

March 2023
Sunshine Coast Rotary Mothers' School
Khulna, Bangladesh

Dear Members of the Sunshine Coast Rotary Club,

Our life in the slums and our livelihood is like a battlefield, where people live in struggles & challenges. However, our education is guiding us how to overcome it. It is true we can't get good jobs because of this education but we can improve a lot by taking education from the mother-school like removing many superstitions, social restriction for the women & girls and raising our voice for injustice. Important thing is that day by day people are counting us and we are developing our social status. The key point is, education helps us to think better. Before the Amarok lessons we had a little wisdom of thinking about society, our country, about the world but nowadays we can think about many different ways and share things with our neighbors.



Experiencing the past COVID challenges, we are now in another trouble of price hike. Price of goods and commodities is so high that we can't afford it and are challenged again with our livelihoods. Taking experience from the past food crisis, mothers of our school started little savings in groups and personally in piggy banks which have come to us as beneficial to our life. We sometimes discuss the war and conflict between Russia & Ukraine and wish this will end soon. But we can't see any positive improvement. Both parties are thinking they are right and the world is mostly divided into 2 groups. One group is supporting Ukraine for existence, another group is talking about the rationale of the war in favor of Russia. But I think it's an international political game. A commercial fight between Russia and the other rich countries and the poor people living in the world are the sufferers & losers, maybe the whole world! Some of our neighbors again took loans from local cooperatives with a high interest rate to keep them alive. Many of us are not much afraid as we can plan well and rationing costs that don't have to fall in the loan trap. We are helping each other to get food and other livelihood facts.

Today we want to share with you about our new good-will initiative. We can remember, after many years 2022 was the coldest and some elderly people suffered from the cold during the winter. Our friend Salma shared the idea in school to collect old warm-clothes from people who have spare or want to donate their excess to the needy people. Then 5 of our friends joined the team actively and we made a working group to collect warm clothes from our neighbors, who have enough. Our teacher Nadira Parvin helped us a lot from the back. In January we started the work and collected the donations of old clothes from our neighbors. Mothers of our school have already gained a good reputation of doing social work in our wider



community. As a result, a satisfactory donation came out from our neighbors. Our total collection was:

Sl	Type of worm clothes (all old)	# (Good quality)	# (Not very good)	Donate by (person/household)	Donate to (person/household)
1	Blankets	10	6	12	13
2	Bed sheets	6	12	10	14
3	Jumpers	2	16	14	20
4	Woolen wears	4	25	16	18

Doing something for my neighbor is a wonderful feeling. This is why we try to involve others with the community-based volunteer work. We focus on the names of the donors that new donors are motivated by looking at them. Sharing is love. Now 6 mothers taking the lead but who know other people might like our ideas and do the same type of work for mankind!

Our micro-schools are going well; children are attending regularly and learning joyfully. We conducted sessions with real materials, chart and pictures, so they can understand easily and enjoy it. We love our children and they also love and respect us.

We are grateful to you for your support of our school and encourage our work.

With Love and respect,

Salma, Nipa, Barsha, Nupur and Tania
(Mothers of the school)