



# K.I.M. Kids Kronicle

Updating Volunteers On What's Happening at Kids International

Volume 1 Issue 5

March 31, 2009

## Vacation!

The school year is now over! The day after graduation (detailed on page 2), the kids from the Manila children's home loaded up at 2:30 a.m. on Saturday, March 14, for a 2-½ week vacation in the mountainous region near Malaybalay, Mindanao. All but the five youngest NFFCH kids hopped on a plane to visit their NFFCH "cousins" in Malaybalay. While traveling with 34 kids could seem daunting to some, the trip down was fairly uneventful, outside of a few motion sickness cases.

Once at the camp, the kids had a great time playing and enjoying the space and freedom that come with being in the country. There was soccer to play, bikes to ride, dirt to roll in, and late night movies to watch. The kids also enjoyed a visit to a water park. Adventures for the older kids were some hikes to an old army camp and waterfalls.

The kids are back in Manila now. What a time they had just getting a break from everyday life. Please be praying for a safe and injury-free summer for all!



## 4 Years and Counting



Do you ever wonder where time goes? The first week in March marked the four-year anniversary of the New Faith Family Children's Home in Manila. We are amazed as we recall the blessings God has brought to us over the last few years. The children, staff, and friends of NFFCH had a great time recounting and celebrating God's blessings.

Starting with one child, NFFCH now is home to 39 children who are growing, happy, and healthy, and are learning to live their lives as Christ would want them to. During the program many shared their hearts about their work with the children and how they've seen the ministry grow since 2005. The program was followed with a time of prayer to bless the kids as NFFCH moves forward into the next few years.

Of course there was plenty of food and playing in the yard and everyone sharing stories of years gone by. It was a wonderful time to praise God for where NFFCH has come from.



## Moving Up

At the conclusion of the school year, Cuatro Christian School has its annual moving-up ceremony to celebrate the accomplishments of the students over the past year. This year on March 13 the school hosted two moving-up programs: one for the CCC preschool and kindergarten classes and another for the JCCV campus grade-schoolers.

Both programs featured performances by the students that were enjoyed by parents and friends of the school. Students shared their talents through skits, solos, dancing, and quoting of Scripture. All the children were recognized for their progress and hard work, with advancing students receiving a certificate showing that they had moved up a grade level. Students also were rewarded with ribbons for good character, academic excellence, and athletic achievements. After each graduation there was a merienda time to mingle with and congratulate the students.

While the students are done with school for the 08-09 school year, they will begin summer school April 1<sup>st</sup> (no, that's not a joke) to help them catch up in the areas where they are behind.



## Upcoming Birthdays:



April 2, Ariel



## From the Longs:

### God's amazing grace

As parents, God continues to amaze us with His faithful work in each of our kids' lives.

As many of you know, our daughter Josie recently graduated from cosmetology school and has returned to the Philippines. We are amazed and blessed to have our adult daughter give the next chapter of her life to meeting the needs of our NFFCH kids and the Filipino community.

Likewise it's been amazing to see our son Kirk finish his second year of college. If you had only seen him in his elementary and middle school years at Faith Academy, struggling and persevering through speech therapy and other classes designed to help him learn in a variety of ways. Along with advancing to his junior year of college, Kirk's love for God, his family, and the Philippines continues to increase.

No less amazing has been seeing our daughter Janel grow into a godly young lady. We are thrilled that she has decided to stay in the Philippines and has accepted a basketball scholarship to play at the same college Kirk attends. Her goal is to become a social worker and to impact our Children's Home with this degree.

As their parents, we've been amazed to see all the Long kids love each other, pray for each other, hang out together, and love on the people God brings into their lives. To God be the glory!

Thank you for praying for our family.

Jeff

## Want to help again?

The Kids Kronicle is an extension of the ministries of Kids International Ministries. If you would like to continue to support KIM in its ministries please see our website and click on the "How Can I Help" section.

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