

Report on Academic Activities of the year 2019-2020

Mary Ward School, Lubhoo – 8 Mahalaxmi Lalitpur, Nepal

Mary Ward School Lubhoo was established in 1997 (2054 BS). The main aim of the school is to provide quality education to the poor and underprivileged children of Lubhoo and its surrounding villages. It is an extended social service of St. Mary's School Jawalakhel. The school runs with the generous contribution of St. Mary's School, St. Mary's Alumnae (ASMAN) and a few associations and individuals.

The school re-opened for the academic year 2019-2020 on 22nd April with 410 students, class 1 to 10 with 20 Staff. This year we admitted 25 students in class 1 and 35 students in various other classes up to class 8. All our Students did well in all their board examinations. No students got less than B Grade in SEE examination in the past year. The School is upgraded fully to English medium from class 1 to 10.

We organize activities like Investiture ceremony, Elocution, One Act play, Quiz contest, Spelling contest, handwriting, drawing, and creative time table making, for the all round development of students specially to develop their self respect, self confidence and dignity. We have environment club, music club, dance club and Art club and they organize many activities for students. We celebrate Teachers' Day, Children's Day, Parents Day, Christmas Day, Mary ward Week and Friends of Mary Ward (FMW). This year we had first National FMW meeting which was a great success. The venue was St. Mary's School, Kathmandu. The cultural and power point presentation of each FMW unit were excellent. It was a great privilege for all of our teachers to participate in it. One of the outstanding events of the school was that one of our teachers Mrs. Kalpana Shrestha got a golden opportunity to participate in the Mary Ward Week Celebration in 2019 in York, England.

Mary Ward Tailoring Center

We had been thinking of doing something more for the women of Lubhoo and its nearby villages. We conducted a survey and the result came to be that there is a need to start a tailoring center mainly for women. So we requested Nepal Jesuit Social Institute (NJSI) to provide us with sewing machines and other furniture to set up a tailoring center. Therefore on 8th May the Mary Ward Tailoring center was officially blessed and inaugurated by Fr. Joel S.J and in the presence of Sr. Jessy the Regional Superior with the first batch of 15 women along with their teacher. At the end of the training period they will be awarded with a certificate.

We have Parents and teachers interaction from time to time for all the classes. We have teachers' seminar in order to sharpen their teaching skills and to cater for personnel care for the students.

This year we had the Annual Sports and P.T Display. The chief guest was Mr. Madav Prasad Poudel, Chair person State Affairs Committee State Assembly, State no. 3. He appreciated the efforts of the students and guidance of the teachers and spoke a few words of encouragement to everyone present there. He expressed his gratitude for having a well disciplined and maintained school for the development of the girls of the locality.

As part of our social service program the FMW members visit a physically challenged center, (Baudik Apangata Samaj) spend some quality time with them. We maintain good rapport with all the local schools of our area.

The first, second and third toppers of each class were awarded by ASMAN along with Mother Benigna Memorial Award. Mrs Lina Thapa and Mrs Nira Subedi were awarded as the best teachers of the year.

In the first week of March the educational office announced to all the schools to conduct the final examination of the academic year 2019-2020 and to close the school by 18th March due to the unprecedented Covid-19 pandemic. Though the teachers completed the correction of the answer sheets, neither could we distribute the final examination results nor take new admissions for the new academic year before the corona virus Shutdown on 24th March. We published the results on the mobile app to all the students. So we could not open the school for the year 2020-2021.

School under lockdown

As the indefinite lockdown continues because of the corona virus pandemic, many parents requested to start online classes. So we began with virtual classes for the high school and later on for other classes as well. All the students are unable to attend online classes due to various reasons, such as lack of internet connection or wifi, unable to afford data pack or smart phone and a few others have gone back to their villages with their parents because they lost their job or livelihood here in the town. The teachers along with their traditional classroom teaching had to be trained for online classes. We had two short training sessions for all the teachers in order to help them take online classes effectively. A webinar was organized for all the CJ school teachers to help them to cope with the unprecedented pandemic times like good mental health, to create awareness as to how to manage the stressful situation with courage, positivity and resilience.