



Dubai College, PO Box 837, Dubai, UAE Tel: +971 (0) 4 399 9111 Email:dcfoundation@dubaicollege.org

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Dubai College Charity Committee Update

In 2019, the Dubai College Foundation partnered with United World Schools to build and maintain Jaisithok School (Jah-See-Tok) in the central Nepalese province of Gulmi. Our aim is to offer education to the poorest and most remote communities who would not have had access to this facility otherwise. Construction was completed in September 2019, and the school now provides education to approximately 180 boys and girls from Kindergarten through to Year 6 of all ethnicities and castes.

When we initially came up with the #journeytojaisithok campaign, it was a means of making up for not being able to run our annual trip and to show solidarity with the school community in Jaisithok. The distance of 7412km was merely a way to bring us closer together. We set a challenging goal of raising AED 20,000 and asked the whole community to do what they could to help travel the distance from Dubai College to Jaisithok, and back, even if symbolically.

When we launched our campaign just before the spring break we could not have known just how severe the situation in Nepal would become. Our communications showing children studying in their brightly coloured classrooms, or playing in the playground at Jaisithok School, soon became desperate pleas for help. A new variant of Covid-19 has wreaked havoc in Nepal but unlike the crisis in neighbouring India, this new wave has not made global headlines. The virus has overwhelmed the health services in the region of Gulmi and, for rural locations where tests are not widespread, no one knows the full extent of the spread of infections. Jaisithok School has itself become a temporary isolation centre and lessons are being taught via radio.

What we could not have imagined was the extraordinary outpouring of commitment, effort and kindness that resulted: our students, staff and extended DC community have run, skipped, swum, cycled, hopped, back-flipped, kayaked, climbed and walked to raise sponsorship for this campaign. Students, staff, family, friends, alumni and former staff have responded magnificently with generous pledges which have flowed into our YallaGive page and the cashier's office.

As a result, and entirely down to the efforts of this wonderful community of kind, hard-working and philanthropic people, the total raised for Jaisithok was not AED 20,000. It was in fact more than double: over AED51,000.

Dubai College's Charity Committee is delighted, if not a little humbled, at this truly superb response. On behalf of all at Dubai College, we would like to thank everyone who became involved in whatever capacity. Your efforts will save and transform lives in Jaisithok.

You are all our heroes.

Thank you, thank you, thank you!

Dubai College Charity Committee

