

# The Rabbit School

Christmas Newsletter 2017



WHERE ALL CHILDREN CAN LEARN AND GROW



## Women's International Group Christmas Fair

On November 26<sup>th</sup> 2017, the Rabbit School attended the Women's International Group (WIG) annual Christmas Fair in Phnom Penh. This annual event brings together local NGOs and companies, and is an important chance for Rabbit School to speak to potential partners.

At the event, representatives from Rabbit School handed out our brochures, and also had many discussions with staff from the 14 other NGOs and private companies that were in attendance. Through our discussions, we also found new clients for the hand crafted paper bag business that supports our vocational

training program. We would like to thank WIG for organizing a fantastic event, one which was thoroughly enjoyed by everyone who was in attendance.



# Northbridge International School NGO Fair Forum.

On 12<sup>th</sup> October, the Rabbit School attended a Forum for NGOs at Northbridge International School. The event was a chance for Rabbit School to discuss our work with other members of the NGO sector, as well as the students who attend Northbridge. We had a very enjoyable and productive day. By the end of the forum, some of the students from the school had discussed the idea of visiting the Rabbit Schools Phnom Penh headquarters to find out more about the work that we do. We are

looking forward to their visit.



### **New Playground**

The Rabbit School has recently opened a new playground at its Phnom Penh headquarters, at the National Borey and Infant Centre. We would like to thank the World PoP Company for their support while building the playground. We would also like to thank the parents of the Children who attend Rabbit School, not only for the donations they made towards the funding of the new area, but also for the work they did during the construction process.



### **Teacher Training**

The Rabbit School ran a teacher training workshop from 26<sup>th</sup>-28<sup>th</sup> September 2017 at Ang Snoul and Ang Seray primary school. 39 people participated in the training, including teachers from Phnom Penh, Kandal and Kampong Speu. The aim of this training was to educate participants about different types of disabilities, their various interventions, and the best strategies for working with children and youth with intellectual disabilities.

During the training, participants were given information regarding a wide range of disabilities, such as ADHD, Down syndrome, autism and spina bifida. After a basic overview, the training moved on to practical topics like classroom management, how to best communicate with persons with intellectual disabilities, as well as learning about how to implement the Learning Through Play pedagogy.

This sort of training is incredibly important in a developing country like Cambodia. In our experience, many people we training have a broad understanding of terms like disability, intellectual but are unfamiliar with disabilities such as Down syndrome or ADHD. It is only by learning about these disabilities that education professionals can provide a suitable environment for the most

vulnerable children in our society.



### **School Openings**

The Rabbit School was pleased to take part in the school opening days at 3 of our partner schools. At these events, the Rabbit School team provided scholarship packages to poor children. The packages contained learning materials, food, and a bicycle. These packages are provided to poor children so that they have the material, nutrition, and transportation necessary to get a good education in the coming year.

The Rabbit School would like to thank the Ministry of Education, Youth and Sport, Aid et Action, The Liliane Foundation, Oxfam for partnering with us for this project. We would also like to take this opportunity to support all the hard work done by parents to ensure that their children have access to education.



**Student Trip to Thailand** 

On the 8<sup>th</sup> and 9<sup>th</sup> October, a student from our vocational training programme had the opportunity to take part in the Disability Inclusive Sport for Tomorrow 2017, which took place in the Thailand and Japan Centre in Thailand. There, our student competed against people from all over Asia, and finished in the top three competitors. We would like to offer our congratulations on this amazing achievement



**Staff Retreat** 

In November, the Rabbit School staff went of a staff trip to Sihanoukville in order to prepare our strategic plan for 2018. The trip was a massive success. The staff had the opportunity to discuss their experiences work with children with intellectual disabilities, and also worked on improving the implementation of our learning through play programme.

After the hard work was finished, the staff took a well-earned break, and enjoyed their trip immensely!