

AGUA VIVA

GUATEMALA CHILDREN'S MISSION NEWS | AUGUST 2017

VBS - THE ARMOR OF GOD

Kirby Woods Baptist Church led this year's Vacation Bible School, and it was a huge success. The students loved the songs, games, crafts, and lessons on the armor of God. Allan, a 6th grade student who has attended our school since Kindergarten, said that VBS is his favorite week of the school year. He especially loved memorizing Ephesians 6:16 because it teaches about the shield of faith. He explained that the verse "reminded me that God is near and has never let me down, even when my dad left us three years ago." He enjoys attending a school where he hears about God.



LEARNING TO PLAY



Amanda and her brother Jonathan originally came to Agua Viva three years ago. They were timid when they arrived, and being around large groups of people made them nervous, particularly when they happened to be children. They did not grow up playing much with

other kids. As a result, they were reluctant to get to know the other children at Agua Viva, and were unsure how to play with them. Today, both Amanda and Jonathan have changed drastically. They love playing sports, watching TV and doing chores with the other children at the Home. They are thankful for the education they receive, and enjoy all of the open space, where they have plenty of room to play.

NEW TABLES

This summer our friends from New Hope Christian Church blessed us by funding and building tables for our dining room that are both beautiful and lightweight. The children were excited the first time they placed the benches onto the tables because they discovered that the team had lovingly written Bible verses on the bottom of each bench. The children ran excitedly from table to table in order to read all of the verses.



PRAY 2017

Week 32 Please pray that our children would grow up to be young men and women of integrity who are leaders in their schools, careers and families.

Week 33 Please pray that our children would grow up to be strong and courageous in their character (Deuteronomy 31.6)

Week 34 Please pray that our children would have the emotional strength to overcome past hurts and regrets.

Week 35 Please pray that our children would grow up to be Godly fathers and mothers who love, cherish, protect and provide for their children.

FRIENDSHIP TO FAMILY

Suzy came to Agua Viva when she was just 3 years old, along with her twin brothers Gama and Israel. One special friend that she made while living here was a woman named Lois. Suzy only knew what she learned about Lois from her annual summer visits. However, when Suzy wanted to visit her



brothers while they were studying in the US, Lois helped her. In addition to loaning her money to buy the ticket, Lois also received Suzy into her home, making her feel special and loved. Since that time Lois has continued to be a part of Suzy's life, providing support and counsel as she looked for a job, got married, and had a baby. Suzy explained, "When my little princess was born, Lois was always there for me, like a mother. Since then she has been like a true mother to my brothers and me. That is the reason why I decided to name my daughter after her. There are no words to describe Lois except that she is my beautiful mother."



We praise the Lord for his continued faithfulness in the lives of the children who have left Agua Viva. Please continue to pray for Suzy and her new family, as well as all the children who have grown up and left Agua Viva to start their lives, build careers, get married, and raise children. Pray that God would bring friends and family into their lives that would encourage and challenge them to walk with the Lord.

Top Photo: Lois, Suzy and Baby Lois

Bottom Photo: Gama, Suzy, Lois, Rigo (husband) and Israel

GROWING IN SPORTSMANSHIP

A number of our older children enjoyed a soccer match against the students from America Latina, one of the best private schools in the area. While they didn't win, they had a great time playing. When we asked one of our boys, Osbely, how he felt about losing, he replied, "I enjoyed going outside the Home to play with other people even though we didn't win or score many points. It is always nice to get out of our normal routine." We love giving our children opportunities to meet new people and try new things!



A NEW PLACE TO CALL HOME

Submitted by Caroline Frazee

When I first arrived at Agua Viva, I felt a rush of happiness. The first child that smiled at me brightened my heart, and it was at that moment that I experienced pure joy. It was also in that instant that I knew I needed to return in order to help my other



classmates experience the same thing. Agua Viva is a place of pure joy, compassion, respect, and faith. While at Agua Viva each year, I evaluate my faith and always find that it is growing stronger and stronger. I see God in every one of the children, especially when they smile. I thank God for blessing me with unique experiences each year. My time serving here has taught me to be humble and kind to everyone I meet throughout my life. My experience here also has given me more confidence to interact with new people, even though it can be uncomfortable. Overall, the time I have spent at Agua Viva has given me a new place to call home as well as lasting memories that I will cherish forever.

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