



PROJECT REPORT: REINTEGRATION SCHOOL PROGRAMME

REPORTING PERIOD: January – May 2005

Project description:

The Christina Noble Children's Foundation Reintegration School provides informal education, in compliance with the Ministry of Education's formal education curriculum, to around sixty children who have found themselves excluded from the State system. The classes thereby provide a means by which a child outside the education system can be brought into the Education Project. More importantly, the classes provide access to education to children who otherwise would be unoccupied and likely to become part of Mongolia's growing illiteracy rate, thus the reintegration school programme prepares children who have dropped out of school for transfer back into the State School system.

Classes are held in a classroom on land adjacent to the Blue Skies' Ger Village. There are two classes: a morning class for around thirty children and a second class in the afternoon for the same number. Both classes of children are provided with a hot nutritious meal at lunchtime, which for many will be the only nutritious meal they will enjoy each day.

The reintegration school programme continues to bring opportunities for children to develop their creativity and interests towards obtaining new knowledge and skills, thus assisting with their abilities psychologically to overcome the problems and difficulties that are linked with living in extreme poverty.

Activities:

During the reporting period thirty children from deprived families aged between 9 and 13 years old were enrolled in the school, in two classes: a morning session from 9 am to midday, and an afternoon class from 2pm to 5pm.

The morning session were taught by Erhembayar a teacher with seventeen years experience, the afternoon sessions were taught by Enkhtuya a teacher with nineteen years experience in teaching primary school pupils. The two teachers taught seven subjects totalling 578 hours this school year.

Teachers also organized different activities among the pupils during the school year to motivate and encourage pupil's study and also to develop and discover the pupil's skills, such as;

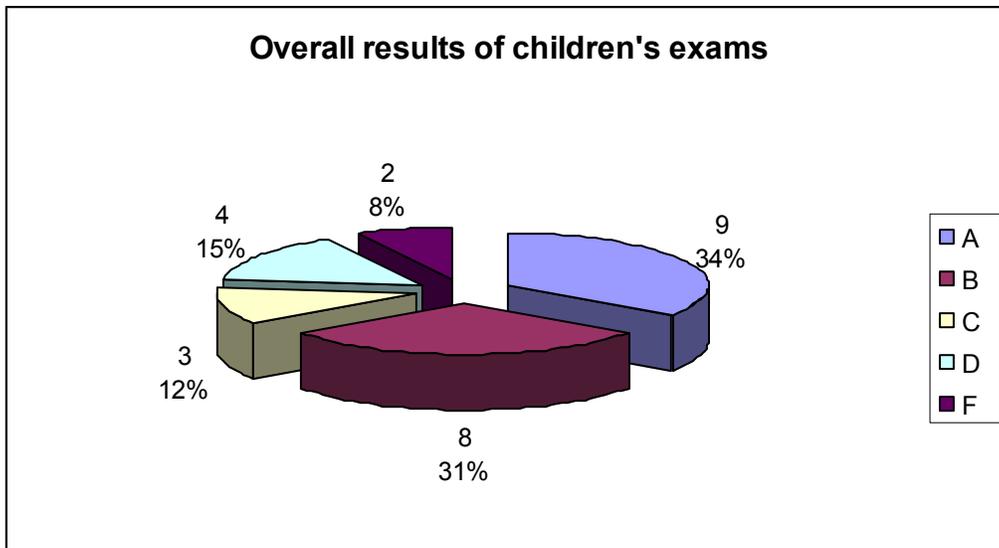
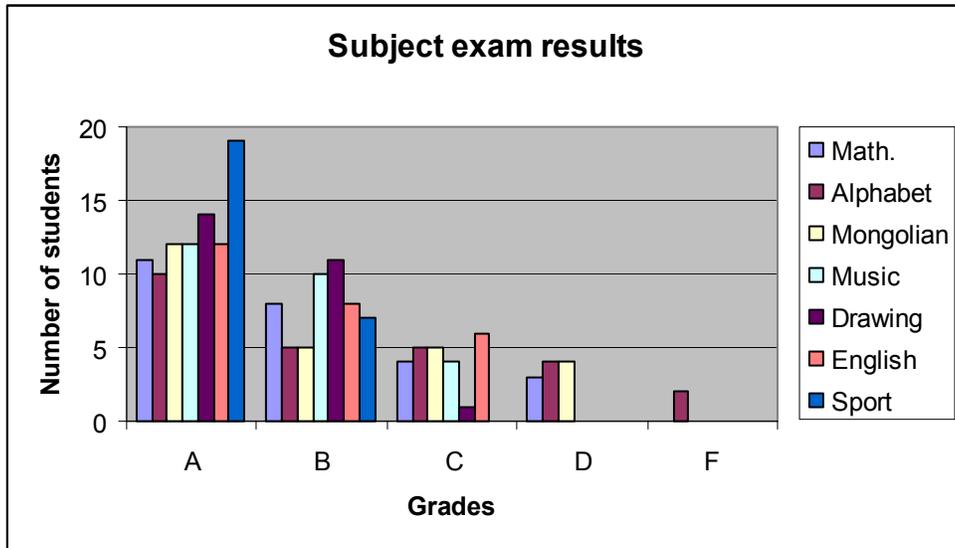
- Who can collect more fruits (as pupil's marks improve they receive more fruit on the fruit tree)
- Alphabet celebration
- Birthday party
- Who can memorize the most poems and adage, riddles?
- Parents meetings
- Open learning lesson with parents.
- School excursions to museums, circus and movies.

During the summer vacation teachers visit the homes of the students to assess their home environments and where needed recommend children for the Sponsorship Project.

Children assessment:

Physical and Neurological assessments are conducted on all children in classes. Where required extra/special curriculum is devised for children to assist with their ongoing development. Ongoing assessments take place over the school year to assist with further needs for their development and to identify areas of improvement.

Academic results: The graphs below provide the examination results achieved by the students in their end of term exams:



Project assessment:

The reintegration school programme continues to provide positive benefits and outcomes for the children attending, which can be seen through the following examples;

In June the success of the children's learning in 1st and 2nd grade curriculum was celebrated, now that the children are able to read and write a whole world has been opened up to them and 22 pupils will be transferred into the State School system in September the beginning of the new school year. CNCF was also happy to include the children's parents during the celebration and they were of course delighted to see their children reading and singing songs together.

Over the last year it became apparent to CNCF education staff that many of the children in our reintegration school do not spend quality time with their parents. These children come from impoverished backgrounds and their parents have to struggle to make ends meet. When teachers visited children in their homes they learned that most parents do not have a time to play with their children or help them with their schoolwork, as they have to try and find ways of earning some money to put food on the table. To help address this problem all the parents of our children agreed with CNCF at the start of the school year to commit to taking a more active role in their children's education. In order to encourage more positive interaction between the children and their parents the education manager organized a day session "Joyful time with parents" The purpose of the day was for parents and their children to spend some time learning together - playing, thinking, reading, and writing.

Both the children and parents found the whole experience really enjoyable and, seeing the children so happy at working together with their parents, CNCF teachers felt very encouraged that, in the future, parents will spend more time on such activities with their children. At the end of day the first question the children asked of the teacher was "When is the next open lesson with our parents?" Indeed we see this as just the first step towards assisting the parents in becoming more active in the everyday lives of their children, both at school and at home.

Reporting: The next project report will be due by the 30th January 2006.



End of the school year

Thanks: On behalf of Christina, all staff at CNCF in Mongolia, and most importantly the sixty children who benefited during the reported period to further their education, we thank Trade Plus Aid for their sponsorship and support to the Reintegration School Programme.