## **GONPA GAZETTE**



Fat, thin...same, same...

The conversations I never imagined having with monks:

"Ani, he's fat" (pointing to another school monks).

"Ani, he's mental" (referring to a lay Tibetan adult who often visits the monastery).

"What does *mental* mean?" The monk points to the side of his own head, making circular motions with his finger. "When we are small children our bodies and minds are small. When we grow, our minds and bodies grow. Some people's bodies grow but their minds don't. They have a big body and the mind of a small child."

"Some people are tall, others are short. Some are thin, others are fat. You have brown skin, I have white skin. Your skin is tight, my skin is loose. The most important thing is having a big heart...that we are always kind to people and animals.

"Your classmate is a kind monk. The Tibetan man is a kind man. That is what matters."



Tall big heart, short big heart...

## **APRIL 2017 IN PHOTOS**





