

សង្ឃមណ្ឌលសហសង្គ្រោះកម្ពុជា
Salvation Centre Cambodia
(SCC)



Amazing Activities by
SCC-CBE Schools

SCC-CBE Teacher Team
January 2020

Table of Contents

I. Atith, the Great Boy to SCC-CBE School.....	3
II. Health, Hygiene, Learning, Food, and... Fun.....	4
III. Our moral education! Our fun.....	5
IV. SCC-CBE School study program.....	9
V. SCC-CBE children's crafts works.....	9
VI. The things/events that kids are learning from our school as follows.....	11
1. Christmas Day.....	11
2. Happy Happy Program.....	11
3. Orphan and Vulnerable Children (OVC) Parents Meeting.....	12
4. Mrs. Christine Bundy (Project Leader).....	13
5. Mrs. Jane Fox former volunteer teacher opinion.....	13
6. Ms. Friederike Louise Mayer former volunteer teacher opinion.....	14
7. Ms. Imina Hecht volunteer teacher opinion.....	15
VII. Overview of SCC-CBE Schools and situations of CBE students' families.....	16
8. Story of Yuth Dara.....	17
9. Story of Bun Phany	17

I. Atith, the Great Boy at SCC-CBE School



A volunteer teacher with her students at SCC-CBE School

Vincent Van Gogh said that “Great things are done by a series of small things brought together”. In 2018 a group of people from all over the world came together to help save the Salvation Centre Cambodia schools for disadvantaged and vulnerable children. Those people gave money to help kids they had never met and an NGO they had never heard of. In a world that is torn with conflict, division, and fear of difference a group of people wanted to help. That group of people was YOU...

AND...this is how you have helped...Atith is a 9-year-old full-time student at one of the SCC schools for disadvantaged children from poor families. Both his father and mother work as cleaners at a local hospital. Their incomes barely cover the monthly rent they have to pay for their small dwelling, let alone electricity, water, and food for 4 children. Atith is not alone as his younger brother also attends the SCC school. Both Atith and his brother do not go to state school because their family cannot afford to pay the costs of transportation, uniforms, study materials and unofficial money for the teachers. Atith’s father says that at times the family has gone without food because after the bills were paid, there was no money left. If it were not for the SCC school, Atith would not be given the opportunity to receive an education or a nutritious meal. According to Atith’s teachers, he is a bright student who works hard and achieves good grades in subjects such as English, Music, and Art. Atith is also a member of the SCC youth and music group where he is well known for belting out a tune on a number of instruments. There are many children attending the SCC schools in Atith’s position. We would like to say Thanks to the SCC worldwide donor community for giving the kids of Cambodia a chance to succeed in whatever field they may choose. (SCC respects Atith and his family's privacy, therefore he is not pictured).



Children of SCC-CBE School received learning materials from friends in UK

This is how I feel when working with the kids at the SCC-CBE Schools:

When they smile at me, I feel joy inside. When they dance with me, I feel full of life inside. When they play games with me, I feel like a child inside. When they read to me, I feel proud inside. When they tell me about their lives, I feel inspired inside. When I see the poverty in their community, I feel sad inside...but I need not... because it is that everything that drives them forward. These are the kids of SCC-CBE Schools. We are really missing their Smiles!

II. Health, Hygiene, Education, Food, and...Fun.

Health, Hygiene, Learning, Food & Fun is what has been going on at the Salvation Centre Cambodia Children's Basic Education (SCC-CBE) School in Boengkak slum area, Phnom Penh municipality.



Children learnt about doing hygiene with the volunteer doctor



Master Chef preparing Khmer noodles for our children

In order to stay healthy, we have been eating some yummy, nutritional food which we receive at school. The food helps us to concentrate so that we can study and learn. And we make sure that our hands are washed before we eat.

Now about the FUN bit: During the past months a lot of exciting things happened at our CBE-School in Phnom Penh: We all passed our English exams so we painted as many faces as we could find with bright colors. And a parcel full of reading books, pencils and toys arrived from England. And then two more parcels arrived full of writing books, balls and crafts. We learnt about the teachings of Buddha from a venerable monk, too. And just when we thought we had run out of fun stuff we had a visitor from the U.S.A. Venerable Bun Tith came to talk to us about Buddhist teachings and morality. We are blessed at SCC-CBE School in Phnom Penh to have such great donors and supporters. Without you we wouldn't have a school where we can have Health, Hygiene, Learning, Food and Fun.



We make up like the Giants! We are very happy to be here!

III. SCC-CBE's children received moral education from SCC monk

SCC Head Office staff, CBE teachers and voluntary teachers invited the venerable monk to teach and educate our CBE children. He talked about morality, solidarity and how to become a good child, good student, good friend and good citizen for the humanity being at the SCC-CBE School Boengkak, slum area at Phnom Penh municipality, Cambodia.



Children received moral education from SCC monk



They are learning about the Teachings of Buddha from SCC Monk.



The Children received moral education from the SCC Monk.

It was a very special event for our children who spent valuable time to get physical and mental education at our CBE School. Furthermore, SCC Head Office staff, CBE and voluntary teachers and also our students were able to practice the way of the peace of mind by practicing meditation. By practicing meditation regularly, the students are able to improve in many aspects ranging from health and well-being to academic performance.



CBE children practiced meditation to improve their mental health and studies.



“It’s glad to see that how Buddhist meditation is helping peoples to achieve happiness. Doing Buddhist meditation to come out from stress and find peace in daily life. We are appreciating such kind of good step. Buddhism is not a religion, it’s the way of life, every kind of peoples can practice and accept it.”

After performing a Buddhist Ceremony, the children had a chance to play various games led by SCC CBE teachers and volunteers. Moreover, this Happy Happy Program voluntary teachers and community people participated in this program as well. Our kids played very happily on their holiday.

Happy Cambodian children!!



Our children playing an energizer with foreign volunteers

From May-July 2019, SCC-CBE School located in Phnom Penh city warmly welcomed eight volunteers from Denmark, Ireland, England, Australia and Italy. They helped us teaching our children and with doing other required works at SCC-CBE School. Most of them are kind, friendly, and adorable to everyone. They shared the lovable quote that ***“Life is not about making others happy. Life is about sharing our happiness with others.”*** That’s why they do love Cambodian children, especially kids at SCC-CBE School.



Learning activities of children both inside and outside classroom

Children's Basic Education (CBE School) has been training our kids in singing and dancing in preparation for the kids’ song contest at the Ministry of Information Hall. It's a good chance for our students to participate in this competition with many other children who come from different schools to participate in this particular special kids’ song contest. All of them felt very excited when they were in the kids’ song contest. And expressed, their thanks to all the donors and supporters who helped them.

We feel very thankful for your kind donations. Without these we surely would not be able to run such a very useful school where we are able to disseminate and teach Khmer traditional culture, conduct the Happy Happy Program, learning center, and place for sharing experiences, exchange visit with both the beloved children and amazing communities.



CBE children went to join the child song contest at the Ministry of Information.

IV. SCC-CBE School study programs

Curriculum: The main focus at each level is English conversation, listening, and reading. The classes are aimed to be held only in English. Students learn to listen and speak without thinking in Khmer. We use English videos, songs, drama sessions, good fiction books, and other activities to teach English. As we mentioned above, in our curriculum, we are also letting our students focus more on writing skills by doing the monthly test or mid-term exam.



Our children took their mid-term exam at SCC-CBE School

V. SCC-CBE children's crafts works

That's great! Our children have been doing lots of beautiful craft works lately and were able to gain some of the benefits of craft works. They learned to develop their motor skills, increase dexterity, improve hand-eye coordination, boost self-esteem, encourage self-expression, help in socializing, promote innovation and creativity, and enhance decision-making skills. They were very happy. This is one of many life skills they needed.



CBE children achievements of doing craft work outside classrooms

In this reporting period, from August to October 2019, SCC-CBE School located in Phnom Penh municipality warmly welcomed the 16 English Voluntary Teaching Assistants. They helped us teaching our children and doing other required work from SCC-CBE School. Most of them are kind, friendly, courteous and adorable to everyone. They shared the lovable quote that “*Volunteers do not necessarily have the time; they just have the heart.*” That’s why they do love Cambodian children, especially children at SCC-CBE School. On the 30th of October 2019, SCC-CBE School located in Phnom Penh warmly welcomed the 2 German visitors. Mr. Michael & Mrs. Regina were kind, friendly, and courteous to our children, CBE teachers and SCC staff. They are individual sponsors of SCC. They have been supporting our children both spiritual and materials.



Mr. Michael & Mrs. Regina visiting classrooms, CBE teachers, volunteers and CBE children group photo.

SCC-CBE School located in Phnom Penh would like very much to express our gratitude and profound thanks to Healthy Fresh Factory (Pure Drinking Water Company) located in Phnom Penh, Cambodia for their generous heart and their donation of 250 US dollars, 20 liter tanks of pure drinking water and 20 cases of pure drinking water to SCC-CBE School, Boengkak slum area in Phnom Penh municipality. We definitely appreciate their valuable support for orphans and vulnerable children (OVC). Their donations save SCC-CBE School’s lives and Children’s Rights to Education.



Group photo with private sector & CBE School kids and SCC monk.

Education is an investment in the future of children and of nations: Overall, large numbers of girls and boys remain out of school at all levels of education, from early childhood through to adolescence. Most children drop out before reaching secondary school. Girls and boys from disadvantaged groups are struggling to realize their potential as they face difficulties getting to, and staying in school.

(Source: <https://www.unicef.org/cambodia/education>)

SCC-CBE Schools contribute to solve the above mentioned issues but our project wouldn't be possible without our international donors and volunteers who make up our network so thank you for all your continued support. Although SCC reached their Global Giving funding target of \$10,000, this amount of funding has been spent based on the weekly work plan, monthly work plan and annual work plan that have been made by the SCC-CBE School. Therefore, SCC still continues to do fundraising for supporting children and other unavoidable expenses such as school building rental, electricity, water and school materials for teaching and learning both for children and teachers.

VI. The things/events that kids are learning from our school

1. **Christmas Day** was celebrated on the 25th of December 2019 by SCC-CBE teachers and our children at the SCC-CBE School in Phnom Penh, Cambodia. In the Christmas event, the children received various gifts from our generous supporters. They enjoyed a happy time surrounded by their friends, classmates and teachers, eating delicious food and playing various educational games led by their teachers. Our students were able to strengthen the relations with each other. Moreover, they were encouraged and motivated to come to SCC-CBE School and public schools regularly too. We talked about children's rights to education, their rights and child protection, in order to encourage them to be more self-confident and successful in their studies. It is important that the children themselves know about their rights and the chances they have in Cambodia's society. In this event, they also learned about a new culture and traditions, which have flourished in Cambodia after having brought here from western countries. They were able to experience some Christmas spirit and traditions, thus broadening their knowledge of other cultures and their festivities.



Group photo of SCC-CBE children, teachers, and volunteer teachers

2. **The Happy Happy Program** was conducted on 13th December 2019 by SCC's staff members including the CBE teachers at the SCC-CBE School located in Phnom Penh. 63 children of which 29 were girls participated in this activity. In the program, the children played together, explored their skills and learned from each other. They were also able to build new relationships with one another

and strengthen existing ones. During the program, the pupils were very happy together: They learned some new skills unconsciously, interacted with each other, shared knowledge, played educational games and enjoyed refreshments. It was a great opportunity to strengthen their relationships and grow together as a community. Through having fun, our children were encouraged and motivated to study at CBE School and state schools regularly. This activity promoted our SCC-CBE School and informed students and parents about their options and possibilities in the education offered, and encouraged more children to join the SCC-CBE School. Additionally, this program aimed to end stigma and discrimination against vulnerable children.



CBE children ate refreshment after ending the program, they played game & danced happily.

3. Orphan and vulnerable children (OVC) parents meeting

SCC-CBE School has been conducting parents meetings every three months. They are led by SCC staff and CBE teachers that cooperate with OVC parents/guardians and local authorities for participating in this meeting. We always inform the participants about SCC-CBE school rules, children's education, parenting skills, and advise the parents/guardians to follow up on their children's studies. Furthermore, we encouraged more actions for children to enroll both at SCC-CBE School and state school in order to make sure that the children are able to get the education they deserve. We also gave the parents/guardians new official information about commune security. We told them the phone number to call in an emergency, phone numbers of local authorities and what kinds of actions are forbidden to be done on children.



Parents of SCC-CBE School children received education on Skillful Parenting

4. Mrs. Christine Bundy is a former volunteer teacher and a fundraiser of SCC-CBE School from Australia. She has been supporting and saving SCC-CBE School until now. She is a supporter of children's rights to education in Cambodia. At 8 o'clock on 13th January 2020, she invited her best friends, Nicola Beckett George, Zoe and Xyavia to visit our SCC-CBE School and all beloved children. She praised that all teachers and children at SCC-CBE School were doing a great job. Our visitors felt surprised and impressed when they saw SCC's staff members and children welcome them very warmly. They told us that they were able to learn a lot about the real situation of CBE School and children. They appreciate our jobs and they encouraged our children to study for the sake of themselves, their family and especially for their own country.



Group photo of CBE children, teachers, volunteers & Christine Bundy friends.

5. Mrs. Jane Fox is a volunteer teacher from UK and taught our CBE students for two weeks. She felt very welcomed by both the local teachers and children at school. She found the behaviors of some children challenging to manage but she understands and appreciates the help that she was able to give. The children seemed to enjoy interactive games and activities while learning. They enjoyed songs with actions and really enjoyed the creative side of learning through craftwork and coloring. Due to the attention span and age ranges of the students, games should be kept short.



Group photo of Jane Fox and children at SCC-CBE School

6. Ms. Friederike Louise Mayer was a volunteer teacher from Germany who taught our students for three months. She said, *“I feel very important sharing my English lessons with all SCC-CBE children in Cambodia.”* She added that, I know they will improve their skills a lot. For me, it is a great experience and for the children it is an important part of their education and a fun time. Besides teaching in class, one is able to connect with many students (from all levels) and it is great to see how they get attached to you.

Regarding teaching children at SCC-CBE School, if due to the language barrier the students do not understand English well, the teachers try to be patient and continue talking to the students in English. Another part of communication is not only talking, I have used body language, drawings and pictures from course books for getting my students understand. However, sometimes they do not understand what I mean. In my opinion, *it is important and extremely beneficial for all the students to get a translation from the local teachers. It is necessary for a good lesson; especially for the younger students a local teacher who assists in Khmer language is very important.*



Friederike, volunteer teachers and SCC-CBE Children

7. My name is ***Imina Hecht*** and I was a volunteer teacher at the SCC-CBE school in Siem Reap for 5 months. During that time I taught English, Math, Art and Science to students aged 9 through 16. This was an extremely valuable experience for me. I was able to take part in the everyday life of the school and help out at meal times, with celebrations, visits from supporters and improving the school in general. Through this I learnt so much and gained valuable insight into what it takes to run a school. There are challenges every day but everyone I met was determined to overcome any challenges and continue to keep improving the school.

The students I met were incredibly motivated, kind and fun. Although life has not been easy for them, they enjoyed life and were determined to study. The school is an amazing place for them. The kind teachers and the free classes are able to provide them with a safe place where they can learn, play, meet other children and just be themselves – just as any child should be able to. It is great that thanks to SCC, they have that opportunity and I hope that the schools will be open for a long time to come.



SCC-CBE School Students in Siem Reap playing tennis



Imina and her students held Christmas day at CBE School in SRP

VII. Overview of SCC-CBE Schools and situations of CBE students' families

During the COVID-19 pandemic, SCC-CBE children were kept out of school because all schools have been suspended. This is following the guideline of the Ministry of Education, Youth and Sport instructed on March 15th 2020 with the goal of preventing the spread of the virus. From then till now, no classes were taught by any teachers in our school. However during all this time , our teachers and volunteers have been working on some school's work such as reviewing the course outlines for the course books for all levels, revising lesson plans and examining students name lists for taking any intervention for helping them immediately. They also conducted follow-ups through phone calls or direct visits to their homes in order to guide them in preparing a schedule for self-learning at home. The teachers and volunteers have arranged other school management work, too. In this reporting period, SCC Executive Director also asked our teachers to help with arranging and putting SCC's financial documents in order for the SCC Head Office. This is a new work for them as well next to their usual tasks of teaching and learning at SCC-CBE School. Moreover, our teachers come to work and conduct peer learning, self-learning, and learning by doing at school five days per week in order to improve their teaching capacity and learning skills. They have reflected and learnt from this experience. By doing this they are getting ready before the school reopening; as a result, they have been strong in their jobs.



SCC-CBE teachers work on reviewing student name list and other tasks.

The situations of CBE's students families

[When the world was hit by COVID-19 pandemic, Cambodia was also affected and most workers in the informal economy sector, many of whom were poor before, are losing their incomes because there are no customers. Mr. Vorn Pao, the president of the Independent Democracy of Informal Economy Association (IDEA), said that the areas with many non-formal economist facing new problems during the COVID-19 outbreak included Sihanouk, Siem Reap and Phnom Penh. He added that, "Incomes of non-formal economists were reduced by 70 to 80 %". (Source: RFI Radio released on 17/03/2020-12:28)]

On the 7th of May 2020, SCC-CBE teachers conducted their home visits to our children's homes. They met many children who stayed at home and played nearby their houses with their friends. However, some children could access their studies through an E-learning program provided by the national government through a specific broadcast on television (TV). Others were able to access their learning

via online teaching classes for the medium-rich and rich households. However, most our children live under poor living conditions, and missed their classes whether online teaching or television. Some families are very poor and more children have to support their families with their own income. What has happened to these families? During the COVID-19 pandemic, most parents continued working to earn an income for their family, but in most cases their incomes were less than before. The parents have no time to stay home and take care of their children or fully support their studies through the E-learning program provided by the national government. We might think that children want to learn alone, we are sure that, they don't. What has happened to those children whose parents leave home to go outside and earn incomes? In these cases, we try to help our parents/caregivers as much as possible to arrange a schedule for their children to continue their lessons at home. The goal is that when the parent/caregivers came back from work they just have to spend a little time checking homework or their children's tasks. Significantly, some parent/caregivers have taught their children at home as well. Now we would like to portray two of our student's family's current situation as follows:



Teachers visited Dara's family

1. **Yuth Dara**, 11 years old, studies in grade 4 at Kolab I, primary school. He also studies English with SCC-CBE School in level 2. Dara was living with his aunt and uncle at Phum 22 village, Sangkat Sras Chak, Khan Daun Penh, Phnom Penh city, slum area when the virus broke out. They supported him going to schools every day like the other children in the community. Dara is an orphaned child who has no mother. His father has married another woman. So, he is forced to live with his uncle and aunt. Now Dara was sent to his homeland at the province for preventing COVID-19 pandemic. He will come back to his community when the pandemic has passed. His caregivers reported that since the Coronavirus outbreak, it has become increasingly difficult to earn an income for supporting their daily lives.

2. **Bun Phany**, 9 years old, studies in grade 2 at Kolab I, primary school. He also studies English with SCC-CBE School in level 1. Phany is also an orphaned child who was abandoned by his parents when he was a baby. At the moment, he lives with his grandmother, who works as a laundry worker for someone from house to house for fee at PhumToul Sangkae SangkatSras Chak, Khan Daun Penh, Phnom Penh City. His grandma has been working very hard to earn an income for supporting her grandchild's studies and herself. Indeed, she tries very hard for support her grandchild even though she has a chronic disease (high blood pressures). She still gives her hope to her grandchild. She expressed that since the coronavirus outbreak, this bad situation has caused a deterioration of her living standard. She faces a very hard situation in earning income to support her living.



Teachers visited Phany's family