

# The Philippines schools project

## ***We made it!***

We've never undertaken two builds on such a scale before, and it was bit close, but we managed to get them both finished and opened before we left. Big thanks is due to all the builders that worked



so hard to get everything finished, you can't imagine how hard it is to work out there, in those scorching temperatures under a searing sun.

# 2020

***Everything we achieve is thanks to the support you give us!***



Our plan, provided we can source the finance, is to make this a two-storey classroom. We hope to add the upper floor on our next visit. This plan also meant that much stronger, and more expensive, foundations and structures were needed.



Larger and deeper foundations and larger diameter steels used throughout.



It took more than two weeks of our projected six-week build to come out of the ground



The foundations had taken so long, I was already getting concerned over whether we could finish in time.



Scaffolding and shuttering in place







Laying the concrete slab roof was a massive job. For 8 hours solid, 15 men worked non-stop. Some filled the cement mixer, two chains on steps passed full cement buckets

up and empty ones down, while men at the top spread the mix



The slab roof needed time to cure, so some of the men were diverted into the second build, the clinic.

the finished items...



...with tiled floors, toilets, fans and lighting installed





Jo had done her usual brilliant job of packing all the boxes that we freighted out, 17 in total



We then unpack them and sort them into goods for the two schools, we box and label them to make distribution easier.

We have clothes, books, pencils and paper, lots of soft toys and small cars as

well as some larger hardware like computers and hand tools, all of which will be distributed during our time here. All these items have been donated by our friends in the UK, although we are looking to try and cut back a little as packing and moving these boxes around becomes more difficult for us.







We bought 12 smart TV's and 12 printers, distributed equally between the high school, and elementary school

For the high school, we bought a dish cabinet, to store the plates, cups and cutlery they requested. They will use them in the student's canteen



We bought enough paint to create a new colour scheme for the whole of the elementary school.





We invested heavily into sports equipment this year, following a request from the high school sports department.

A full-size table tennis table with bats and balls, basketball and volleyball nets and balls, and full sets of badminton and sepak takraw equipment.

In addition we supplied First Aid cabinets and 80 strong A4 file boxes



The high school also had five new steel cabinets for some of their classrooms.



The barangay health workers are a bunch of volunteers who look after the health of our village and its children and mums!



We always try to support them in some small ways, this year providing them with a few essentials they had requested.



There's always plenty of mums and babies that need looking after!



That means they are all healthy when they go to the pre-school!





Boxes are opened up ready for distribution



and then the smiles start!



the filled shoulder bags for the youngsters are always very popular



The gifts include fresh fruit!



everyone waits patiently in the queue





After a blessing for the new clinic, we started on the distribution.



students wave some of the gifts they've been given



and a lovely message from the students, here in a group with some of the teachers





Teachers receive their grants.  
They provide us with a full set of  
accounts on our following visit.

As our scholarship fund  
grew larger it became more  
unwieldy. The solution?  
Grants to various aspects  
of the school's activities.

The sport fund, the  
Scouts, internet for the  
school, students union,  
school newspaper and  
others, handled by the  
teachers for their respective  
disciplines.



As usual, the  
students put on  
a show for us,  
singing and  
dancing. They also  
give us wonderful  
gifts



As we always say to our sponsors, thank you so much for  
making all of this possible.