

September 2022

Dear Friends,

It's good news! After rising to about the same point as it did last year, the river has begun receding. Heavy rains that had been predicted this week did not materialize, and the water, although covering roads in areas where our students live, did not enter most of their homes. It's incredible that for a second year in a row most of the typical problems associated with the flood have been avoided. We are so relieved that after only a three-day closure, we were able to re-open the school this morning.



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*Before and after: the water came within a few vertical inches of entering our building. As of this morning, our back field is muddy, but visible.*



*The same view: picture at left was taken on Aug 30. This morning there is just a bit of water covering the back corner of our playground.*



*Water standing in front of our school. (The women in red are sitting in front of our school entrance.) The water later rose nearly to knee-height.*

Here are a few more pictures of the community. The labels are primarily for people who've visited the area.



*The road from Nagwa toward the bridge.*



*The Nagwa bridge was flooded.*



*The road toward Gangotri Vihar*

And from my home . . . my garden became a swimming pool! I'm hoping I won't lose too many of my plants this year. There are still about 3 feet of water inside my house. The water will take some time to abate, and then I will wait more days for my house to dry out a bit. Maybe after two weeks or so I will be able to move back home.



For those of you who have joined our newsletter family recently, I should say that previously it would have been unusual to have two floods in back-to-back years. Before the "big" (and it was incredibly big) flood of 1978, there had been a 30-year gap. After that, there were typically 10-15 years between floods. But since 2013, they've become much more frequent, every three years (2013, 2016, 2019) and now (skipping the corona year 2020) 2021 and 2022. I'm thankful that our new school will be on higher ground. Some of our future students' homes may be affected, but at least we won't have to worry about the school flooding (until another **big** one).

We're feeling grateful to have escaped the worst this year. Thank you for the good vibes you sent!

love,  
Connie