

**23rd February, 2007**

Hi everyone!

Sorry it's been a while since I've been in touch with you all. Thanks for all the emails and letters. I really appreciate each one. Things are going well here in Nepal. Even the weather is getting warmer after a few weeks of really cold weather.

I'm off school for 2 days now for half term. Yesterday was a staff training day, but today is completely free so it's nice to have a little break!!!

I'm loving teaching my little class here. I only have 8 kids this term which is amazing!! They're from all over the place: America, Pakistan, Ireland, Norway, Kenya, England, Nepal. It's very exciting! The first half of the term has been really busy but I've really enjoyed it. I've had my first parent-teacher meetings which were really good because my parents are all so nice!!

Something which I didn't expect in my first month of teaching was having some student teachers in my class! They're from Norway and are here for 4 weeks. It was quite intimidating at the start, as I still feel like a student myself and sometimes feel like I haven't a clue what I'm doing! but the kids are loving having other people teach them instead of listening to me all the time!!!

My flatmate moved in this week too. Her name is Ally and she's from England and will be working with INF for a year. I've made some really good friends here, which has helped a lot and so I've not been too homesick. I'll be coming home for 3 weeks in July so it will be nice to have a break and see everyone then!!

Church is going well. I haven't been going to Nepali church a lot, but I've settled into the International Church and have been helping out a bit with playing keyboard. Also on Saturdays, I've been going to a Nepali orphanage with some friends. It's great to spend time with the kids and its loads of fun!

We have 5 more weeks of term until Easter break, which I'm really looking forward to, as some people from my church are coming out to Nepal to visit Rosie (from my church, working in Pokhara). So I'll be going to Pokhara with them for a few days. It will be really nice to see familiar faces from home!

Well, think this is about all the news for now! I'll be in touch soon.

Lots of love  
Joy

PS. In case you haven't heard, I've just extended my contract until June 2008!  
I will be home in July for 3 weeks though, so hopefully I'll see lots of you then!

Praise for...

- guidance about next year
- protection for family at home
- all the good friends I've made here
- good health and strength for each day of teaching

Pray for...

- continued protection from homesickness
- the kids at the orphanage, that we will be a blessing to them
- Pete and Simon, the Norwegian students – that this will be a positive experience for them