

2012, New Year, New Beginnings

Maybe it's not the most original headline, but it really applies to the New Year at Operación San Andrés (OSA). While we enrolled new children in the 1st grade of our Living Water after school program last year, this year we welcome back the older children who have been in this program over the last years.

Last year on Saturdays, we worked with the ones who graduated from OSA in December 2010, but the OSA team in Peru recognized the need to walk alongside them during their years in high school. These teenage years are more critical than the early school years.

In addition to new beginnings at OSA, we acknowledge that the students experience more new beginnings. Beside the continuation of the Living Water program, they will start a new school in March. Since some of the schools have classes in the morning and others in the afternoon, we will have classes in the morning and afternoon as well.

At the moment we anticipate having ten students in the morning and ten in the afternoon.

Most of the children who were in 1st grade last year came back and with some new ones we have nine children at the moment. We will continue to look for more children for this group.

The class schedule for the middle school students includes psychology, Biblical spirituality, verbal reasoning, mathematical reasoning, and computer/Microsoft Office.

We will always look for ways to assist with the needs these children have, so they can improve in their schools and in their personal lives.

On the first day, we asked them why they had returned to OSA. The following are some of the answers:

Rivaldo: "because OSA helps me to reflect and to think better about all things and the teachers are good."

Anne: "because it's a good help for me and they give good education and health."

Angie: "because they teach me values and help me to improve my education."

Vanessa: "because OSA helps me in my behavior and character in order to be a good and responsible person."

Angelo: "because OSA helps me a lot and I have many friends here."

Kristin: "because I want to learn more."

Abel: "because I learn how to better use the computer."



Sarahi: "because it's fun and I really like the way they teach."

Another question was "What are your dreams for 2012?"

Below some responses:

Jean Pearre: "to be a better person."

Rivaldo: "to improve myself and give the best of me to OSA and to be a good example to my friends."

Melissa: "to learn more in the classes at OSA."

We believe that God called us to minister to the people of Collique and these responses just confirm that we are here for a reason. We feel privileged to serve God and we thank you for the ongoing support. Also in 2012 we count on your prayers and gifts for OSA!

You can also be part of our ministry by participating in one of the mission trips to Collique. The next one is in April. There is still time to register for this trip. See the next page for more information.

We look forward meeting you in Collique!

Class of 2011

Some of these children entered the program in 1st grade, others joined later, but they were all here last year. We thank God for all these years they have been with us. Some of you who have been here during one or more mission trip(s) might recognize them, might even see the development. We look forward to continuing our work with these children and their families, sharing God's love, and teaching them about His plans for their lives.

Upcoming Events

January 27

- Field Trip for OSA Middle School students to a museum and one of the bigger companies of Peru

February 26

- Reading and Math workshop for OSA parents

December 2011, Review

While November 30th was the last day of classes at OSA, there were still activities waiting for the children and their families.

The performance of the musical "Ray el Angel," for which the 6th graders practiced two hours per week since August, was scheduled for Saturday, December 10, in a church in the 1st zone of Collique.

Elizabeth continued practicing in December. The children invited family and friends and also the church members were invited. We look back on a good event and the children did great. The 1st graders took part in the performance too, by acting the nativity scene during one of the songs.

The following week on Wednesday, December 14, the musical was performed again during OSA's annual Christmas celebration.



Christmas Celebration at OSA

The celebration started with Christian clowns who did a great job even bringing the Gospel wrapped in laughter and fun. They even got the whole group dancing on one of the songs, when they asked the children to bring their parents to the front. It was wonderful to see this harmony.

After the clowns entertained, the children performed the musical. The children were not as nervous as in the church. Again they did great and we pray that the songs they sang can come back to mind in the future.

At the end of the event children who excelled during this year at OSA received a special gift. For the high school this was Rivaldo and in the 6th grade Ana. Angelo was presented the award for special progression during the year.

Also the mothers got special attention for their part in the program. The mothers of the children enrolled in the program are scheduled to cook lunch three times per month and every week they have a class with Charo, our social worker, and once a month Bible study. Sra. Fonseca, the



"RAY EL ANGEL" PERFORMANCE AT OSA

SPRING MISSION TRIP

April 20-28, 2012

There is still time to be part of our upcoming mission trip!

Contact Ruth Campos for more details.

(+1) 713-464-8525 or

zammiecampos@comcast.net

mother of Annie, was recognized for her faithful attendance and participation.

After all the gifts were handed out, the Panetón (fruitcake) and hot chocolate were served and families went home happy. Thanks to our supporters who make this celebration possible!



THE CLOWNS GOT EVERYBODY DANCING

A SPECIAL THANK YOU TO OUR OSA FRIENDS IN PERU, WHO DONATED THE PANETÓN FOR THIS EVENT.



ANNIE ENJOYING PANETÓN, HOT CHOCOLATE AND THE JUST RECEIVED NEW BACKPACK



AFTER THE PERFORMANCE IN THE CHURCH

Please, PRAY with us for

- The continuing work with the middle school students
- God's guidance in all we do here at OSA
- Comedor San Andrés
- More children for the 1st grade
- The new teachers
- Our Board and their families
- A wonderful and blessed 2012 for all

Operación San Andrés, 11918 Taylorcrest, Houston, TX 77024, USA; Phone (713) 464-8525, Fax (713) 464-2730
contactus@operacionsanandres.org - <http://operacionsanandres.org>

OSA Peru office: +511-558-2470

OSA Missionaries Kees and Elizabeth Abbring - osa-peru@hotmail.com