

News from Paraguay

April 2017

Greetings from a wet Asuncion. The weather has changed dramatically this month; it's been a lot cooler but with a lot of rain.

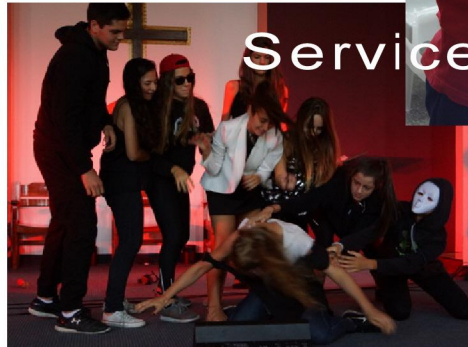
It's been another busy month with Easter at the beginning. The oldest pupils went to Brazil to play football and volleyball. They had a great time but didn't bring back the trophies this time!!! They are teams in progress after the main part of the team left at the end of the year!! Plenty of potential in the next few years including one lad who plays at one of the big clubs in the U18. The 9th grade had their day in the dad's shadow where they spend the day with him (or mum) at work. Everyone enjoys it especially the dads. It is the start of looking at possible careers for the future. In school we had an Easter hat parade and Easter egg hunts. The secondary also had egg hunts out at Surubii. The real meaning wasn't lost though and we had a good Easter service on the Friday before our week off for the break. Pastor Ronnie spoke at that and there was participation from different areas of school.



Brazil



Hats



Service



Annexe





Visit by the Southernns



Mags was straight off to the border town in Brazil after that as she went to meet her brother and family who were coming to visit. They stayed in Brazil a few days though in order to see the Iguazu waterfalls and a huge bird park. They arrived in Paraguay on the Monday. Meanwhile Gwen had stayed to look after the animals and, true to form, Splash had hurt his leg and had to go to the vet's! It was nothing much and he soon recovered. Once Mags was back in Paraguay she was busy showing her family round. They enjoyed their week's visit and the boys (ages 7 and 11 yrs) came into school for the day on Monday and really enjoyed it despite not understanding the language. They cried all the way to the airport later as they hadn't wanted to leave. They went on to Buenos Aires for a few days.



Towards the end of their visit the 2 dogs took ill again. Vikingo had a bad stomach and Splash was sick. They soon recovered but it took yet another trip to the vets. We also had a leak as a pipe burst in the guest bedroom soaking all the floor (thankful for tiled floors!) and Gwen was left to dry up. That was on Good Friday when there was no plumber available!



Dad's and their shadows





6th Grade dance for Teacher's day

Then it was back to school and the secondary went to visit the different homes they each support. Since they visit the same place at least twice a year, they form strong bonds with the children and it opens their eyes to how they can help. We are thrilled to hear how ex-pupils are helping others in need in many different ways. We ended the month celebrating Teachers' day and Workers' day. We had a staff lunch for that alongside a lot of other celebrations. Mags had been busy baking for a staff breakfast. The Primary children put on a show for their teachers. The 3rd form organized a breakfast with Mariachis (Mexican musicians) for the Secondary with a show. The staff felt well and truly spoilt by the end of it all. The Annexe school celebrated Easter with a service which we also attended. It was a nice service at which Pastor Donald spoke and the children sang and danced. We now look forward to a long weekend at the start of the new month. Thankyou for all your support, God Bless and love Gwen and Mags xx

