

News from Paraguay

September 2017

Dear Friends,

Greetings from a hot, spring day here in Asuncion. We are enjoying a week off school for Spring break. It's always a much welcome rest as we head towards the end of the school year. (Today is actually cold and wet. It changes all the time!!)



Folklore Day

This month has been as busy as ever with lots of activities taking place. It's always a very busy month as we try to get all events out of the way before we get into exam time.

We started the month with us going in different directions! Mags went to take some secondary pupils to a maths competition in

the next town and Gwen went to the annexe celebration of Folklore Day. The annexe had a big celebration as it's their 45th anniversary and so they were allowed to use a covered area owned by a political party! They put on a big show with each class representing a different country and all dressed in costumes. They also had stands for their country. It was a lovely, colourful morning.



3 Gold medals in Sec
All the Primary kids won medals.



Mags managed to join in at the end after the pupils had done their maths tests. A number of them passed on to the finals to be held in the border town of Ciudad del Este next month. The week after this Mags was back at the next maths competition with the primary pupils. At least that one was down the road from us!



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More school events followed with 7th grade producing a play to teach the little ones how to wash their hands. Then we had a whole school science fair to which parents were invited. It went down very well and the pupils had some great experiments to show off. Most of it was in English and we were very impressed with the little ones in first and second grade.



Science Fair

Staff retreat

The next day we had our staff retreat to which we had invited a visiting speaker from the Pentecostal church. His mum works in school. His message was excellent as he spoke about the processes that the Lord puts us through and he used Joseph as an example. I think we all gained from that time together. We ended with lunch and started our break.



Drama



The last week before the break was full of activity especially for the secondary pupils. They had sports day on the Tuesday which went very well. That was followed by a retreat day for them the next day. The title being "Truth" and they had talks and activities connected to this. They seemed to really enjoy the day and we hope they will have taken something of spiritual value home with them too. The 21st is the first day of Spring here and also Youth Day. That also involves a lot of activity. The secondary staff made a video for the kids based on a Paraguayan song. I don't know who enjoyed it the most; the staff making it who were crying laughing, or the pupils watching it!! School finished on the Thursday for the pupils.



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On Saturday morning we went out to Remansito, over the river on the way to the Chaco, to the inauguration of a new hostel for the Indigenous folks when they come into the city. This is next to the Anglican church there. We were very impressed with it and its setting. The Sunday was then our service in church.



Remansito -
Indigenous Hostel



We are both fit and well as are all of our animals. Splash is well recovered from all his illnesses and eating better than ever. School starts again on Tuesday October 3rd as do the IGCSE exams. This means that the year 11's will only be in now for their exams. The 6th form only have 3 weeks left before they too finish for exams. The rest of the school has final exams in November.

Since then Mags has been busy in the kitchen making mincemeat for mince pies, Christmas pudding and she's about to start on the Christmas cake! Gwen is about to sew as she also has a few projects in mind but she's not sure how far she'll get! We've also been swimming in the school pool and Mags takes Splash out every day for a run (Yes, they both run!). We have also welcomed Bev Richardson to school. She has come with CMS to work with the church for two years and we have hijacked her for this first month to help with our Trinity exams.

Bev is on the right.



Thanks!!

Thank you to everyone for all your support and prayers. They mean a lot to us.

God Bless, Love
Mags and Gwen



In school we've continued to be busy with getting up to date on the latest labour laws and meeting with architects and bank managers! We hope to start some building and changes to our buildings in the next few months and that has involved a lot of meetings including looking for bank loans to help us through. The building contract is now signed and we are almost there with a loan.



Photo extra

There were too many events / photos this month!!



Sports Day

Student Retreat



YOUTH DAY



9th Grade



Cold Fire