



LORETO RAINBOW HOME BOWBAZAR, NEWSLETTER-OCTOBER, 25 TO MARCH, 2026

Introduction: A Quarter of Renewal, Resilience, and Community Spirit

The period from October 2025 to March 2026 at Loreto Rainbow Home, Bowbazar has been a phase of renewal, resilience, and collective growth. Despite challenges, the Home continued to provide a nurturing environment focused on holistic child development, education, health care, and social integration. With strengthened teamwork, active community engagement, and consistent support systems, the children were empowered to grow with confidence, dignity, and a sense of belonging.

General Status of Children:-Loreto Rainbow Home, Bowbazar, maintains a structured and supportive environment focused on care, education, and planned reintegration of the girls.

- **Total at start:** 81 girls
- **Current strength:** 69 girls in residence
- **Age distribution:**
 - Below 10 yrs: 27
 - 10–14 yrs: 41
 - 15–18 yrs: 13
- **Exits:**
 - 1 girl transitioned to After Care (on turning 18)
 - 10 girls reintegrated with families (Feb 2026)
- **CBC Programme:**
 - 3 girls continuing education from home under CBC
- **Education & Transition:**
 - 1 girl in vocational training (Entally)
 - Post-exam home visits for several girls; some planned CBC transition

School Movement: Girls returned home after examinations as per schedule. Overall, the Home continues to facilitate care, education, and gradual reintegration pathways.



ACTIVITIES

NUTRITION CARE:-

• **Menu changes (Oct 2025–Mar 2026):** Added chire and paneer for protein; continued milk, fruits, eggs, chicken, fish; khichri as low-cost nutritious option; festive meals (biryani, chicken curry, sweets); temporary shift to khichuri, dry snacks, ready food, and raw rations during gas shortage.



• **Malnourished children support:** Extra eggs, milk, Horlicks, vitamin syrup, fruits, paneer; focused nutritional care improved health. **Improvement:** Several malnourished children moved to the general category during this period.

HEALTH:-



• **Total sick children & treatment:** 50 children (68 illness cases) initially; Dec–Mar: 30 children sick. Common issues: malaria, fever, ENT, skin, eye, abdominal pain, cold & cough, loose motion, bedwetting. 8 girls under treatment at Medical College with regular follow-up; parents informed.

• **Underweight to healthy:** 9 underweight children identified (in last quarter); several showed improvement and moved to normal category with special nutrition support.

• **Health check-ups:** Regular quarterly height–weight monitoring; malaria testing (Nov: 5 tested, 4 positive *P. vivax*); vision tests (4 girls); TB & thalassemia test (1 child – TB negative); school health camps updated records.

• **Health camps:** Leprosy Mission camps (Sept & March planned); Govt. health camp by Lee Memorial School; hygiene session by BHUMI volunteers (8 March).

• **Vaccination & immunization:** No major updates reported; routine follow-up maintained through health camps and hospital linkage.

• **Health emergencies:** Malaria cases (including *P. falciparum* & *P. vivax*), measles (1 child, under recovery), no major surgeries or deaths reported.

• **Hygiene improvements:** Regular mosquito nets, repellents, lice treatment,



deworming (Aug & Jan), sanitation, rat control (Dec), clean bedding, improved personal cleanliness habits among children.

•**Trainings& lessons learned:** Sessions on menstrual hygiene, seasonal illness, cleanliness, and food hygiene; awareness that bedwetting may be psychological; importance of preventive care and early diagnosis.

•**Success stories:** Malaria cases treated successfully; underweight children improved; children received free medical care (Medical College); vision care support with spectacles arranged.



Education & School Engagement :-

School-wise & Class-wise Enrollment

School Name	Medium	Classes	No. of Girls	Remarks
Lee Memorial Primary School	Bengali	II-IV	7	3 girls moving to St. George's
Lee Memorial High School	Bengali	V-X	42	3 appeared for Madhyamik 2026
St. George's School	English	II-X	12	2 shifted to NIOS; 3 repeating
Loreto Day School, Bowbazar	English	IV-V	1	2 supported externally (CBC), 1 exit
Girindra Balika Vidyalaya (H.S.)	Bengali	XI-XII	3	2 in HS (Sem 4), 1 promoted to XII
Sabitri Pathsala	Hindi	VIII-X	4	2 appeared Madhyamik; 1 exit (CBC)
Loreto Day School, Sealdah (NIOS)	English (NIOS)	XII	1	Appearing final exam

- **Promotion (Class X & XII):** 3 girls appeared for Madhyamik 2026 (Lee Memorial High); multiple girls appeared in HS Semester exams and NIOS Class XII. HS results: Fatema Khatun – 70%, Koyel Pradesh Roy – 73.33%. Majority promoted to next classes.
- **Vocational training:** 1 girl enrolled in George Telegraph Training Institute for office assistant course after HS.

- **Special to regular education:** Some children with learning difficulties showed progress with support from special educator and remedial classes; gradual improvement toward mainstream learning observed.
- **New teachers/volunteers:** 6 remedial teachers continued; internal restructuring of teaching support; JPIC “Teach One Each One” initiative with Loreto Day School Bowbazar students; BHUMI volunteers supported learning sessions.
- **New methodologies/initiatives:** Remedial coaching (individual focus), peer learning program, special education support (6 children), exam-oriented mock tests, and digital documentation support for scholarships.
- **New timetable:** Adjusted remedial schedules; St. George’s girls divided into groups for better academic attention.
- **Trainings & lessons:** Focus on child-centered learning, inclusive education, regular assessments, and importance of documentation for scholarships; improved coordination with parents and schools.
- **Success stories:** Good HS results; participation in science fair and national essay competition (1st place); continued support helped average-performing students improve; free uniform support from KMC and scholarship linkages ensured educational continuity.
- **UPDATE OF COUNSELLING AND SPECIAL EDUCATION :-** From October 2025 to March 2026, counselling support was regularly provided through individual, group, and CBC sessions, focusing on emotional well-being, anger management, and behaviour issues. The Mental Health Professional visited three days a week and conducted multiple sessions each month. Life-skill sessions on time management, relationships, and personal safety were also included. Awareness programs were held for children and parents on mental health and emotional boundaries. Children showed improved enthusiasm and openness, though some faced difficulty returning to routine after vacations.

From February 2026, special education support was strengthened with a Special Educator visiting weekly to assist 6 girls from Lee Memorial and St. George’s based on their learning needs. Additional support classes were also arranged to improve academic performance. Regular coordination between counsellor, teachers, and staff ensured better monitoring of progress. Children gradually showed improvement in both learning and behaviour. Overall, combined counselling and special education support contributed to holistic development.



LIFE SKILL and VALUE EDUCATION SESSION:-

Area	Details
Partner Organizations / Resource Persons	Bhumi, Deepani Encore LLP, UNITY, Sugandha Chowdhury, Loreto B.Ed College students

Area	Details
Key Topics Covered	Social media safety, time management, child rights & 1098 helpline, menstrual hygiene, mental wellness
Value Education Themes	Respect, empathy, moral values, caring for surroundings, healthy vs unhealthy friendships
Life Skill Development	Peer pressure management, self-esteem & body image, relationship building, introspection & emotional healing
Special Sessions	Motivational sessions for board exam students, storytelling for empathy building
Creative Activities	Kite making, emoji drawing for emotional expression
Outcomes	Improved awareness, better emotional expression, increased confidence, and positive behaviour changes among children



EXTRA-CURRICULARACTIVITIES:-

Activity	No. of Children	Trainer / Organization	Frequency	Key Highlights
Karate	35 girls	Mr. Avijit Mitra	Weekly (1 day)	18 girls appeared for belt exam in Feb and achieved next levels
Classical & Contemporary Dance	20 girls	Ms. Suparna	Monthly (2 days)	Learned dance forms and performed in various programmes
Art & Craft	Group participation	U and I	Monthly (1 day)	Learned paper art and creative craft activities
Creative Handicrafts	Senior girls	Brother Franco (St. George's)	Regular sessions	Learned making wristbands, earrings, paper flowers, Christmas décor, photo frames, greeting cards

Activity	No. of Children	Trainer / Organization	Frequency	Key Highlights
Advanced Art Skills	4 girls	Internal support	Ongoing	Specialized in artistic drawing, contemporary art, and tote bag painting

- Remedial Teaching support by TFI volunteers (St George and Loreto girls).
- Lee Memorial High School Sports Achievement – 28 February 2026 :-During the Lee Memorial High School Sports (28 February 2026), the girls actively participated in multiple events and achieved several positions. They secured 1st, 2nd, and 3rd places in various races, biscuit race, frog race, marble spoon race, needle & thread race, and chola motor race. The teams also won 1st and 2nd positions in Battle Drill and 2nd and 3rd positions in Throw Ball events. Additionally, two girls were recognized with the Best Athlete award, highlighting their outstanding performance.
- During the St. George’s Annual Sports Day held on 20 December 2025, girls from LBB Rainbow Homes achieved excellent results in several events. They secured 1st place in battle relay, hurdle race, shot put, and both 50m and 100m races, along with 2nd positions in relay race and 100m race, and 3rd positions in 50m and 100m races. CBC participants also performed well, achieving 2nd place in relay and 3rd place in 50m and 100m races.

EXPOSURE VISITS:-



- October–November: exposure visits including Premananda Leprosy Mission Hospital and Pandal Hopping in North and South Kolkata .
- December: Rainbow North Udaan workshop at Nabadwip Youth Hostel; Sishu Mela at St. Xavier’s University.
- January: Visit to Kolkata International Book Fair;
- February: Visit in kolkata’s various renowned place with international students (Ireland);
- March: Exposure visit to Sports Authority of India Inst.

CHILDREN PARTICIPATION AND LEADERSHIP:-Children actively participated in a wide range of educational, cultural, and life-skill activities, which significantly strengthened their confidence and leadership abilities. Through programmes supported by Bhumi and Deepani Encore LLP, they engaged in discussions on social awareness, values, and personal development. Events like Bal Sabha encouraged children to take responsibility, express opinions, and practice decision-making. Participation in school programmes, competitions, and public events helped them showcase their talents and build self-esteem. Exposure visits to places like



Victoria Memorial Hall and interactions with external groups broadened their perspectives. Creative activities such as art, drama, and storytelling enhanced teamwork and communication skills. Senior girls took initiative in mentoring younger children and participating in leadership-focused workshops. National and cultural celebrations provided platforms for organizing, performing, and anchoring events. Continuous involvement in group activities helped children understand cooperation, discipline, and empathy. Overall, these experiences nurtured a sense of responsibility, independence, and emerging leadership among the children.

CELEBRATION & FESTIVALS :-

Month	Celebration / Festival	Key Highlights
October 2025	Diwali & Bhai Phota	Rangoli, diyas, sweets, cultural programmes, family bonding activities
October 2025	Prayer Services	Focus on health, well-being, and spiritual reflection
November 2025	Children's Day	Cultural programmes, games, outings, gifts, multiple celebrations with volunteers
November 2025	Vande Mataram Celebration	150 years celebration with cultural and awareness activities
December 2025	Christmas Celebrations	Carol singing, dancing, games, gifts, festive meals with Friends of Mary Ward
December 2025	Secret Santa	Gift exchange promoting joy, sharing, and bonding
January 2026	National Youth Day	Tribute to Swami Vivekananda through prayer, quiz, storytelling
January 2026	Saraswati Puja & Netaji Jayanti	Cultural programmes, prayer, discussions on values
January 2026	Republic Day MARY WARD week CELEBRATION	Constitution pledge, speeches, cultural performances. Pledge , quotation learning , group activities , life journey reading , seven messages shareing and explained.
February 2026	International Mother Language Day	Dance, recitation, awareness on linguistic diversity

Month	Celebration / Festival	Key Highlights
March 2026	Women's Day Celebration	Empowerment programmes, cultural events, motivational sessions with Bhumi
March 2026	Community Celebrations	Carnival participation, group activities, and festive gatherings

MARY WARD WEEK :- (Commemorative Day):

Mary Ward Week 2026 was commemorated at Loreto Rainbow Home, Bowbazar from 23rd to 30th January with devotion, joy, and meaningful participation. The celebration commenced on 23rd January, coinciding with Saraswati Puja and Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose's birth anniversary, through prayers, cultural programmes, and community engagement. The following days featured the creation of a Mary Ward Corner and interactive sessions introducing her maxims. On 26th January, the observance aligned with India's 77th Republic Day, blending patriotic spirit with reflections on Mary Ward's life and values through talks, hymns, and performances. Subsequent days focused on key maxims, encouraging creativity and spiritual reflection among the children. A thanksgiving programme on 29th January appreciated contributions and reinforced Mary Ward's vision of education and empowerment. The week concluded on 30th January with gratitude and reflection, leaving a lasting impression of faith, compassion, service, and holistic development among all participants.



Republic day celebration :- (National Celebration): The occasion coincided with the fourth day of Mary Ward Week, adding deeper value to the programme. The event highlighted the importance of the Indian Constitution and democratic ideals. An insightful session by Sister Sarita reflected on the life and values of Mary Ward. Awareness on the significance of Republic Day was shared by an NSOU intern. A solemn Constitution pledge fostered a sense of responsibility and citizenship. The programme included hymns composed by the Loreto Sisters. A vibrant dance performance added colour and enthusiasm to the celebration. Sr. Shreya actively guided and engaged the children throughout the programme. The celebration instilled patriotism along with values of faith, unity, and service.

HOLI CELEBRATION :- (Regional Festival): The festival of Holi was celebrated with great joy and enthusiasm on 2nd and 3rd March 2026 at Loreto Rainbow Home, Bowbazar. The programme began with an introduction to the significance of Holi, highlighting its message of love and harmony. The celebration featured graceful dance performances and the Basant Utsav song "Ore Grihobashi." Children participated with excitement, embracing the festive spirit in a safe and joyful manner. They played with dry colours on the first day, ensuring a safe and inclusive environment. On the following day, children enjoyed playing Holi with water colours under proper supervision. The celebration was filled with laughter, unity, and vibrant expressions of happiness. Special snacks and a festive lunch added



warmth to the occasion. The event was made meaningful through the support of teachers, counsellor, interns, volunteers, donors.

ENGAGEMENT WITH FAMILIES:-Regular engagement with families was maintained through monthly parent-guardian meetings, usually held on the last Saturday, where holistic child development, education, and the importance of proper documentation were discussed. Individual interactions focused on children's mental well-being and behavioural concerns, ensuring personalised support. Parents were encouraged to participate in home celebrations and school-related activities, strengthening their connection with the children's growth. Coordination with schools was also facilitated, including participation in health awareness sessions and academic discussions with teachers. Continuous communication and involvement of families helped build a supportive environment for the children's overall development.



BUILDING SOCIAL PERSPECTIVE :-

- **Rainbow North Udaan Workshop:** Enabled senior girls to understand citizenship, gender equality, and social responsibility, helping them prepare for adulthood with awareness of their roles in society.
- **Environmental and Waste Management Workshops:** Encouraged children to adopt sustainable practices and understand their responsibility towards the environment and community through practical learning on waste reduction and the 3Rs.
- **Gender Sensitization and Menstrual Health Awareness Sessions:** Promoted inclusivity, dignity, and equality by addressing important social issues, helping children develop respect and sensitivity towards gender-related concerns.
- **Exposure Visits (German Consulate Charity Market & Leprosy Mission Hospital):** Provided real-life exposure to community service and social realities, fostering empathy, compassion, and a sense of social responsibility.
- **Life Skills Sessions (Conflict Resolution, Stress Management, Mindfulness):** Strengthened emotional intelligence, communication, and decision-making abilities, enabling children to interact positively and responsibly within society.



Teamstatus :-.During this period, Loreto Bowbazar Rainbow Home maintained stability with no staff transitions. The Home Coordinator ensured overall coordination among the home team, school, support staff, volunteers, and donors. The Health Incharge closely monitored the

health development of all children and managed hospital visits. She also supported the education unit by maintaining and overseeing stationery stock. Home Incharge 1 supervised food and nutrition to ensure balanced and timely meals. Home Incharge 2 managed children's personal belongings and maintained stock records efficiently. The Social Mobilizer continued regular home visits and maintained children's documentation.

She remained actively involved in various additional responsibilities within the home. Home Mothers provided consistent care, focusing on the children's growth and well-being. Support from part-time teachers and volunteers strengthened educational and extracurricular activities.

Team member's experience:- Ms. BASANTI DAS (HEALTH INCHARGE):-

“As the Health Incharge at Loreto Bowbazar Rainbow Home, I remain closely connected with the children and their daily health needs. Each day, I interact with them personally, and they approach me with their various health concerns, often expressing a deep sense of trust and comfort. At times, I feel they see me as a mother figure, as they come close, seek reassurance, and share their feelings openly. I ensure continuous health support by arranging necessary medicines, accompanying them for hospital visits, and maintaining the medicine stock within the home. I am also attentive to their emotional well-being, understanding the pain they feel being away from their parents, and strive to provide them with care and affection. Special focus is given to underweight children by monitoring their nutrition, arranging balanced diets, and ensuring regular health check-ups and timely medication. Through my role, I remain committed to nurturing both the physical and emotional well-being of every child.”

Team Training :-

Month & Year	Training / Workshop	Conducted By	Participants
October 2025	Gender Training Session	City Desk Education Coordinator & TFI Fellows	Home Mothers
October 2025	Case Study & Home Visit Report Writing Training	City Desk Education Coordinator & TFI Fellows	Home Mothers
November 2025	Knowledge Exchange Workshop on Child Protection Policy & Communication with Children	National Office – Rainbow Homes Programme Technical Team	Home Team Members & Home Mothers
November 2025	MS Excel Training Session	Cognizant (Mr. Swarna)	Home Team Members
November 2025	Long-Term Strategy Training on Fundraising	National Office – Rainbow Homes & Smile Foundation	Home Team Members
December	Workshop on New Format of Rainbow	Rainbow Homes Programme	Home Team

Month & Year	Training / Workshop	Conducted By	Participants
2025	Online Reporting		Members
January 2026	Orientation on Vocational Training & Skill Building (Young Adults)	National Office – YA Developmental Centre	Future Focal Person & Home Coordinator
January 2026	Artificial Intelligence Fundamentals Session	Rukmini Trust & Career DNA Supporter	Older Children & Home Team Members
February 2026	Online Child Protection Policy Training	National Office – Rainbow Homes Programme	CPO & Home Team Members

VISIT

Visitor's Review :-02.03.26 :-"Celebrating the Holi festival with the children of Rainbow Home Bowbazar was a truly memorable experience. The children's dance performance for us made the occasion even more special. It was a joyous and unforgettable Holi for all of us."– Shawanti Patra (Intern)

Date: 08.03.20263. Women's Day –"The relentless service rendered by the mothers and sisters of Rainbow Homes for the welfare of all humanity commands deep respect. My heartfelt wishes to all for becoming compassionate human beings. It is our sincere effort to be with you in this selfless service. On the occasion of International Women's Day 2026, I express my gratitude and pledge to stand by this noble cause with utmost sincerity."- Mousumi Samanta (Lee Memorial Girls High School)

. Last Day at Loreto Rainbow Bowbazar – 22.03.26 :- "I am unable to fully express what I feel today. We began as strangers, but now we are parting with hearts full of memories. Though we will meet soon, these moments will remain vividly replayed in my mind. I wish nothing but the very best for everyone. See you soon!"– Paulam Laha, U&I

Visitors AND Local Contribution:-During October 2025 to March 2026, Loreto Bowbazar Rainbow Home was privileged to receive visits from several esteemed institutions and groups. Students and teachers from Loreto College and St. Stephen's Green College actively engaged with the children through meaningful interactions. St. Xavier's College Marketing Department students conducted creative and joyful activities. International visitors including Spain Rainbow Families and Australian Volunteers enriched the children through cultural exchange. Loreto Mukulika Young Sisters also spent quality time with the children. Sr. Shreya

Kiro and Sr. Angel Tamang from Loreto Novitiate, Thakurpukur stayed for a few days. They closely accompanied the children in their daily routine. Their presence brought emotional support and encouragement. These visits created a joyful and inclusive environment. Overall, the engagement strengthened learning and social exposure for the children.



During the same period, the home received strong local support from various organizations and well-wishers. Institutions like Loreto House Swastik Clinic and Friends of Mary Ward extended continuous support. Contributions were also received from JBL Academy of Culinary Arts and U & I Organization. St. Xavier's University and Loreto B.Ed College students actively contributed their time and service. Support from Ayush Agarwal (LEO Club Kolkata) and the Sports Authority of India was notable. Several organizations including TATA AIG, Unity Organization, and Inner Wheel Club also assisted. Educational and healthcare institutions played an important role in supporting the children. Individual donors and volunteers contributed generously. Groups like Bhumi Volunteers and Rotary Club members remained actively involved. This collective effort ensured the well-being and holistic development of the children.

CHALLENGES

During this period, children experienced multiple challenges affecting their emotional and physical well-being. These included difficulties in adjustment due to changes in caregiving, family-related uncertainties after vacations, and gaps in structured leadership support. Limited space, resource constraints, and funding limitations impacted nutrition and access to emergency healthcare, while lack of proper identification documents delayed educational benefits. Seasonal illnesses and exposure to unsafe home environments during holidays further added to their vulnerability. These concerns were addressed through strengthened caregiving support, continuous family engagement, effective resource management, and timely health interventions to ensure the well-being of every child.

THANK YOU

We extend our heartfelt gratitude to all our donors, well-wishers, and partner organizations for their continuous support and trust. We sincerely thank our Director, Sr. Priyanka, and the City Desk team for their constant guidance and encouragement. Our appreciation also goes to the School Management and all collaborating institutions for their valuable contribution. Your generosity has enabled us to ensure care, education, and stability for every child. Your

unwavering belief in our mission motivates us to strive for excellence each day. Together, we continue to build a brighter, safer, and more compassionate future for our children.

