

LORETO CONVENT MSONGARI - PRIMARY

SCHOOL REPORT PRESENTED AT PRIZE-GIVING CEREMONY ON FRIDAY 28TH JULY 2017

INTRODUCTION

Our guest of honour today MaryAnne Mwaura, Citi's Head of Public Affairs East Africa. Loreto Management represented by Sr. Jane Frances, Our Province leader, Sr. Gertude Mallya Education Secretary, Mrs. Magdaline Mbugua our high school principal; Sr. Nuala Branigan, the community leader Msongari, Gaye Fernades, the President of the Loreto Msongari alumni and all our esteemed alumni, other Loreto heads of school present, Dear parents, pupils, all our staff, invited guests, ladies and gentlemen! Good morning and welcome to our 2017 prize giving ceremony. Today, I feel very privileged and honored to stand here in front of you all and acknowledge the achievements of our brilliant students who have made both the school and their parents proud. We appreciate the effort of so many girls today and encourage those who will not be awarded today. There is always another chance. We want to thank God for all our girls for they are winners, in different areas. 'Girls you are great'

Our theme today is Msongari Striving for Excellence. This theme is appropriate because we shall witness today quite a number of girls who have excelled in different areas being awarded. Indeed all the glory goes to God. Girls, you are all very gifted and talented. Continue to excel in all the areas that are good. Kindly know that I am very proud of you and I feel good to be associated with you. I urge you to keep on working hard and don't lose the focus.

God has really been faithful to us, we have a lot to thank him for, we have excelled in many areas, on the other hand there are areas we must continue to put in more effort.

Kindly allow me to take you through the school report for the past one year. Please visit our website for a full report from tomorrow.

ACADEMIC REPORT FOR 2017

KCPE 2016

Last year, we registered 21 candidates for KCPE. The results were the best in the recent past. The class posted a mean score of 340. I take this opportunity to congratulate all the 2016 candidate class. My special thanks go to the teachers for supporting the girls in the academics. Our two top girls registered a mark of 417 while the lowest girl in the class had 164 marks. The mean score of 340 was a great improvement from 319.2 a mean score registered in 2015. I must say that as a school we are very proud of them. The good performance was attributed by the cordial working relationship between the parents, pupils, teachers and administration. The two girls who made us proud are Atieno Sihanya and Joy Wambui. The mean score per subject were as follows:

	ENGLISH	MATHS	SCIENCE	SSTRE	KISWAHILI	TOTAL
2016	78.0	71.0	63.0	65.0	63.0	340
2015	76.8	60.6	61.7	63	57	319.2
DIFF	1.2	10.4	1.3	2	6	20.8

All the subjects registered improvement, mathematics recording the highest improvement. My special thanks goes to Mr. Irungu the Mathematics teacher in 2016

K.CP.E 2017 CLASS

This year, we registered a total of 37 girls for the KCPE. So far the girls are doing well; they are settled and focused on their final exam. We continue to pray for them to keep the focus to the end! Girls I must say that you have a great challenge of achieving a higher means score than last year. I know you can and you are up to the task. We are happy that we completed the syllabus in good time and have embarked on revision, thank you teachers for the work you are doing with the girls and we wish them success as they prepare for the exams. Thank you class 8 parents for the support you have continued to extend to the girls and to the teachers. In the course of term 1 and 2, the girls have sat for 2 external exams namely Loreto Common. This is an exam done by the four Loreto Schools. I must report that the girls did very well, they emerged position 2 in both exams.

In an effort to journey with our candidate class this year:

- The girls set their goals at the beginning of the year and have had an opportunity to review them
- The syllabus has been completed in good time
- They have a remedial class in the morning and in the evening
- They have had an exchange program with our sister school in Loreto Covent Valley Road in Kiswahili
- They have resource persons visiting them in Kiswahili, English and CRE.
- They visited St. Scholastica school for benchmarking
- The girls are in mentor groups and each group has been assigned a teacher to walk with the girls.
- We formed a class 8 parents' task force to journey with the girls.
- The panel heads and subject teachers talk to them periodically to maintain the focus
- We have had some meetings with them and their parents to ensure that we are all reading from the same page and that there are no surprises

OTHER CLASSES

Academic performance remains a major focus for the school. It is our desire that our girls do well to realize their potential. Results are not instant and they are not automatic – They are a product of working hard. As a school we continue to teach the children the value of working hard and taking their exams seriously.

Some of strategies to ensure we are on track:

- Holding academic assemblies’ to release exam results – we celebrate those who have performed well and encourage/challenge the others to do their best
- Working to complete the syllabus on time
- Remedial class in the morning from class 2 to 8
- Set aside a room where the girls can do their homework or read as they wait for pick up in• the evenings – multipurpose hall
- Talking to the girls on the value of hard work in class and at assemblies – our weekly themes have been encouraging
- Again in order to boost performance in all the subjects we set aside subject days for each of them. This has been going on for the last three years.
 - i. **Mathematics day** – The mathematics week ran through from 30th January to 3rd February this year. The theme was “living mathematics everyday”. During the week, the girls were engaged in various activities to express the theme. i.e
 - During the week the girls had several activities within their classes.
 - Oral and written competition among their houses.
 - On the last day, they displayed Projects in the hall with encouraging informative information on how to live mathematics every day.
 - The head teacher encouraged the girls to have a positive attitude towards the subject. Gordon house emerged the winner.
 - ii. **English Day** – ‘The week ran through from 27th February and the climax was on 3rd march 2017. The theme was “perfecting my writing skills”. Many activities were done throughout the week including posters to encourage the girls to perfect their writing skills. Among the activities done were Poems, skits, songs, oral narratives, spelling bee/dictations, language police corrections and debates. We also had a resource person who took the girls through composition writing from class 4 to 8. The English day was a success. I wish to thank teacher Lydia and the teachers of English for the well co-ordinated day
 - iii. **Science Day/Congress**-This year’s science congress was held on 7th July under the theme “Connecting with Nature”. On that day the girls seized the opportunity to explore and display their scientific knowledge, skills and attitude in various projects covering all the twelve units of the primary science syllabus. Some of the outstanding projects include personal hygiene, health education, food and nutrition, common weeds, circulatory system and

renewable energy. I take this opportunity to thank Mr. Onyango head of science panel for a day well organized and also his team of 13 teachers who worked tirelessly to prepare the girls for the success of the day and the progressiveness in the science subject in the school. Well done science team.

iv. **Kiswahili** – The Kiswahili day was on 2nd June and the theme was Kiswahili Wajibu wangu. This is a continuous reminder to the girls and the stakeholders of the pivotal role attitude plays in success of the learning. The success of Kiswahili must begin with the change of attitude of each individual and own the process of transforming Kiswahili performance in our school. During the Kiswahili week, a number of activities took place i.e Insha writing, reading and the class 7&8 attended a Kongamano la Kiswahili at Light Academy where Bakhita Njeri of class 8 emerged the best performer in Kiswahili. Other activities which took place were: Mashairi, nyimbo, usomaji habari and presentation on Lugha and msamiati. The progress of Kiswahili in our school is progressive rather than spontaneous. We keep improving year by year and we thank the panel members led by Mr. Olum for their concerted efforts that continue to yield fruit and as at now we are at remarkable mean score. Kongole walimu wa Kiswahili.

v. **Social Studies**- The year 2017 being the year of elections made us to base our theme on the peaceful process during elections time. The theme was “Unity in Diversity. One Kenya”. The girls displayed their different projects in the hall and along the corridors. They had a wide variety of presentations. Later in the day the girls assembled in the hall for both individual and class presentations based on the theme. Allow me to invite Zawadi Kayyoh one of our KG girls and the youngest ambassador of peace in the country to recite a poem entitled “what’s in a name”

Thank you Zawadi and all the social studies teachers for a job well done. My special thanks go to teacher Caroline in absentia.

INTER-LORETO EXAM:

In mid June the girls sat for the inter Loreto exams. It’s an exam done annually by 4 Loreto schools. I’m happy that our class 8 and class 2 did extremely well. They did us proud by emerging position 2 overall. Class 8 and class 2 girls kindly stand up wherever you are so that we appreciate you. Girls I would like to encourage you to keep up the good work and remain focused. To the other classes, kindly take up the challenge and try to put us on the map next year. We had individual girls who did exemplary well and featured in the top ten in their class category. I want to recognize in a very special way Lauryn Chelagat of class 4P for emerging the top girl in all schools in class 4 category. Congratulations Chelagat and keep it up. Other girls who did exceptionally well include: Shanna Ekina, class 2 (7), Amber Peace, class 2P (5), Angel Moraa, class 4 (10), Ashley Kagwima, class 4P (6), Ritah Kangata, class 4P (2), Kalekwa Amina,

class 7P (7), Akech Clare, class 8P (10) and Cynthia Kinyua, class 8P (9). Well done girls, congratulations for a job well done. We celebrate you. We also congratulate class 8 for taking lead in different subjects. English, CRE and Science, position 1.

OTHER ASPECTS OF THE SCHOOL INCLUDE:

DISCIPLINE

I must say that our core values (justice, sincerity, freedom, humility, service and integrity) contribute a great deal in shaping the character of the pupils. We have not had any major discipline concerns and we are happy to report that where we have needed the support of the parent- many have come in very well. Parents' kindly support us from home and us teachers take up the role in school since discipline is a collective responsibility for us all as stakeholders in these children's' growth. I wish to thank Mrs. Njoroge our deputy Headmistress and Discipline mistress for her taking up the role with diligence and dedication. We are headed somewhere.

SPIRITUAL CARE

We continue to emphasis on the spiritual welfare and formation of our pupils.

- We have held our weekly Mass every Thursday
- We organized retreats for all classes offering them a unique opportunity to deepen their relationship with God. This is a help towards growth in love and respect for all.
- In January we celebrated the Mary Ward week, we had joint mass with the high school to celebrate this great woman on whom our core values are founded!
- This year we had several pupils attending catechism classes. 41 of them received the sacrament of first Holy Communion and 16 among them were Baptized and one was received into the Catholic faith. Quite a number of girls are being prepared to receive the sacrament of confirmation later in the year.
- We thank Mrs. Abuta, Sr. Maureen and the entire pastoral team for preparing the girls and journeying with them for their spiritual growth.
- 5 girls also joined other Catholic pupils and students for Catholic Education Day at St. Francis Girls high school- Mangu.

KINDERGARTEN ACTIVITIES

This activity was held on 10th of March 2017. The parents and the young ones were eager and very ready for the day. The theme was "Msongari Butterflies day". There were quite a number of activities which took place among them were swimming, fan races, wearing daddy's shoes, balloon bursting, face painting, bouncing castles, talent show and many others. The parents had a good time together with their daughters. It was really a great day for our KG. We thank the parents for turning in large numbers to support the girls. My special thanks go to our KG teachers, Tr. Tabitha, Tr. Rose, Sr. Maureen and the organizing team. My appeal to parents and visitors present is to kindly market our KG to your friends out there.

MIDDLE SCHOOL MODEL UNITED NATIONS

The school enrolled a total of 22 members comprising of 2 advisors, 5 ambassadors and 15 delegates to the 23rd MSUMN Annual Delegates Conference held on January 24th-27th 2017 at the MSMUN program held at the U.N Headquarters Gigiri – Nairobi. The girls got the highly coveted opportunity to interact, network and learn from their peers on global humanitarian matters ranging from health to human rights, environmental to security. Our girls have continued to excel through the talents which have been natured in them. The confidence in them is amazing. I thank Mr. Onyando for walking with them.

LINCOLN LEADERSHIP TRAINING

The Lincoln leadership has become popular and competitive, this year; the school enrolled 30 members for the above programme. The conference was held at Naivasha Pepper corn resort and Laico Hotel, Nairobi.

The girls were taken through the conference and dealt with the topic- **“INVENTION”**. On the last day of the program, parents were invited for the presentation. I wish to appreciate Mr. Mwangi and Mrs. Kiruku for preparing the girls and the parents for the dedication to even accompany and encourage the girls.

FAMILY FUN DAY

We held our Family Fun Day on 5th March this year. The event presents an opportunity for the entire Loreto family – pupils/students, their siblings, parents, teachers & Loreto Sisters to come together to strengthen the family bond. Our theme was **"Msongari Eating well for a groovy life"**. This was to incite the value of eating healthy in our family and avoiding junk food.

MOTHERS DAY

This year our theme for mother's day was derived from the world's women's day theme. **“MSONGARI BOLD MUMS”**. The mums turned up in large numbers dressed in their casual house colors depicting the boldness. Our guest speaker was M/s Teresa Njore a psychologist from Kenyatta national hospital who gave the mums a breath taking talk that really inspired all. I thank all mothers for the participation and in a special way the Borgia mothers for the shared kikuyu Uji, I say thank you on behalf of all, we really enjoyed. Gordon mums teaching us on how to deal with an adolescent girl, the ward mums took us through on how to prepare a quick healthy breakfast and Ball house how to supervise home work. Special thanks to Tr. Caroline our chairperson of our mother's day.

FATHERS' DAY 2017

The annual father's day celebration was marked on 1st July 2017. The fathers/father figures came together to celebrate the gift of fatherhood. The theme was **RESPONSIBLE FATHERHOOD, PEACEFUL FAMILIES.**

We continue to celebrate our great fathers and father figures by putting in mind the irreducible role that God has bestowed upon our fathers. Our guest speaker this year Pastor Simon Mbevi. We thank the fathers for continuously heeding to our call and coming together to celebrate this wonderful gift. I thank Mr. Olum and the organizing committee for ensuring that the fathers and father figures are recognized.

VARIETY SHOW 2017

2017 variety show was held on 27th May. The theme was ‘**Msongari Nurturing Talents**’ Those who attended will bare me witness that our girls have lots of talents. Here at Msongari we are committed to nature the talents and offer the girls opportunities and avenues to showcase them.

We began the day with house displays in the hall; this activity brought together mothers and girls from their respective houses as they displayed different talents, creativity and hospitality from our diverse cultures etc. We encourage the fathers also to participate in the show next year you have a lot that the girls can display and emulate. Competition was stiff and Gordon house emerged winners. The girls had presentations in singing, dancing, playing piano and public speaking. We crowned the day with our annual fashion show with participants from lower classes, Mid- upper classes and upper Primary classes. At the end of the day we had our 3 girls being crowned Ms. Msongari 2017. Miss Msongari Lower was Joy Musembi, Mid-Upper was Muthoni Wachira and Upper primary was Denise Muturi Waithera.

We congratulate the three girls for their effort. We wish you well as you endeavor to use this ^{gift} and achievement in Future. Thank you Tr. Monicah and team for coordinating the day.

INTER-LORETO PUBLIC SPEAKING

The annual Inter-Loreto public speaking contest was held on 1st July 2017at Loreto convent valley road. The theme was “We are one tribe, Kenya” all items were focused within the theme. Girls participated in different activities from pre-unit to class 7.

The public speaking was encouraging unity and peace in the country as we head towards the general elections. The avenues also gave our girls an opportunity to practice their speaking skills in Kiswahili and English. The competition was stiff and the girls managed to do their best. I wish to congratulate who did us proud.

- std 1 girls position 1 overall best in choral verse,
- std 5 girls took position 1 overall best in a discussion,
- pre-unit, class 4, 5, 6 and 7 emerged position 2 overall.

Well done girls and keep it up. Special thanks to Tr.Lydia and all teachers of English and Kiswahili.

COMMUNITY SERVICE (Charity)

We continue to encourage the girls to reach out the less fortunate members of our society through acts of charity and community service to our girls. This year the girls joined the larger Loreto family of Loreto supporting Loreto initiative by raising funds to support a girl in St. Teresa Eastleigh School, and the construction of a multipurpose hall at Loreto convent valley road in total the girls raised Ksh 170,000. We are grateful to a number of parents who supported both initiatives.

The class 6A visited Jesus helper's children's home and donated clothes and foodstuff.

Miss Msongari upper primary Rebecca Lemm in conjunction with Ball house members also organized a charity event where she donated clothes and food stuff to Lea Toto children's home in Mukuru kwa NJenga. She was accompanied by Amy Abeels, Miss Msongari lower primary 2016 who has been a great support to the Cerebral Palsy Society. We continue to encourage our girls to participate in charity and acts of mercy. Thank you girls may God bless you. I also thank the parents who are always at forefront in supporting these initiatives.

SWIMMING GALA

The swimming gala was held on 16th February this year. Our girls did us proud. During our annual swimming gala we saw great talents, despite the slow start, the day went on well. My appreciation goes to Gordon house who emerged the winners. The most promising swimmers were Ashley Kagwima 4P and Shani Nyanyuki 5A. The progress with the girls has been incredible. The girls have been competing at the Kenya Swimming Federation galas and are getting better and better. I wish to recognize Rebecca Lemm who emerged 3rd overall in breast stroke in her age group in level 1 gala. Very special appreciation to Ashley Kagwima 4P who not only represented her swimming her swimming club, but the country at the international swimming gala held in Dubai. We look forward to seeing more progress and greater participation. I appreciate the patience of you parents during the time our coach was recovering from her injury. Thank you parents and God bless you. I wish also to appreciate the effort of Tr. Annabelle.

GAMES REPORT

The games department has tremendously continued to grow stronger. Pupils participated in various tournaments this year. The U11 Soccer team girls went to the School of the nations and managed to get silver for being in second position.

In Tennkoit the girls participated in Waldorf tournament and won in the doubles. They managed silver in singles.

In the inter-schools cycling competition at Karura forest the U16 and U13 years managed to scoop six silvers and 3 bronze in remaining categories.

The games department also organized a hike to Mt. Longonot it was well attended and all girls apart from one managed to the top. On 29th July the girls will also have a leisure walk at Maanzoni lodge.

Our school sports day was held on the 16th June 2017 the event started with high participation from all houses ready for the competitive events. Some of the events were done prior to the day and others were done after the sports day since our sports have grown and broadened. Ball House emerged winners! Well done Ball house, we celebrate you keep up the sportsmanship! I also wish to congratulate Chouela Ruzindana as the best athlete in lower primary and Jewel Okubasu as the best athlete for upper primary.

I appreciate the work done by Tr. Josephine you all bear me witness that our girls now have shown great improvement in skill, speed and endurance with our girls.

MUSIC FESTIVAL 2017

We thank God because once again Tr. Geoffrey and the music group have done us proud! The school choir emerged the best in Nairobi region and represented the region in the concluded National music festivals that were held at Masinde Muliro University of science and technology in Kakamega.

They performed so well managing position 2 in the accompanied girls set piece, 3 in upper primary unaccompanied set piece, position 4 in own choice with sacred text for female voices, position 2 in a duet, position 3 in upper primary solo set piece, position 2 in piano solo set piece intermediate, position 3 in piano advanced duet, position 4 piano solo beginner set piece. Special thanks to Anita and sheena of 3P.

Our school has been the only school with student accompanist over the years. This year she was voted the best accompanist in the festivals. Special thanks to Sanaa Nyanyuki.

The lower primary choir also did well and was position 3 at the region.

Generally our school was voted the most promising school in choral and instrumental music.

I thank the parents for their collaboration and support to the pupils who represented our school in a very big way. Thank you Tr. Geoffrey for your dedication to the girls and nurturing the young Musicians, thank you for representing our school very ably! God bless you.

GUIDES AND BROWNIES

The unit has a current membership of 65 girl's thirty girl guides and 36 brownies. This year the girls have undertaken various activities with great achievements some of them include:

- The team participated in a joint First Aid and Nature walk training with their colleagues from school of the nation on Saturday 28th January 2017 at St. Juliana's Retreat Center-Kiambu.

- They also visited the neighboring Muthangari Police Station on Monday 3rd July 2017 where they were warmly welcomed and hosted by the O.C.S. During the visit they learnt from the officers and also donated an assortment of sanitary material to the station as part of their Good Turn. We thank the parent who supported this course.

I wish to thank Mr. Onyando, Mr. Irungu and Tr. Lydia for a job well done.

ENVIRONMENTAL CLUB:

We celebrated the World Environment day on 9th June a celebration that was marked with a theme; “Msongari connecting with nature” The club member’s recited poems and a few remarks to mark the day were done. Later the members marked the day by outdoor activities which included:

- Tree planting, collecting of litter, weeding, dressing and mulching of young trees that are growing in the compound.
- Cleaning and unclogging the river that runs in the school.

It was a very successful day and the pupils were very excited. I thank Mr. Mwazumbo and his team for their good organization.

EDUCATIONAL TRIPS AND EXCURSION

At the end of last year 5 girls took part in an international trip to Mauritius organized for Loreto schools. The Youngest Holiday maker was 6 years old from class 1. This year, the school has organized another trip to Dubai in conjunction with our high school and the Loreto Valley road school. For more information contact Mr. Mwangi.

We continue to expose our girls by organizing educational trips and excursions locally. The class ones visited Rhino park farm at Karen on 24th Feb 2017. On 8th April some girls went for hiking at Lukenya hills. In June class 3&4 visited Rift valley, Class 5&6 Maasai Mara and Class 2 the Mount Kenya region.

OTHER EXTRA-CURRICULAR ACTIVITIES.

To achieve our vision in offering holistic education to the girls, we continue to engage in other activities such as; Ballet, Tennis, aerobics, Storytelling, Piano, Tae-kwondo, French, Extra-computer lessons, Extra swimming. We also introduced Cycling at the beginning of the year as an extracurricular activity and a number of girls have showed interest in the sport and have participated in various cycling championships.

TAE-KWON-DO

The girls continue to excel in Tae kwon do they have been able to learn more techniques and have enjoyed a lot, thanks to coach Dickson. On 24th July they did a grading test and 9 students

graduated to different levels they were able to impress the examiner. Well done all the other girls – keep it up.

1. Tia Imani 4th Blue belt – 3rd Red belt
2. Anissa Wachui 6th Blue – 5th Blue
3. Ajilong Muyodi 5th Blue – 3rd Red
4. Susan Wawira 5th Blue – 4th Blue
5. Sandra Macharia White – 8th Yellow
6. Avril Muchiri 8th Yellow – 7th Green
7. Elizabeth Samantha 8TH yellow – 7th green
8. Tunu Muthamia 7th Yellow – 6th Blue
9. Nindia Muthoni 7th yellow – 6th blue

UPCOMING TRIPS

Our class 8 girls will visit Mombasa after the KCPE and the girl guides will tour Tsavo National park. All trips will be in November.

CONCLUSION

As I conclude, I wish to thank all the parents and guardians who have continued to offer their support in all our school activities and to those who continuously give us feedback! I promise to do my best to steer the collaboration and the well-being of every stakeholder.

I am humbled by your presence, thank you for trusting us with your daughters, thank you for being part of Loreto Msongari! God bless you.

In the next 5 years, Loreto will be celebrating 100 years God's faithfulness and existence in Kenya! And Msongari is the first foundation. Together we look forward to these celebrations.

Let us pray for peace in our country as we go out to exercise our rights by voting/ electing our leaders who will steer this country in the next 5 years. Let us remember that elections will go but Kenya will remain. As we talk of politics in our homes, let's bear in mind the effects it can cause to our children. They are innocent let us protect them.

Kindly let's all stand and sing the school anthem.

Reported By:

MRS. MARY MUTUKU
HEADMISTRESS