



YERWA

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The second quarter of this year was quite challenging for the staff and students at the Learning Center due to effects of the global COVID-19 pandemic.

The COVID-19 pandemic caused by the novel coronavirus SARS-CoV-2 spread across the country crossing state lines. The first officially reported case of COVID-19 and subsequent death in Borno state was on April 19, 2020.

Consequently, the Borno state Government on the recommendations of the Borno State COVID-19 High Powered Committee ordered a state-wide lockdown.

This required a cessation of all movements within the state for an initial period of 14 days commencing from Wednesday, April 22, 2020.

The lockdown was extended for another period of 7 days albeit with some easing measures to allow restricted movements to markets.

The Borno State Government ordered that all schools be closed for the entire lockdown period and they were to remain closed even after the lockdown was lifted on Thursday, May 14, 2020.

In this edition of our newsletter, we will share with you our activities carried out at the Learning Center to mitigate the challenges encountered during the lockdown.

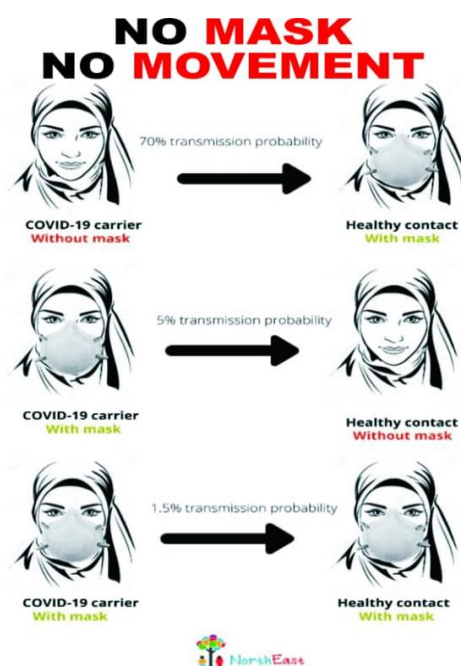
We will highlight measures taken to prepare for the effects of the pandemic as well as our response to events as they unfolded.

Reaction to the COVID-19 Pandemic

TLC PREPAREDNESS

The Learning Center institutionalized certain proactive measures in early March 2020 to protect her staff and children in the event of a viral outbreak in Maiduguri and also in preparation of a potential state-wide lockdown. These personal and environmental measures were largely nonpharmacological in nature and include –

- Preparing a team of volunteers including health workers and other essential staff to take care of the school community during the state lockdown
- Advocacy programs within the school community on personal preventative actions such as proper and regular hand washing, use of hand sanitisers, social distancing, face-masking, coughing into elbows
- Placing posters, infographics and banners highlighting COVID-19 preventive measures in strategic locations in the school
- Body temperature checks for staff upon entry
- Installation of handwashing stations around the school compound
- Regular disinfection of frequently touched surfaces
- Development of protocol for case finding and reporting of COVID-19 within the school
- Creation of temporary holding bays in case of an outbreak pending referral and transportation to the Borno state isolation centre



TLC COVID RESPONSE

TLC students on the vocational and garment construction track produced One thousand (1000) standardised face masks for the entire TLC community at the school's vocational centre.

Two hundred face masks were donated to the Borno State Government's COVID-19 task force to contribute to their efforts to provide face masks to persons that cannot afford to purchase them.

Plans are underway to increase the production of face masks for distribution within IDP camps and for front line workers.



TLC Activities in Pictures

The TLC children crafted a sustainable local oven to meet the baking needs of the community



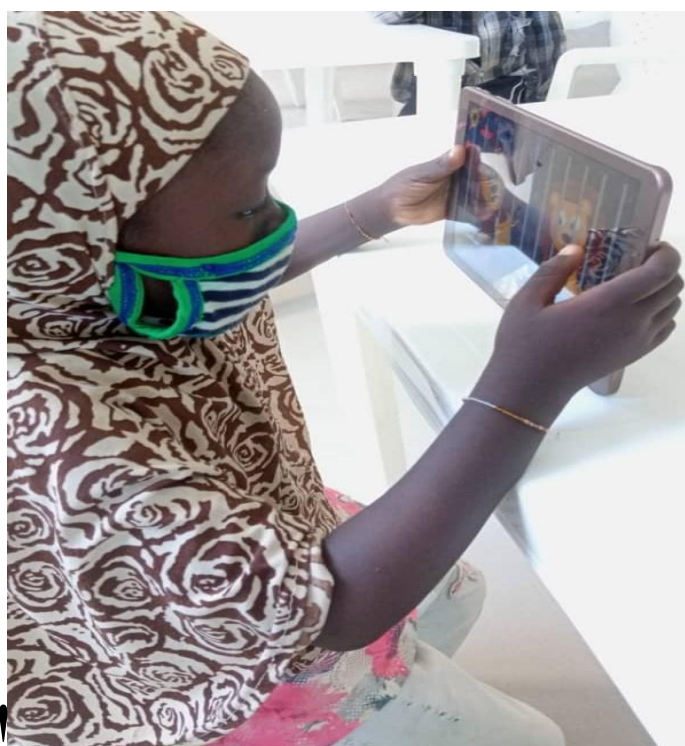
More Learning Activities

Other non-curricular educational activities, TLC children engaged in are -

1. Sporting activities like football, egg and spoon race, tug pull and gymnastics
2. Imaginative creativity activities like moulding, drawing and carving.
3. Electronic reading (E – reading) to improve student ICT skills
4. Literacy clubs to organise quiz competitions and debates on relevant and exciting topics including the COVID – 19 pandemic
5. Drama presentations and Cultural presentations
6. Computer classes – Introductory courses to Microsoft packages including Word, Excel, PowerPoint and Corel Draw.



More Pictures





Prize giving day

TLC organised an inter-house competition to promote individual cleanliness and communal sanitation. The children in the neatest houses and dormitories were awarded prizes at a special prize-giving ceremony.



Upcoming Activities

In preparation for the next school year i.e. 2020/2021 session, The Learning Center is organising a staff development and training session for all our teaching staff. Emphasis is to be placed on training the teachers to teach the children a Science, Technology, Engineering, Arts and Mathematics course.

The week-long training is scheduled to take place in the second week of July. As part of TLC's Corporate Social Responsibility, teachers from some public schools in Maiduguri have been invited to participate in the teacher development program.



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