

ST. BAKHITA NURSERY AND PRE-SCHOOLS

ANNUAL NARRATIVE REPORT 2017

BACKGROUND

St. Bakhita pre-schools are under the umbrella of Christ the King Catholic Church situated in the Kibera slums in Nairobi, Kenya. St. Bakhita Pre-schools are run on the Montessori system of education, from baby class to pre-unit facilitated by qualified teachers for all the grades

Christ the King continued to support St Bakhita Pre-schools in the three outstations namely; Soweto, Lindi and Shilanga, with the administration ensuring that the schools are run efficiently and the children are well prepared to move to the next level of education as per the government set curriculum. All this is done together with spiritual and moral formation.

This year the school were conducted for three terms, school term dates were:

| TERM | OPENING | CLOSING |
|-------------|---------------------------------|-------------------------------|
| TERM I | 4 th January 2017 | 6 th April 2017 |
| TERM II | 2 nd May 2017 | 27 th August 2017 |
| TERM III | 29 th September 2017 | 23 rd October 2017 |

The changes in the Education system to shorten the terms for long holidays continued to roll, this time slightly embraced by the stakeholders unlike in 2016 when it was introduced. With the introduction of the new syllabus to be rolled this year, we hope for improvement and the best quality in education system.

ACADEMIC REPORT

The children enrolment was:

| TERM | NO. OF ENROLMENT |
|-------------|-------------------------|
| TERM I | 406 |
| TERM II | 399 |
| TERM III | 387 |

The first week of the term, we received admission of pupils in all the three grades. Our enrolment this year was higher than the previous year despite locking out many children due to lack of space. The continuous knock in our school is due to the diet food and the quality education we offer to the community. Our Pre- school runs the formal education, close supervision and proper management which give it a privilege.

The intended curriculum was fully covered this year and continuous assessment tests taken to evaluate the progress of the pupils in each term. In third term, Pre-unit pupils did their end term assessment that promoted them to grade 1. All the 90 pre-unit pupils were promoted to grade 1 in public and mission schools. The Pre-school held their graduation ceremony on 23rd October 2017 in Lindi, 24th in Soweto and 25th in Soweto.

SCHOOL ACTIVITIES

1. Co-curricular activities

This activity was not fully implemented compared to previous years, due to:

- Uncertainty experienced during the year. The country underwent 2 election period causing anxiety and loss of time. This left us with little time that was exhausted in indoors learning.
- Changes in academic system that shortens the term and preparation for rolling out the new syllabus.
- Another reason is lack of space. This was as result of slum upgrading that slashed part of our compound.

Despite these challenges, we managed to take the children for education trip. They visited Mamba village to see Reptiles, had fun activities like boat and horse riding, bounce and castle among others.

We also held school fun day in the Church compound. The children presented skits, folk lore, poems and a fashion show by the baby class children. In attendance were parents and visitors.

2. Parent/teachers meetings

This is an event held at the beginning of each term and at the end of the term too. The main reason of holding these meetings is to have the parents fully on board on the school affairs and also get their input in development issues. The meeting was held on 3rd February 2017, attended by the school director, Fr. Carlos May, teachers and the parents.

3. Guidance and counselling

Majority of our pupils are socially and economically challenged, a good number of them coming from a background of families lead by single parents or alcoholic parents' even jobless parents. This kind of a set up community goes through much difficulty. This was the main reason that the parish set up Counselling office to run full time under the coordination of a parish social worker. This year we were blessed to have a professional counsellor from the Diocese who gave the parents a session on parenting care.

4. Annual graduation

Annual graduation ceremony was done in three schools on different occasion. The occasion was marked with pomp and colour as the graduaunts entertained those in attendance with songs, poems and dances; the epitome of the day was when pupils marched in full graduation gear to be cheered and applauded by their parents. In attendance were school administrator, parents, pupils and their teachers.

5. Teachers retreat

We held staff retreat on 8th March 2017, teacher's workshop at the end of third term to equip and refresh our teachers. The workshop was facilitated by official from the Ministry of Education.

6. Spiritual formation

The Parish did not leave behind spiritual formation. With the help of the Faith Formation department and the Priests; the children were involved during school mass, class prayers and pastoral program, instruction lessons and bible reading sessions.

FEEDING PROGRAMME

Feeding program plays a vital role in St. Bakhita Pre-school. It being the major reason that children keeps on knocking our doors, most homes that are not privileged to access proper meals appreciates the program that supports their children while in school. This has ensured the children don't miss their classes and are always alert in class.

Case file story: touching true story: We discovered one of our pupils who after served, eat a portion of his food and keep the remaining, when asked he said that he takes it to his young sibling at home. A follow up done reveals the family rarely have their meals. Most of children go for addition food because that's what they survive with.

The diet comprised of porridge at 10 am, a healthy lunch with fruit and later another cup of porridge at 4pm before they leave for their homes.

DKA continued support ensured that the schools feeding programme was sustained thus continuity of the children's education.

CONCLUSION

We are very grateful to the support we receive from DKA through Fr. Joseph. We appreciate so much DKA feeding program, teachers, all stakeholders and the parent who have tirelessly supported the schools thus contributed to this achievement.

God bless you.