

Pasang - UWS Mude School, Nepal

Pasang is a student at UWS Mude School, Nepal. He is 8 years old and he attended school for the first time when his UWS community school opened this year. Prior to this, he spent his days helping his grandmother (pictured right) and working with his parents in the fields. Like the rest of his family, Pasang thought he would become a rice farmer as there were few other opportunities available to him.



Since attending UWS Mude school, Pasang's daily routine and prospects have been greatly changed. He now gets up early to help his parents, yet he always arrives on time for school! Pasang particularly enjoys reading story books and learning English songs. For Pasang, having a place to learn skills – like reading, writing and counting – is something that he, or his parents, never thought a possibility. He now has hopes of becoming a teacher and passing on his enjoyment of learning.

Nevertheless, the arrival of UWS has not brought disruption to the traditional ways of life in Mude village. Over the summer months, Pasang and many of his classmates have spent time with friends and family in the fields, working throughout the busy rice planting season. Rice being the main source of income and staple diet of agricultural communities like these, it is an important part of the year. During this time, the village community celebrated Ropai festival – which heralds the beginning of the monsoon – and enjoyed dancing and feasting. As the monsoon draws to an end, Pasang is looking forward to focussing on his studies at UWS Mude School.



Pasang and his younger brother collecting fodder before school!