Dear Parents

In 2012 three teachers from North Beach Primary School visited Luang Prabang in Laos with Dr Rachel Sheffield from Global Hand, a Perth based charity, associated with the South Perth Rotary Club, that supports education and health projects in Laos.

After visiting the small village school at Hoikor, Paula Yost, Shelley Curry and former staff member Mandy Hibbs, returned to Perth and approached then Principal Steve Pash with a proposal to establish a ‘sister’ school relationship with the school at Hoikor, making a long term commitment to provide financial and practical support that could improve the health and education outcomes for the students.

Since then our school community has supported the students and teachers at Hoikor in many ways. We gathered and sent hygiene packs, sports equipment and stationery in 2013 and began work on installing ceilings, electricity and fans in the three classrooms.

In 2014 our funds helped the village to install a much needed set of stairs to the school, which ensured that the school which is situated at the highest point in the village, was easily accessible for the students, even in the monsoon season. The children were delighted when we also installed playground equipment.

Next we supported works to make access to water at the toilets easier with the installation of pipes. This infrastructure has also allowed the vegetable garden to flourish. We also paid for the teachers at the school to attend Professional Development in Luang Prabang.

This year our funds, which are primarily raised through Mini Money Monday collections and the ‘Lucky Lunch’ run by our student leaders, have been topped up by funds from Global Hand and will see a new classroom constructed at the school which will ease overcrowding.

In the Global Hand Leavers programme, small groups of year 12 students travel to Laos to participate in programs run by Global Hand. Once again this year the students are traveling to Laos in early December.

This year students from Rooms 3, 4 and 5 have been asked to provide care/hygiene packages for the students at Hoikor. The Year 12 Leavers will transport to these goods to Hoikor on our behalf.

We would like to thank the entire North Beach School community for your amazing support of this project over the last four years. This is one of the many ways that as a school community we live out our motto “We Care”.

Paula Yost and Shelley Curry