

Asian foundation

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Psalm 127 `Unless the Lord builds the house, its builders labour in vain`

June 2010

NEWSLETTER

Dear people,

After an endlessly long winter and a long and cold spring, with almost every day snow- or dust storms, it now seems that summer has begun. Lovely weather and the trees covered in freshly green leaves. The seeds on our haschaa have started to appear as little plants. The dust storms are not over yet, and we do hope that rain will come soon, because then we will have a few dust free days.

This spring we had a lot of visitors. My niece with her boyfriend and the pastor and the administrator of an English church who support our work have visited us. In May Nelly van de Merwe, Annemarie en Ad van Tol were here. They are involved with Asian Foundation and the sponsor plan is their responsibility. This is what they have written themselves about their stay in Mongolia:

Visitors from Holland

Our visit to Mongolia was impressive. Our first impression of the children was overwhelming. It was very special to see how the children get on well together and help each other. Their happiness and the fact that they are very affectionate make that you can hardly believe that they have had so much misery in their young lives. We visited all our foster homes and had dinner with the children and their caretakers. Their "mothers" look after them fantastically. It was wonderful to see how they live together as a close family and look after each other. It also was a privilege to meet the three new kids in Fosterhome 4, who feel so at home already. We had a lot of fun together. We will miss them! After all these visits, we made a trip into the countryside and stayed the night with a nomad family. There you see the real Mongolia: the immense space with the odd flock of sheep, goats, cows or horses, the beautiful countryside and the complete silence. The last evening of our visit, we went with the youngest children to a resort in the countryside, where they sang for Dutch tourists. It was an unforgettable journey!

Nelly, Ad en Annemarie



Foster Homes

Summer holidays have started for all the children. Three long months! In two weeks time we all will have a camp for a week and in July, the children will go into the countryside for a month. The teenagers on the haschaa, who are older than 18 years, will try to find a holiday job.

In our new foster home, we welcomed three new children. Two boys who are 4 and 6 years old. They lived at the



Police Identification Centre after the police in the streets had found them. They turned out not to have any parents. And we welcomed a girl whose mother died last December. She could not speak while she does not seem to be deaf. It is special to see this girl flourish. In the meantime, she has started to talk and she has learned to sing many songs. She turns out to have a bit of a hearing problem and we are now waiting for some kind of hearing aid for her. In our new foster home, we now have 10 children. The older girls, who came first, have now a couple of little brothers and sisters who they can pamper. These children do not have any sponsors, so if you would like to sponsor a child, please let us know!





Sad news

Tulgaa, one of our boys, was hit so hard on his eye by one of his classmates that his eye was completely destroyed and had to be taken out. After he has been operated on, he now has a glass eye. It looks all right but he does have a handicap now. Fortunately, he handles it all quite well, and he will get a trendy pair of glasses to support him in this situation.

New Project

The Dutch embassy in Beijing each year gives a donation to a newly started, small-scale project in Mongolia. This year we will receive this donation from the Dutch embassy. We hope to build a house for girls who can't live on their own in the future. We can't wait to receive the money and start building, now that it is summer. A piece of land, called haschaa, has already been bought.

More wishes

We would like to build another small house for our teenage boys, who now live in a ger. The costs for such a house are about 10.000 Euros. Another wish is to get our own well, so we can supply our haschaas with fresh water. This will take another 10.000 Euros.

Blessings

Wishes we will probably have forever, but at the same time, we are immensely blessed with everything we have. Every month we have enough for all our children. We can send our children to summer camps and in the future, we hope to provide a home for more children. We shared with each other the scripture from Psalm 27 verse 10. 'Though my father and mother forsake me, the Lord will receive me'. The knowledge that we are so loved by the Father is an encouragement for staff and children. Thank you so much for your support and for your prayers!

Sylvia

As I have told you in our previous newsletters, Sylvia, a Dutch woman, has reinforced our team in Mongolia. Here is what she has written herself.



About 6 months ago, I started a day care centre for children from very poor families. Three mornings a week, we have about 7 children between 2 and 5 years old. These children very often are all alone at home and we would like to offer them the possibility to enjoy the company of other children and learn how to make friends and play together. They enjoy themselves enormously and they enjoy playing with toys.

Because very often their parents are unemployed, we teach their mothers how to make Mongolian slippers, so they can earn a little money. They work hard and have made many slippers by now. We try to sell them, so these women will have some income.

Besides this work, I am also involved in other areas of work of Asian Foundation. For example, I accompany the social worker when she visits the foster homes, schools and when there are meetings to go to. In this way, I am more and more involved in the work and I am well informed about the things that happen. It is not always easy, but it is a privilege to be part of this work.

Sylvia.



On behalf of Asian Foundation, we wish you all a good holiday!

Asian Foundation,
Corry Vreugdenhil,
Mongolia