
March Prayer Points

He is Risen - He is Risen indeed!

Easter Greetings - 28 March 2016



March Madness...

You think your life is fairly uneventful, until you take photos in preparation for the next newsletter or prayer points letter and then you flick through a whole bunch of photos and you realise just how many things have been achieved in one short month.



Photos:-

.1. I have been truly blessed with a friend who lives here with her husband and children and you would never believe we actually went to University together in Bathurst NSW and did a mission trip to Mexico together in 2000. Anyhow, together we were able to network resources and while she was teaching her P1 class about 'serving' she decided to bring the kids to Fruits of Hope Academy and her P1 children read stories to our nursery children. The children were able to tell you why they were serving and why it was important and I think all the children from both schools enjoyed their time together. It was definitely a cultural experience for both schools, especially as one school is 100% African while the other school in one class of 19 children had 12 nationalities. The white kids struggled a little with having their hair touched and their skin stroked.

.2. Our little Flora struggled with a nasty cough and seemed to be distressed with her breathing. So, underneath her high chair I made a little tent with bath towels hanging down, filled up three buckets with boiling water and sat her under there to breath in the steam from the boiling water. You have to work with what you have hey - all those years of being a girl guide - paid off in this instance! Yes she is feeling much better, can breath a lot easier and is on Ventolin with a spacer and face mask.

.3. I just love training teachers and each Wednesday afternoon we have a teacher development afternoon. On this particular Wednesday, I received an email at 6:50am asking me to lead teacher development that afternoon and to do what ever I wanted to do in regards to team work. So I walked over to the wood working shed, asked for a long plank of wood, and a shorter plank of wood and came up with some crazy story about all of the teachers being on a teacher development, cruising around Madagascar when the ship started to sink and finally capsized. The whole team had to get from the capsized boat, to the island and then to the new ship ready to take them home. The story goes on but I can honestly say the teachers loved it and it was one of the best teacher training sessions we have done! They could see practically the point of united teamwork and they are still talking about it.

.4. Two Monday nights ago I was asked to be the keynote speaker for a parents evening at one of the local churches. The theme for the evening was education and the early years. I was definitely hesitant because I am not here to get a name for myself, and I certainly don't feel like I need to network with lots of new people. I came to work on the curriculum for the college, not become known for early years education. Well the week before the event, I met someone for the first time who was adamant she had met me and wanted to know from where. When I told her that I was a nursery teachers she said, "Oh are you speaking at CLA on Monday night?" "Yes - yes I am!" "That's where I know your face from, your photo was on the flyer as the speaker for the evening!"

I had someone else ask me that week if I could also speak at their church - I suggested they invite their church to the evening already planned. On the night I had a few people take my number and email - it is clear that there is a need for Early Childhood education

in Rwanda and the locals and parents are screaming out for it. They asked several times when the college will be built and when we will be starting classes. They were hoping for about 30 people attending this night, they catered for 50, and..... well - 88 showed up including the local TV station!

.5. Baby formula tins were recycled into the story of creation with a picture and number drawn on the top of the lids and creative things inside to help children remember what was made on each day. I have completed a ten week training course to Sunday School teachers and this was our lesson on being creative in presenting the gospel to the children and working with the resources you have available.

Praise Points:-

- Positive community connections between a western school and Fruits of Hope Academy.
- Making friends outside of the community I'm living in and working with them.
- Flora is breathing better - thanks to friends who sent over the Ventolin and spacer.
- Teacher Development was not only different - and being outdoors was not cultural, but it was a great activity in recognising the need for working together.
- The great success and large numbers of parents who came to the parent support night.
- The Sunday School teachers were enthusiastic and responsive to their training sessions.
- One whole week of hot showers - hallelujah!!

Prayer Points:-

- That future connections with local schools may occur.
- Flora's 'wheezy' chest will clear up completely, especially as April is known as the wettest and coldest month in Rwanda.
- Continued relationships with the teachers of Fruits of Hope, and the need for unity and cohesive teamwork.
- Discernment for me to know when to say 'yes' I will help you out and when to say 'sorry - you'll need to wait for the college to be up and running'
- For wisdom in writing the curriculum for the college.
- For finances to come so building works for the college can commence.
- That the knowledge learnt by the Sunday School teachers will be used and Sunday School will become a safe and fun place for the children to meet Jesus.