

Link Letter No.9 November 2013

Dear praying friends,

Thank you so much for your continuing support! As we write, we are back in the UK so that Paul can continue his studies for his MA in Youth Ministry and Theology and so that we can visit supporting churches. We are enjoying time with family and the beautiful countryside!

Before we left Peru, Paul was involved in the diocesan family fun day organised by the Youth Ministry, which many of you will have prayed for. This is an annual event to celebrate world youth day and to raise funds for the youth ministry. The day went really well and was a great celebration of church community. We raised around £500 for youth ministry – a huge amount in Peru! Most exciting to see was how the youth leaders from across Lima came together and worked hard to put the event on.



Paul and Sarah Tester

CMS mission partners

Peru

Paul and Sarah are CMS mission partners working in the Diocese of Peru. Paul is a qualified civil engineer and has used his gifts in the diocese alongside his main role in the youth programme. Sarah, a teacher, has been developing the Ark play scheme which helps children in Lima's poorest communities to learn through play.



We asked you to pray for the national youth leader's retreat in Peru from 8-10 November. The theme has been "*Leaders in Construction*" based around the book of Nehemiah. It went very well and

encouraged the leaders in their ministry.

Two days after the family fun day, we were on the plane to the UK and enjoying a very good journey. God blessed us with three seats in a row (we were only entitled to two with Sophia) and that allowed us all to get some sleep on the long overnight flight. Sophia rolled into arrivals aboard her tiger suitcase to be met by our families who she quickly began entertaining. It was lovely to see her at ease with family so quickly!



The youth organised family fun day: the girls from our church won the volleyball trophy



The young leaders who made everything happen...

Since our arrival in the UK, we have been enjoying time with friends and family, including a few days break at Center Parcs which was



Sarah and Sophia enjoying the flight back to the UK



Enjoying family time at Heathrow Airport

lovely. We have visited a number of supporting churches covering much of the country. It has been great to see so many of you in these last couple of months.

Paul has been studying hard, reading more books this year than in the preceding ten years (!) and is looking forward to having this term's assignments submitted (deadline 23 January 2014).



Paul and Sophia

So please thank God for:

- The family fun day and youth leader's retreat
- Safe and pleasant travels
- Time with family and friends
- Things continuing well in Peru in our absence.

Please pray for:

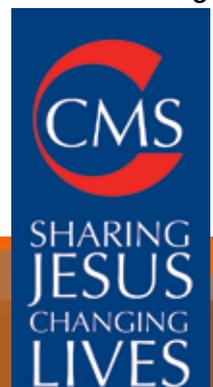
- All those serving in our absence and for special Christmas events in Peru, especially children's parties
- Paul as he studies and completes assignments
- Safe travel back to Peru (29 December)
- Sophia to settle quickly and be able to cope with the summer heat
- Discernment as to God's leading as we settle back into Peru
- Forthcoming summer camps in January/February.

May we take this opportunity to wish you all a very Happy Christmas and pray that the celebration of Jesus' birth will touch you in a special way.

With love and prayers,

Paul, Sarah and Sophia

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