in your will (see Page 14), we will make sure every pound contributed counts.

Sue M. Walton



Event reviews



Indian Cultural Evening

Our annual series of cultural events started in November with an insight into the diverse cultures, religions, foods and fashions of India. Read student blogger Prabha Upreti's take on the evening online at bit.ly/1g7ase7

Chopin by Candlelight

Over 100 supporters joined us for a wonderful evening at Wilton's Music Hall in London. Guests enjoyed a recital by concert pianist Piers Lane (and a delicious dinner!) in the wonderfully evocative surroundings of the world's oldest surviving music hall.



Christmas at Pestalozzi

It was all hands on deck for a fabulous festive season at Pestalozzi. Our annual mince pie and mulled wine afternoon featured a mini-market of local goods, Shetland pony 'reindeer' and a visit from Rudolph... the Belizean Santa. For a full review, visit bit.ly/OWvHcx

Ugandan Cultural Evening

With winter just starting to wind down, our Ugandan students took us on a whirlwind trip to Eastern Africa. Read University of Brighton student Anthony Musker's impressions online at bit.ly/1hIKwZN



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Thank you

To: Chris Morrell (volunteer tutor)
From: Prashant Sharma (Nepal)

🔊 Dherai dherai dhanyabad

Chris! Many thanks for your valuable contribution towards our education. I respect your appreciation of our ideas, including those beyond the IB Physics syllabus.

धन्यवाद





International Celebration 2014

Pestalozzi 200

Since launching **Pestalozzi 200** in 2013, a number of people have made a commitment to support Pestalozzi by donating at least £200 per year. A big thank you to the following **Pestalozzi 200** members for helping us ensure we continue to make a difference in the world:

Julian and Quenelda Avery; Miss Betty E. B. Charles; Lord and Lady Clarke; Peter Duncan; Paul and Gill Evans; Martyn Forster; Dr Edward Henderson; Arnelda John; Peter and Janet Kennedy; David and Margaret Macaulay; Bridget and Richard Maidment; Mr and Mrs M. Marceau; Richard Meade; Andy Noble; Ms Gloria Redston; Annette and Bill Shelford; and those members who wish to remain anonymous.

If you'd like to join **Pestalozzi 200**, please call our team on 01424 870444.

International Celebration is an annual event that gives Pestalozzi students a brilliant opportunity to share their cultures. Read more on our website: bit.ly/1IRjtPP

The sun was shining, the daffodils and cherry blossoms were out and we were joined by supporters and alumni for a vibrant afternoon of food, literature, music and fashion.

Lunch was a huge success, with a choice of dishes from Eastern Africa, Nepal and Belize, served on rice and garnished with Bhutanese ema datshi (chilli cheese relish). For most guests, this was followed with sweets from Tibet and India, washed down with Ugandan ginger tea, spiced chai or non-alcoholic pineapple beer.

Councillor Colin Belsey, Chairman of East Sussex County Council, opened proceedings with a short speech praising Pestalozzi's work. He was followed closely by songs, poems and stories from Pratiksha Sharma, Habiiba Malingha, Syeed Anwar Ansari and Justin Mushitu.

Several visitors went on a guided walk around our beautiful estate. Others remained to watch an eclectic set of dances from Bhutan, Nepal and Uganda, as well as a 'dance mashup' featuring Pestalozzi students and moves from around the world. This was followed by a Buddhist song from Lungten Wangdi.

A fiendishly difficult world-knowledge quiz, devised by Pestalozzi students, had guests racking their brains for answers, and the afternoon wrapped up with a rocking set from Pestalozzi Pirates and friends – Ugyen Wangchuk on drums, Pradosh Bista on guitar and David Mtonga on vocals, supported by local musicians Bob Walton and Stewart and Louisa Patient.



Thank you

To: Graham and Jane Delves (host family)
From: Claire Gapare (Zimbabwe)
🔊 Maita zvenyu

Thank you for the love, support, care and joy you've filled my life with. You are my home away from home.



Students shine in talent show

Mr and Miss Rotaract is an annual student talent quest for first year students, organised by Rotaract Club Pestalozzi. Mr Rotaract 2013 Rudolph Parham reports on the event and what it feels like to compete.



Every year, students say the Mr and Miss Rotaract competition helps them to step out of their comfort zones, express themselves, gain confidence and recognise their strengths.

I remember last year's competition as though it was just yesterday. It was fortunately a sunny day with no rain, no snow and no freezing temperatures. Everyone was hectic getting their props together for the show. I had done all my preparations and my rehearsing, looking in the mirror, getting my tone of voice right and my expression perfect . . . not to mention the wink.

There are three rounds. First, each participant is asked a reflective question and they present their answer on stage in smart attire. Second, participants try to make the audience burst into laughter – performing caricatures, silly songs and dressing in their wildest attire. Finally, it's the talent round with dances, songs, poems and music.

Being in the room with the stage up front sent butterflies bouncing off the walls of my stomach. I had waited so long, and I really wanted to win. One by one, the contestants went up and one by one they did their act. It now came to my turn and, well, I gave it my best shot!

It all came to a head when the judges tallied the points. I was in two minds: I wanted, yet did not want, to hear the winner. I closed my eyes and crossed my fingers . . . and what I heard, I did not believe at first. Apparently, the winner was me! All the rehearsing and practising paid off, and I would still like to believe that the mirror session had the special effect.



Star donors

Many wonderful people help us provide scholarships to our exceptional students. A special thank you to those individuals who have donated over £200 in the last year:

Stephen and Kathy Barbour; Miss N E Baker; Peter and Valerie Ballard; Mr and Mrs David and Beryl Bartter; Jo Berger; Professor Derek Blackman; Carol Blythe; Miss A M Bolton; Mr A L Boyd; Nan Brenninkmeyer; Graham and Julia Card; Miss Betty E.B. Charles; Miss P A Cotterell; Sir Sherard Cowper-Coles; Mrs Patricia Davenport; Mr and Mrs Glen Davies; Mr and Mrs Alan Disney; Miss A M Filer; Lady Gore-Booth (Mary); Penelope Hamilton; Mr and Mrs C Harvey; Tony and Mary Herbert; Miss Ellen Hill ; Mr John Hodgson; Mr and Mrs Hole; Mrs M A Howes; Anne and Andrew Hudson; Mr Andrew Hunter Johnston; Dr Wesley Hydes; Mrs Yolande Imrie; Mr H J M Izzard; Mrs J M Jackson; Mrs Rosemary James; Mrs M Jones; Mr John King; Mrs Helen Leale-Green; Mr and Mrs M Marceau; Mr & Mrs C Morrell; Ms A Morrison; Andy Noble; Mr Alan Olin; Miss Owens; John Page OBE; Jane and David Pennock; Patricia Sheppard Rogers; Mr Nigel Thomas; Mrs K Thompson; Marianne Van Niekerken; Mrs S M Walton; and those donors who wish to remain anonymous.



Creative reflections

Pestalozzi students are often busy studying, but they're not too busy to pick up their pens, cameras and paintbrushes to create moving, evocative and entertaining artworks.

Locked

by Pratiksha Sharma

This painting represents women's strength. The woman is held strongly by chains of social prejudices in her dark and limited world, but she is not dispirited and is maintaining her dignity.



Binayak Datta

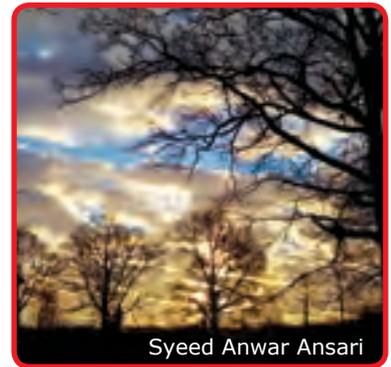
In New Eyes

by David Mtonga

Oh my people, oh *my*, my heart breaks
now to see - for long, I had not -
that your arching back none see.
You tread to the only well, hours,
for a throat thirst quenching drop.
That for medical aid you run
nowhere.
Even the clinic sand-stone we
gathered -
still not raised.
You have no school or welfare,
no shop for soap.
In grass thatched houses
you abide
and cut all trees for firewood.
The roof is black-soot masked.
And land is now bare, barren,
half desert, bearing scant fruit.
My heart crumbles to see
my friend's final resort
early marriage, the ragged
juvenile dress,
soak me in my childhood.
What can *I* do?
I hear, "You see. You are right to
do it."
Indeed! Extend my head and hand
for my heart strives.
Behold, my new eyes.



Shuvechcha Ghimire



Syed Anwar Ansari



Rudolph Parham





Pradosh Bista



Pradosh Bista



Ugyen Wangchuk

A Traditional Child

by Habiiba Malingha

I remember not where I was born
 But I, a joy to my mother, a joy
 to society
 A traditional child, I have values to
 uphold:
 To accept my boundaries and all that
 I'm told
 To honour rituals and all there is to
 unfold.
 I clocked nine, it was time
 Time to explore, time to learn
 To refine, never to confine.
 I left my mum to a place where I
 learnt to peel,
 To cook and to clean.
 A traditional child, the pride I have.
 Each sunset reminds me of sunrise
 When all go the garden, I stay home
 For the little fowls may need feeding
 For the ground nuts may
 need pounding
 For the compound may need sweeping.
 As the sun sets, I draw water from the
 river, again
 I am reminded I am a traditional child.
 At adolescence my Gishu brothers go
 through circumcision
 Their first steps to manhood, to
 adulthood
 And do you know why I always look
 forward to it?
 The untameable fun with which we
 dance to the *kadodi*
 Sight of them gallant boys all covered
 in fermented flour
 Marching to the sacred grounds
 An accompaniment, a traditional child
 I am.
 And yes, we celebrate death
 A passing on to the land of
 our forefathers
 Where one day I hope to be.
 But I've seen my friends get married
 My sisters espoused to far lands
 In exchange for cattle and other gifts.
 As I watch the river slither I imagine
 What my *mpenzi* would give for
 My hand in marriage.
 All the more reason to love Africa, to
 love Uganda
 For I am a traditional child,
 that pride I await.



Explore and experiment: extended essay

One exciting feature of Pestalozzi students' studies is the opportunity to undertake an in-depth exploration on a topic of their choice. For the full abstracts of each essay, visit our website: bit.ly/1h93XsL

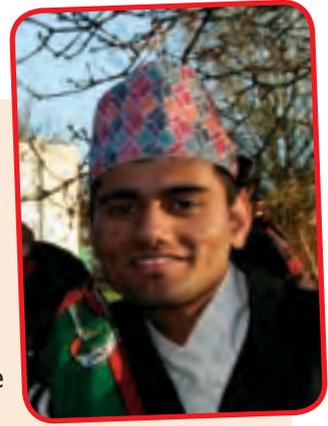
Krishna Gaire (Nepal)

What are the main factors that contribute to the disadvantages experienced by Dalit children in education in Gaindakot, Nepal?

Almost all the students coming to Pestalozzi want to go back to their country and help. In order to do so it is very important to learn more about our own cultures and traditions that govern our communities. This is my attempt to understand my community better so that I will not only have technical knowledge, but be able to use it well within the community.

Nepal retains its centuries-old caste system, based on the Hindu religion. The Dalits (Sudras), who comprise 13% of the country's population, are considered "untouchables". Their socio-economic and health status is the lowest and they suffer restrictions to public amenities, lack of access to economic opportunities and deep neglect by the state. This discrimination has significantly affected the education of Dalit children, most of who drop out of school at 14-16 years old. My fieldwork research, conducted with 24 Dalit families and three local schools in my hometown, Gaindakot, focused on the factors affecting the education of Dalit children.

My research showed me that economic factors, religion and social structures all contribute to illiteracy amongst the Dalit population. Dalits with better economic backgrounds may go into higher education, while Dalits with lower economic status tend to drop out of school at an early age to work and support their family financially. Moreover, most Dalit children get married at 18 years for boys and 17 years for girls. After marriage, very few return to school as they have household work and families to look after. However, economically disadvantaged non-Dalits do not drop out of school at the same rate, showing that social structures, culture and tradition based in the Hindu religion also influence the education of young people in Nepal.



Thank you

Eyalama noy noy

To: Helen Leale-Green (volunteer and trustee)

From: Habiiba Malingha (Uganda)

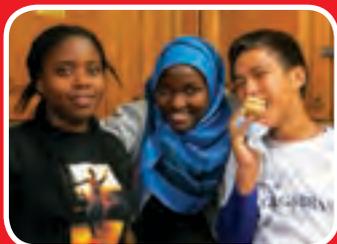
🔊 Eyalama noy

You have inspired me to rethink myself ("you have an aura"). Your good nature and commitment is extraordinary.

Habiiba Malingha (Uganda)

Who was more to blame for Russia's chronic socio-economic problems in the 1990s: Mikhail Gorbachev or Boris Yeltsin?

Although I discovered many complexities, my essay concludes that Yeltsin is more to blame for Russia's problems: he was Russia's president for more of the decade, and was also somewhat negligent in his job. Though some of the mistakes or adversities were inevitably part of the transition, I think Yeltsin could have handled the Chechen situation (1994-96) more effectively.



Tim Ogolla (Uganda)

The effect of ethanol and caffeine on the heart rate of *Daphnia Magna*.

In 2013, Uganda had the highest rate of alcohol consumption in Africa. Uganda produces a variety of alcoholic beverages containing ethanol, some brewed industrially and others locally brewed from different materials such as bananas, pineapples or sorghum. Uganda is also one of the major coffee producers in the region and coffee, tea and other caffeinated beverages are integral parts of the society.

I wanted to understand the effect of ethanol and caffeine on the heart rate. Of course, I could not carry out this experiment on humans, so I used *Daphnia Magna* (freshwater fleas). The tiny animals were subjected to different concentrations of the chemicals and their heart rates noted. The experiment showed that ethanol causes a decrease in the heart rate while caffeine causes an increase. In low concentrations, ethanol doesn't make a significant difference, but even a low concentration of caffeine significantly raises the heart rate.



A few more...

Bibek Basnet (Nepal): To what extent would Nepal benefit from Bilateral Investment Protection and Promotion Agreement with India?

Rudolph Parham (Belize): Investigating how adding limestone to soil inhibits seed germination.

Lobsang Dolma (Tibet): How significant were the two World Wars in changing the status of women in Britain up to the 1950s?

Prashant Sharma (Nepal): To what extent did the currency policy of China affect unemployment in the USA in the last decade?

Daniel Hernandez (Belize): The Belize Anglo-Guatemalan Dispute: what are the reasons behind it, and why has it so far not been resolved?

Nigel Malaba (Zimbabwe): To what extent are women

in Tennessee Williams' plays the architects of their own downfall?

Pradosh Bista (Nepal): How does the distance between two planes of atomic structure of the crystal affect the angle over which the maximum diffraction of microwave radiation occurs?

Tenzin Lhatso (Tibet)

To what extent were Hitler's Youth policies successful among German youth?

Children were indirectly forced to join Hitler's Youth groups, where they were indoctrinated with Nazi philosophies and ideologies. However, some young people went against Hitler's will, reflected by the existence of opposition youth groups, while others followed the Nazis' command out of fear rather than belief. I concluded that, during Hitler's reign, the Nazi's youth policies were "successful" among the youth to a great extent.



Thank you

To: Dikendra Karki (student mentor)

From: Lungten Wangdi (Bhutan)

🔊 Kaden choey



Mentor! Thank you for your motivation and inspiration. You have been of great support during my stay here so far and for this I will always remember you.





Pestalozzi alumni

Thomas Kasonde Mukonde

After graduating from Pestalozzi, Thomas studied at Georgetown University in the USA before returning to Zambia, where he now works to improve public libraries in his home country.



Thank you

Thank you to the following businesses, groups, trusts and foundations for your donations – they have been an invaluable contribution over the last year:

The Albert Van Den Bergh Charitable Trust; Andrew Turnbull's Trust; Ashcroft Charitable Trust; Benham Charitable Settlement; C Brewer and Sons Ltd Trust; Crag House Charitable Trust; Donald Forrester Trust; E F & M G Hall Charitable Trust; The Elizabeth Bennett Charitable Trust; FAT promotions; G.M. Morrison Charitable Trust; The Grieg Foundation; Hastings Bonfire Trust; Hastings Direct; Homelands Charitable Trust; Herstmonceux Quaker Meeting; Ian Askew Trust; Isle of Man Friends of Pestalozzi; Joseph Strong Frazer Trust; Lewes Friends of Pestalozzi; Mrs A Lacy-Tate Trust; Mrs E E Brown Charitable Settlement; The Maurits Mulder Canter Charity; Payden & Rygel; Police Property Act Fund Battle; The R H Scholes Charitable Trust; The Rainford Trust; Raymond & Blanche Lawson Charitable Trust; Rural Past Times; Sir Gerald Newman Settlement; St Mary's Frensham Trust; Tibetan Community in Britain; W O Copeman Charitable Trust; The Wellington Reynolds Charitable Trust; Wonky WI.

I came to Pestalozzi in 2005 and consider myself very privileged to have gotten the scholarship to study in the UK. It gave me a different perspective on life and opened up the opportunity to study in the USA.

I now work for Lubuto Library Project in Zambia. We are building libraries in places where there would otherwise be none. Our main focus is on marginalised children and youth. I met the founder of the project, Jane Meyers, in Washington, D.C. I was in college at the time and was looking for ways to volunteer. I spent some time volunteering with them in their classification efforts before books are

shipped to Zambia (where local materials are added). I have known about the organisation since then and have closely watched their activities in Zambia.

When I came back to Zambia last year, I was looking for something to channel my education and experience into and Lubuto approached me. I was more than glad to join them. I see public libraries as a way to achieve my broader goals of social justice: promoting children's rights.

Public libraries in Zambia are in dire need of resuscitation. I'm glad to be part of an organisation that is helping with this. In the future I hope to contribute to the attainment of equity in the education system.

Pestalozzi embodies lofty ideals. The most special part of my Pestalozzi experience was meeting people from different parts of the world and sharing life and experiences with them. I learned a lot about myself from sharing my culture and learning other people's cultures and traditions - and I made lots of good friends.

Thank you



A special thanks to our partners the Grieg Foundation for their generous financial support and their continued advice and guidance.



Updates from the Class of 2013

We recently caught up with our most recent graduates to see what they've done since leaving Pestalozzi last summer.

Aldrin Shumba worked at SOS Children's Villages in Zimbabwe and is now a marketer for local colleges. He's heading to the University of Brighton this year.

Alfred Bowa is working as a DJ (hire him if you're in Zambia!).

Anshul Agrawal (India) has set up an IT support company with his brother and is applying for British universities.

Bharat Nepali has been promoting education in his home community, Nepal. Read more at bit.ly/1hG6CN1

Chanda Singoyi (Zambia) is a pre-med student at Bucknell (USA), an executive board member of Bucknell African Students Association and in the volleyball team and soccer club.

Chandan Mishra has been teaching maths and science in Nepal, and will go to the University of Brighton in 2014.

Chandra Bhandari has volunteered at Open Learning Exchange Nepal and hopes to go to London School of Economics this year.

Chileshe Lukwesa (Zambia) is at the University of Pennsylvania (USA), enjoying a range of language, linguistics and writing classes.

Chris Mujjabi (Uganda) is having a blast at Earth University in Costa Rica – his Spanish is definitely improving!

Darpan Bohara (Nepal) is teaching IELTS and will be going to Smith (USA) this year.

Dechen Yangkyi (Tibet) is at Bucknell in the USA and is secretary of Bucknell's African Students Association.

Jennifer Musa from Zambia is at Smith (USA) and enjoying economics, mathematics and global finance.

Kishore Chanda Patra is currently teaching IB physics and maths in India. He has been offered a place at MIT (USA). Read about his experience on our website: bit.ly/1g7AGNi

Millicent Mlauzi has taught and tutored in Zimbabwe and has been offered a place at Michigan State University (USA).

Namkhang Tsamchoe from Tibet is studying at Sarah Lawrence College in New York (USA).

Ngawang Dayang (Tibet) is studying a BSc in Management and IT at Goenka World Institute.

Nigesh Pajapati (Nepal) has helped coordinate a Maths Olympiad (among other things!) and will be heading to Bucknell (USA) this year.

Pearl Rwauya worked with Lead Us Today in Zimbabwe and is helping support himself and his family. He is applying for universities in the USA.

Pratibha Tiwari has been teaching at a girls' primary school in India and is applying for universities.

Success Sibanda is undertaking an internship at the Institute for Rural Technologies in Bulawayo, Zimbabwe.

Surya Tripathi (Nepal) has been to Thailand, interned with a DNA matching project and has been offered a place at MIT (USA). Read more from Surya: bit.ly/1kuQwc3

Susmita Ghimire (Nepal) has been teaching and working in a pharmacy and will soon be back in the UK at the University of Brighton.

Tenzin Ngadon (Tibet) is volunteering at a school in India and working on college applications.

Vincent Tembo (Zimbabwe) is in his first year at Berea College (USA).

Yadu Poudel (Nepal) is teaching maths and assisting that school's application for the IB Primary Year Program. Read more from Yadu on our website: bit.ly/1i3KJFQ

Yangkyi Lhatso from Tibet is now at Wellesley (USA) and hoping to score a great placement for her summer internship.

Read more great alumni success stories at pestalozzi.org.uk/alumni



Friends and fundraisers



Now that's a big supporter

Louis, Prabha, Thinley and Shuvechchha joined staff and volunteers to spread the word about Pestalozzi at Priory Meadow shopping centre in Hastings in February. We love this photo (above) of Prabha Upreti chasing a huge donation (photo by Thinley Dhendup).

Could your school have a dress down day, bake sale or assembly to support Pestalozzi? Please contact Darren Maylam if you'd like some help: phone 01424 871904 or email darren.maylam@pestalozzi.org.uk

Friends of Pestalozzi Isle of Man

Our Friends of Pestalozzi group in the Isle of Man continue their extraordinary contribution to the charity, this year sponsoring their first male student, Justin Mushitu from Zambia (pictured). Dechen Yangkyi from Tibet, who the group sponsored from 2011 to 2013, is now studying at Bucknell in the USA. Your support is greatly appreciated!



Bright Young Things



This is the second year we've had a team from the University of Brighton's Bright Young Things programme helping us out with marketing and fundraising. This year the team has organised a bake sale, taken part in the Hastings Half Marathon, helped out at Pestalozzi cultural events, run public collections and written articles for local papers. Thanks for your support!

Charity Challenge

Rebecca, Emily, Grace and Sophie from Ballakermeen School represented Pestalozzi in the Isle of Man Charity Challenge this year, winning their school heat and going on to the main competition. This is a competition run across the island's schools to raise money for students' chosen charities. "We've loved learning more about Pestalozzi," the team said. "We realise how fortunate we are to receive an education, which enables us to be successful in life. Pestalozzi enables young people just like us to excel and have opportunities that they deserve as much as we do." Fantastic work, team!



Friends of Pestalozzi Lewes

The Friends of Pestalozzi Lewes hosted another well-attended Christmas concert, featuring songs from Pestalozzi students as well as their own, expertly-led choir. The concert raised £1200 for Pestalozzi. The group is now looking forward to their "Jazz & Jam" event on Sunday 8 June, featuring the Bryn Bridges Jazz Trio, a variety of stalls, a children's playground, a raffle and delicious cream teas. For more information, visit pestalozzi.org.uk/events

Thank you

To: Dave and Giselle Minett (host family)

From: Madhumita Some (India) Dhanyabad



Thank you mum and dad! You have given me a home away from my own. Your support for me is immense.



Faith in diversity

Enter the Pestalozzi neighbourhood and you'll understand the true meaning of diversity, write students Timothy Ogolla (Uganda), Lobsang Dolma (Tibet) and Binayak Datta (India).

Pestalozzi students' different backgrounds include not only cultural diversity but also a variety of faiths, belief systems and religions. Among us are Buddhists, Christians, Muslims, Hindus and atheists. Not many of us knew about each other's religions or cultures before coming to Pestalozzi. Here, we come to understand and are able

to respect and learn from each other's beliefs.

The Sunday kitchen is busy, bustling with activity. Every corner is occupied, mostly by Christians and a few early risers. It will clock 9:30 soon, time to go to church. Next in line are the Buddhists, in for a quick breakfast. By 10:30, they will be heading towards the Pestalozzi shrine room to have their usual supplication. For them also, Sunday morning is the most convenient. As for the Hindus, they do not have a particular hour and a place – after all, they have almost thirty three million gods and goddesses, so each person has a deity of choice to worship. As for the Muslims, a trip to the mosque on a Friday is obligatory; the Jum'ah prayer is to be taken very seriously. On the other days, however, all the five prayers in a day can be said in one's own room.

All the students have heard about Holi, a Hindu celebration. OK, maybe not all the first year students, but definitely all the second years! At Pestalozzi, it is an amalgamation of the

different religions, cultures, continents and beliefs, all in the name of fun.

There is no way to avoid the coloured powders that fly from end to end of the village. Not even the cold wind in March can stop the delight of chasing people around with the colours and having traditional snacks cooked by our Indian and Nepalese students. By the time weariness settles in we have the perfect definition of multi-colour (in every face, in every cloth, the minimum is four different colours).

On occasions like Mawlid, a commemoration of the birth of the prophet Muhammad, every student receives a treat from our Muslim friends. This year, it was some of the tastiest chocolates you could ever get. Last year, we were given lovely white roses. With these gifts come thoughtful quotes from Islam.

In this wonderful diversity at Pestalozzi, every religion is treated on an equal footing and given rightful respect. Being in the UK, many of us cannot get access to the same level of religious practice as at home. But, at the same time, we gain a wider knowledge of independent thoughts and actions. No wonder Pestalozzi is the epitome of a multi-faith, multi-cultural community.



Thank you

To: Andrew Hunter Johnston (supporter)

From: David Mtonga (Zambia)

🔊 Zikomo

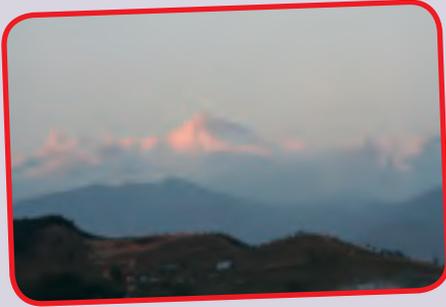
Dear Andrew, thank you very much. Your extensive support to Pestalozzi shines in our hearts.

Zikomo
Thank You



Travel photos

Mags Alexander



Pokhara, Nepal



Alumni in New York



Patan Durbar Square, Nepal



Shiyapuri, Nepal

Meet the team: Mags Alexander



Student Programme Manager Mags has just celebrated her tenth anniversary at Pestalozzi. She has seen dozens of young people through our scholarship programme and she regularly amazes staff by recalling minute details about them! Here, she talks about her background and some of the more memorable parts of her role.

Before coming to Pestalozzi I'd studied in Thailand, travelled around the world and done a lot of work with young people who had emotional and behavioural difficulties and severe epilepsy, or who had been excluded from mainstream education. When I returned to the UK, I wanted to continue my work with young people. I recall the Pestalozzi students I met during my interview visit asking me some enquiring and challenging questions.

In my role, I oversee the educational and pastoral support of the students, working with my team to make sure students have the best experience that they can during their stay at Pestalozzi. During selection, I visit some of the countries from which our students are chosen and I'm involved in the follow up "bureaucracy" required to get them here, which can be a real challenge at times!

I thoroughly enjoy anything that involves the students, from selection through to their Leavers' Ceremony. I have learned so much from successive generations: about their countries, cultures and customs. I'm inspired by their commitment to their studies and to making a difference in the world. I also enjoy meeting our alumni when my travels allow, seeing the impact their own contributions to society are making in the lives of other young people.

I do have some interesting travel stories. I was in Nepal in 2006 when a General Strike was called, which disrupted our travel plans and brought many people out onto the streets to protest – and there were some clashes between police and demonstrators. I was in the middle of selection, so our candidates had an extended stay: we were unable to send them safely back to their schools for several days due to curfews. It was a turning point in the pro-democracy movement in Nepal and it was very interesting being in the country at a time of such significant change.

Finally, I'd like to say a big thank you to our supporters. Without your donations, skills and efforts, our work educating and empowering young people would be impossible. I hope you enjoy reading about our students and alumni and the change that the Pestalozzi scholarship has made to their lives and the lives of others.



Help us meet our fundraising challenge!

Fundraise

Do you love cake, physical challenges and/or socialising? We'd like you to organise a bake sale or coffee morning, do a sponsored marathon or skydive, or put on a fun quiz night or dinner party – all to raise funds for Pestalozzi. You can get set up your sponsorship challenge right away at JustGiving.com/Pestalozzi or call us on 01424 870444 for more ideas and help.



Donate

You can make a difference right now by filling out and returning the tear-off form to the right. If you'd like to donate £200 a year, you could join **Pestalozzi 200** and gain an even closer relationship with Pestalozzi – please give us a call on 01424 870444. Remember to sign a Gift Aid declaration if you can, to make your donation go 25% further.



Leave a legacy

Gifts in wills are vital to Pestalozzi's future. If you feel you would be able to support us in this special way, we would be most grateful. Please call Abigail Tourle on 01424 871906 if you would like to discuss the possibility of leaving a legacy.



MAKE A DIFFERENCE IN THE WORLD DONATE TO PESTALOZZI

Title: Given name:

Family name:

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Email:

I enclose a cheque for £ made payable to Pestalozzi International Village Trust

I wish to give regularly and have completed the Bankers Order Form (below)

I am a UK taxpayer and I have completed a Gift Aid declaration (below) to help my donation go even further

Please stop claiming Gift Aid on my donations as I am no longer a UK taxpayer

BANKER'S ORDER

Please send to Pestalozzi, not to your bank.

Your bank:

Bank address:

Postcode:

Sort code: Account number:

Account name:

Please pay to Barclays Bank plc, 207-208 Queens Road, Hastings, TN34 1QP. Sort Code: 20-27-91
For the credit of Pestalozzi International Village Trust, Account Number: 60716383

the sum of £

(please repeat in words)

Please take my gift: Once Monthly Annually

Commencing: until further notice

Signature:

Date:

GIFT AID TAX DECLARATION

I would like Pestalozzi to reclaim tax on

All donations I have made in the last four years, and all donations I make on or after the date of this declaration

All donations I make on or after the date of this declaration

The enclosed donation of £ only

I confirm I have paid or will pay an amount of Income Tax and/or Capital Gains Tax for each tax year (6 April to 5 April) that is at least equal to the amount of tax that all the charities or Community Amateur Sports Clubs (CASCs), that I donate to, will reclaim on my gifts for that tax year. I understand that other taxes such as VAT and Council Tax do not qualify. I understand the charity will reclaim 25p of tax on every £1 that I give.

I understand I am under no commitment to make any further donations and I may cancel this declaration in respect of future donations at any time.

Signature:

Date:





OUR MISSION

Our mission is to make a real and lasting difference by applying the Pestalozzi principles of educating the Head, Heart and Hands.

Pestalozzi is a UK-based charity with more than 50 years' experience of offering life-changing opportunities to young people from disadvantaged communities around the world.

We award scholarships to exceptional 16-19 year olds who are academically gifted but have limited educational prospects in their home countries. These young people have all demonstrated their enthusiasm for helping to make a difference in their communities.

Pestalozzi students live for two years in a multi-cultural, multi-faith community in East Sussex, UK, where they welcome difference and embrace diversity. They study at Sussex Coast College Hastings and undertake a broad range of extra-curricular activities, gaining an holistic education focused on the Pestalozzi principles of Head, Heart and Hands.

Our scholarships give these young people an opportunity they would not otherwise receive – the chance to develop their potential, pursue their ambitions and go on to make a real and lasting difference in the world.

You can be part of our story. Visit our website to find out how: pestalozzi.org.uk

