

# **School Newsletter**

Newsletter capturing the progress of initiative in 2019

## 2019 - a very critical year!

Our last regular newsletter was shared in Jan 2019. So this is a long due update. This newsletter covers one of the most critical years of this initiative.



2019 has been extremely challenging but we saw extraordinary support from our well wishers to tide over an extremely critical phase of this initiatives continuation.

This newsletter will cover the new initiatives started this year, Major achievements in 2019 and key challenges for our initiative.

## **Getting Ready for CBSE Affiliation**

With an extraordinary support from our well wishers, who financially supported us generously, we were able to complete the major milestones below, needed to meet CBSE requirements, and apply for affiliation on 30th March 2019.

- 1) 6 feet high boundary wall across our land
- 2) Remaining pending construction part of five rooms on the top floor
- 3) Furnishing of the composite science laboratory
- 4) Library construction, furnishing with books and periodicals
  - 5) CCTV installation in campus
  - 6) Accounts room and guard room
- 7) External toilet for guests and vendors for better safety



8) Various statutory certificates from various district authorities like District Magistrate, District Education Officer, Health and Sanitation Certificate, Building Safety Certificate etc.

9) Payment of 1.5 Lakh as fees and the paperwork to kick start CBSE affiliation process





Composite Science Lab

Library

The CBSE appointed committee visited us on 18th Dec and their report was submitted on 20th Dec. The committee was very cordial and they have given us good feedback for their visit. We now wait for the next set of communications from the CBSE board.

You can check out our school's CBSE Team's inspection video at <a href="https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=1ulTvKKfvLw">https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=1ulTvKKfvLw</a>

#### New Initiatives in 2019

- 1) Waldorf-Steiner Training: We sent our Principal and one senior teacher to get training in Steiner Waldorf method, organised in Khandala. Their method is around age appropriate training with no formal exams. RHPS Team had a great learning experience and they appraised other teachers on their learning as well.
- Inspire Awards: Our school registered for Inspire Awards, which is conducted at national level by Department of Science and Technology to promote new ideas and innovations. Every school can nominate maximum of 3 students. Out of 10000+ nominated students in Bihar, 440 students were chosen for next round and were awarded cash award of 10000. One of our class 7 student, Subhash has been selected to participate in next round in Jan 2020.



3) Music/Dance Regular Classes: We had music/dance classes in 3 periods per week for clubs of students who are interested in that. From this year, we started music/dance regular class for 1-8 on alternative weeks.

### Key Achievements in 2019

#### **Scholastic**

Our success with Olympiad continues this year as well.

#### **SOF National Science Olympiad 2018-19**

A huge accomplishments by students this year in the Science Olympiad.

In the first round,

- Overall 16 students were in top 5% and qualified for round 2.
- Out of the 20 students of grade 6, who participated, 7 were in Top 25 rank in zone and got medals of distinction
- 1 class 6 student topped Bihar zone and got 10th national rank
- 1 Grade 7 student was in **top 25** in state and got medal of distinction





Out of 9 students, who participated in this, **2** secured Top 10 rank in state. Atahar of class 6, got national rank 27 and zonal rank 5. Ruby of class 8, got the zonal rank 8.

#### **SOF International Maths Olympiad 2018-19**

Overall 6 students qualified for round 2 by coming in top 5%. In the second round, **2 of them made it into Top 50 rank** in Bihar - Ankit from grade 6 secured zonal rank 18 and Karan from grade 4 secured zonal rank of 46.



#### **SOF International English Olympiad 2018-19**

4 students qualified for 2nd round by coming in top 5%. In the second round Karan from Grade 4 secured **38th rank in state**.

SOF National Science Olympiad 2019-20: NSO results came out last week and 10 of our students have qualified to second level. 6 of those qualifying are from class 7 and we have got best national rank of our school since beginning from class 7 students. 2 of the class 7 students have got top 10 national rank(4 and 7) and 3 of the class 7 students have got top 10 zonal rank(Top rank, 2nd rank and 5th rank)



#### Co-curricular

Khelo India Khelo - District Level - Our students up to class 8 competed very well with competitors up to class 10th of other schools and won many individual and group game medals. Kabaddi(Girls) and Kho-Kho(Boys) was won by our school





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**Bihar U-14 State Athletics :** 3 students from our school qualified to participate in this championship. Sonam Prakash of our school won gold and got selected in Bihar U-14 athletics team for 100m sprint race







Selection in Bihar team for National Junior Kho-Kho tournament: 3 RHPS students got selected to represent Bihar in Nationals Kho-Kho held in Surat, Gujrat from 19-22 Oct. Selection trials were held in Munger. Somu got selected for boys and Amisha and Preeti got selected for Girls team.

Our sports teacher Chandan Sir was also appointed coach for Bihar junior kho-kho team and took all the players to Surat for competition.

Selection for national inter district athletics tournament, Tirupati: Our student Harshit got selected to represent Aurangabad in National District Junior Athletics tournament for Shotput throw. It was held in Tirupati.



## Key Challenges for this year

- 1) **Student Strength:** For the first time since we started, our strength decreased. From around 400 students, our numbers came down to around 350. We found out key reasons as below
  - a. Negative sentiments among the parents as we could not get CBSE affiliation in previous session. Parents were uncertain about our school going beyond 8th. Since it is more difficult to get admission in higher classes, many students went for other affiliated schools.
  - b. Management's more focus for fulfilling affiliation norms reduced focus on new admission.
  - With CBSE affiliation, we would be able to stop the attrition of our students. At the same time, we would be able to attract new students. With that, we hope to get to 450 in next academic session.
- 2) Timely Fee Collection: This has been one of our major challenges. Our aim is to create a sustainable school that can earn enough to manage all expenses after initial infrastructural investment. However, in none of the months so far, we are at 90%+ collection for that month by due date. And that constrains us in running our operations smoothly. We have been lenient towards parents who don't pay on time, but now we have started taking strong action and we hope to get this in control.
- 3) Capital Constraint: We had multiple issues on resource front this year
  - a. In March this year, we had to revise our staff salary to match 6th pay commission salary for CBSE conformance. So the staff salary increased more than usual for this session.
  - b. Infrastructure upgrade necessary for ensuring CBSE team is satisfied, required significant investment
  - c. For the very first time, our student numbers also went down.
  - d. With higher diesel prices, cost of transportation increased.

The above constraints have impacted timely salary payment, vendor payments as well as paying for the loans taken.

For finishing this academic year properly, by at least making payments for staff and vendors, setting up a better student base for next year through minimal marketing, we estimate to **fall short by 12-15 lakhs**. We are reaching out to our supporters to help us in bridging this gap.

We would like to thank you for your support in helping us reach here. We look forward to your continued support in this journey in the year ahead. Wishing you all a Very Happy New Year 2020!