



FINDING CHAMPIONS

Education is an important tool that could help uplifting the economical and social status of people in the society and the teachers' community has the responsibility of contributing their best towards this noble cause. In Nagaland 74.4 % of Elementary Schools and 43.6 % of Secondary Schools are owned and managed by the State Government. But only 43.2 % of the Elementary Students and 32.3 % of the Secondary School students are studying in the Government schools. It is true that teachers alone cannot be blamed for this scenario. But certainly teachers and school heads together could change the face of Government schools through their dedication, hard work and innovative approaches.

Though many schools may not have good infrastructure, it is imperative that we present an environment which would make children feel comfortable and carry on learning in a joyful way. If all stakeholders of school education join hands together and work with dedication, we could easily change the common perception people have towards Govt. schools and make them as places of joyful learning. Many Govt. schools in our State have been performing well and render immense services to the society. Unfortunately, the noble services and remarkable contributions made by the teachers' community of these schools fail to get the due appreciation they deserve. Therefore, we wish to highlight the important initiatives being undertaken by different Govt. schools through this News Letter so that it would encourage them to strive for sustained development and will also motivate others to adopt the best practices in their schools. In this issue, we will take a glimpse at Government Middle School, Jakhama from Kohima district.

The most important thing schools need to have is a team of dedicated teachers who work together to achieve a common goal under a dynamic leader. Teachers of GMS, Jakhama demonstrate this characteristic in all the activities being undertaken at the school. There is no place for the evil practices of proxy and absenteeism at this school and they strictly follow the school timings prescribed by the Department. Some of the teachers even render services beyond their call of duty and act as local guardian for nearly 20 students who stay at rented houses as their parents work as labours in the neighboring states.



Generally, walls of Govt. schools would tend to repel students away from them. But, in GMS, Jakhama, the walls inside the class rooms as well as outside are painted with educative pictures appropriate to the age of children. In primary classes you would find wonders of nature and life around them painted while in upper primary classes you would find pictures related to science, mathematics, social science etc. These pictures arouse interest among students and help in making the learning permanent.

This school serves as a best example emphasizing the importance of joining hands by all stake holders of education; teachers, students, parents, community and the department. The small school ground in the school campus which was uneven is been leveled and filled with tiles by the contribution made by the school Head Teacher. Two long rows of cement corridor were constructed by donations made students and teachers. Each student donated rupees twenty, the cost of one stone and all the teachers also contributed a reasonable amount. Construction works of the corridor, fencing walls, leveling the ground, fixing of tiles etc were done by the Parents free of cost. The village council donated the pipelines required for drinking water supply and also donated a good amount for the construction of few class rooms. The Principal Director of School Education visited the school along with other officers and motivated the staff in their endeavors.

The School has small library with books appropriate to the age and interest of students. They also collect old books from students during result declaration and keeps at the library. These old books are used by students during delays caused in supply of new text books and also serve as reference books for students. Most importantly, students use the library in regular schedules. The School has small computer lab with 5 computers, all in working condition. The computers are used by teachers and students time to time.

Mid day meals is served to all students up to class VIII throughout the year as per Govt. norms. The love and care being shown by the teachers for their students could be witnessed during serving of Mid Day Meals as all the teachers become a part of activity. Above all, one could witness the disciplined nature of students within the class rooms as well as outside the class rooms. With a total enrollment of nearly 180, the students perform well in academics as well. I record my sincere appreciations to the Head Teacher Smt. Swedesunuo, all Teachers, Supporting Staff, Parents, Village Council Members and Well Wishers of the school.

It is proposed to publish this News Letter quarterly with more pages depending on the support and encouragement we receive from school heads and teachers. Schools may send reports of innovative practices being followed along with photographs through email to director.se.nagaland@gmail.com. At the end of the year, the best performing schools among GPS, GMS, GHS and GHSS will be selected and conferred awards/rewards by the department.

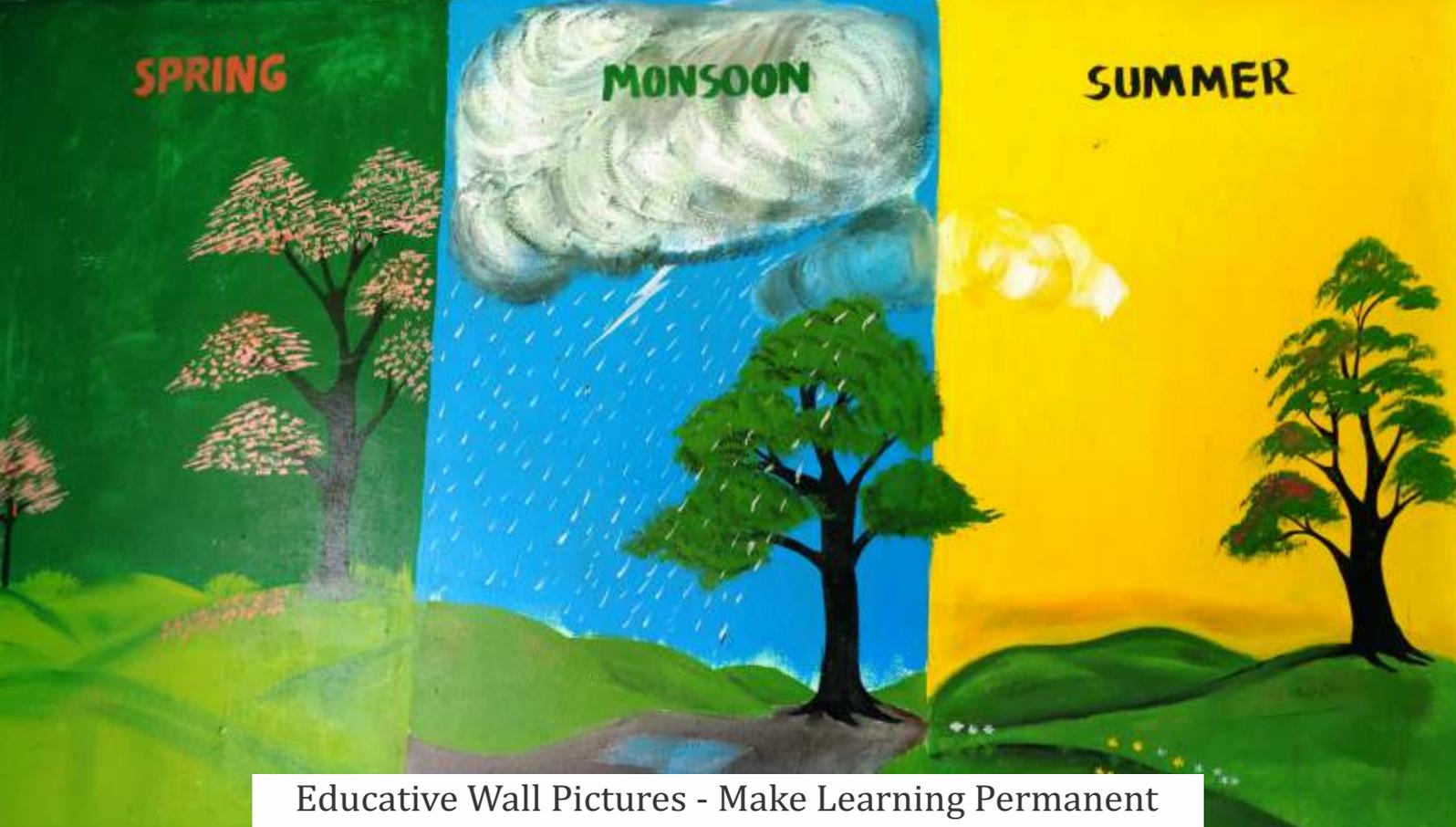
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School Library