



July 21 Monthly News Update

Meet Xian, one of the children who has completed his first year as a Cashew Early Years student studying at home and online.

Xian was born with a cleft palate which means that from birth there was a split in his upper lip and the roof of his mouth. This creates problems when eating, drinking and talking clearly. The Philippine Band of Mercy, a local charity that helps with surgery for young children has already provided 3 operations to begin to repair his cleft lip and reshape his mouth and nose so things are already improved. See the Before and After photos below. There are 2 more stages of surgery to go, but not until he is 7 and then 10 years old.



For now, 4-year-old Xian lives happily at home with his mum, dad and 2 older brothers. Both parents work hard, but their jobs pay below minimum wage, and they face extra costs for regular medical checks for Xian.

This is what our Cashew teacher, Irish, said about Xian's education -

Xian grew up with low self-esteem, so his mother decided to let him enroll in Nursery. Even though he is still young to start school, his parents want Xian to cope with the learning environment and mingle with other people. He is not used to socializing or even playing with other children because of his condition.

As a teacher, I could see how Xian's personality affects his behaviour toward others because of his condition. There was a time that he entered our first online class; he smiled at me and greeted me happily. Suddenly, when his other classmates entered class, he felt embarrassed when he spoke because we could not understand what he was saying.

Unfortunately, because of what happened, he just bowed his head and hid his face just to make sure no one else could see his condition.

But as time went by, he has adjusted and enjoyed our classes. See how happy he is to get his year-end certificate. Next school year he is still enrolled as a Nursery student. We are happy to know that Xian will continue his studies and will face new challenges bravely.



If you would like to sponsor a place for Xian at Cashew Early Years School for his 2nd year, it costs just £16 per month, please go to this link

<https://childrenofthedump.org.uk/how-you-can-help/sponsor-a-child-form/>

Our Cashew students receive education with Children of the Dump for the first 2 years of their school life. At the age of 6 they then go into public school and we can only continue to

support a small number of children through the Grapevine programme . For others, the family may find help from other charities or will support their child's education themselves. At this point, when your child moves on from Cashew we ask sponsors to transfer their support to a new child entering Cashew. We can suggest children who are all eager for your help. Of course, it is your choice if you wish to continue, and you can stop sponsorship at any time without harming the children's progress.

WHAT ELSE IS HAPPENING AT CHILDREN OF THE DUMP?

ONLINE MONTHLY QUIZ

Another successful monthly online Quiz has raised over £300. Congratulations to the 'Frimley International' team who have played since we started, but never won before. Our wonderful Quizmaster Mark played a short video made by Sarah, the chair of our Manila partner charity, about her visit to the school as lockdown travel restrictions lifted. Watch the video at <https://youtu.be/Al6Bf7UxwJU>

Next Quiz Thursday August 5th at 7.30. Suggested minimum donation just £3 per person.

BigGive 2021

Looking forward to December, just to let you know that we have put in our application to join the BigGive 2021 program when money donated gets doubled by match funding. We will not know if we are successful for a couple of months yet. If you were planning to give the charity a gift towards the end of the year or as part of your Christmas giving - PLEASE think about doing it via BigGive 2021 during the week 30th November - 6th December as it will have double the impact. We will let you know when we hear.

In the meantime, enjoy the summer!
