

Jardín de Gracia



Mid Year Report 2016

As of July 2016, we are prayerfully moving forward on the new part of the school (7-9th grades) and if you want to pray with us, we would be so honored. The piece of property that we had been focused on did not pan out. The price was extremely high and the owner was not willing to negotiate. We are moving forward on converting the land that the school already owns from a little house to a school. It will be very convenient to have the 7-9th grades across the street. Our teams this year have been focusing on getting the septic, the trees and other things that we need changed up to speed across the street.

We have hosted half our teams! Our teams this year, have put in leach lines, built doors and ran tons of electricity so that when the power goes out we have easy access to a generator. They have run a soccer camp for our school children and replaced ALL the toilets in the children's public bathrooms. We now are proud owners of a little 15 passenger van that makes moving groups and taking field trips so much easier, and with that came a little wider driveway to house the silver van. In the community our teams have built and installed 2 latrines for families that had no access to their own bathroom. Now they have doors that lock and sewage tanks with a tight lid.

Our teacher training is coming up soon and we can't wait! We have field trips planned for August and celebrations all through the month of September! It's the downhill slide here on the mountain. Please keep us in your prayers.

The heart of a teacher



These are our newest staff members at Jardín de Gracia. Henry joined us at the beginning of the year as our fifth grade teacher. Yocelin Carolina is our sixth grade teacher. One question we are asked often by our supporters is: "Do your teachers have degrees?". The answer is "Yes". All teachers are required by Honduran law to be licensed. The way the education system in Honduras works is after your general education (basico) you go to a community college (media) you learn more general education but specialized in the area of study that you have chosen. There you earn an associates (titulo) for that education. Then after 5 years of university which includes hands on practice, you have your bachelors degree (licenciada). This degree is in a specialty such as Administration, Elementary Education, Science, Spanish ect.... After that training, you can continue to receive your masters or doctorate degree. All of our current have been to Community college (media) for three years to receive the title of teacher and can legally teach. All our teachers; with the exception of one, are going to university and are in the 5 year process of becoming Licenciada. A good teacher is also a learner. We are thankful to have some of the best in our city!

Notes from the School Board



Jardin de Gracia school has always been an amazing place where the Lord is moving in amazing ways. Through all the struggles of the years the Lord has always been faithful and used JDG to make a difference in the lives of so many. A few years ago though, the Fosters saw a need to grow our teachers and change the climate of the school. We decided that Great Expectations was the program that could make the difference. Through the Lord's leading and Lord's constant selection of teachers to come down Great Expectations was implemented at JDG. The changes have been amazing. From the very beginning the teachers have been incredibly open to new ideas and strategies. They wanted to grow and the Lord provided people and resources to help them grow. The changes at the school are indescribable, and the school continues to become more and more a place that the Lord can use to grow His children. I am thankful that I have been blessed to be a part of it. I can only imagine what the Lord will do in the future to make JDG school a place that glorifies Him more and more.

Darin Killough

If you are a teacher that has used Great Expectations or Love & Logic in the classroom, and are interested in sharing your gifts with some precious Honduran teachers that love to learn, please contact us! No Spanish is necessary to share what the Lord has placed in your heart!



Feeding Program - AKA Lunch Time!



Lunch is always a balanced meal but really... The best part of lunch is sitting with your friends!



What we used to call the "Feeding Program" is now a vital part of our days here at Jardin de Gracia. So much so that we don't differentiate it in the budget anymore. We serve a balanced Honduran meal 5 days a week. We no longer serve sandwiches, even on Friday. We make sure that the meals are nutritious and fresh. In Honduras, the mid day meal is the most important meal of the day. Our cook Digna, is happy to try new recipes and very helpful in incorporating fresh vegetables and protein into the school menu.

Lunches are a part of the general fund. If you sponsor a child or send money to the school, you are supporting our lunch program as well. The lunches are available to everyone that works at the school that day and every child. We also feed our local health department so that they can see patients longer and our community will benefit.

To serve a nutritious, balanced meal twice a day to each child, costs on average \$1 a plate. We call this a definite win!

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