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Hi Folks.

As we recover from the Easter break, we are coming out of our rainy season, but with some new bridges built it has been a pretty uneventful time this year. It's warming up here and is between 95 & 98 degrees and the humidity is around 97%. We hope you had a very Happy Easter, we did as you can read below.

**New School Year Begins**

Loma de Luz has started its own School this year. Starting with Nursery It plans to grow by one grade each year.

Seven of our children started in Nursery school (Kinder) this year. They will be going from 7 – 11am Monday to Thursday. As we take up half the space in the school we are sending one of our child care staff with them as a teaching assistant. They are just loving it.

14 more children returned to school that started at the beginning of February. We have children in all grades from 2<sup>nd</sup> – 6<sup>th</sup>. This is hard work for them as many of them struggle to read and write having started school so late, been sick and missed school, suffered from malnutrition and delayed development.



**Moving On.** Two sister Anna (5) & Nicole (4), both abandoned very young, have been successfully adopted by a Honduran family. They moved out at the end of February. Please pray this all goes well for the new family.

**Adonis;** In our last newsletter we mentioned we (with a new volunteer; Krystel) would be starting work with a 10 year old boy with Cerebral Palsy. We started with Adonis mid-January with him visiting 8am-4pm daily. He did not want to stay overnight. Krystel is working hard and Adonis is doing well. He is already managing new exercise and has a couple of new words.

**New Girl**

Danesi came to be with us in January. She is another victim of a broken home and extreme poverty. With no form of social security here single parents just can not survive without close and caring families. No work no food. Children starve way too often. Thankfully this family



**Liz's Health**

Liz started the New Year with a bang, well a scream really. Having spent a day in the city of La Ceiba, shopping for uniforms and collecting a new girl for the Children's Centre, we came home and started to unpack shopping etc. Liz complained of pains in her stomach. Iain was on the phone, and as always was walking up and down as he spoke. Liz got worse and by the end of the conversation she was on the floor as Iain walked up and down stepping over her as he went. Eventually realising she may actually be sick Iain thought we should visit the hospital now 6pm Saturday night. On arriving at the hospital Liz was taken to the emergency room but began having seizures as soon as we arrived there. She continued having around 7 or 8 seizures over the next couple of hours. Once we managed to get her stabilised she was examined and diagnosed with appendicitis. After some discussion we decided to operate on her here at Loma de Luz on Sunday morning. The surgery went well, but Liz continued to have seizures for a few days after the surgery. After 7 days in hospital, she stopped seizing and settled down. After 11 days we got home. She is still pretty weak but doing pretty well. Samuel spent all this time living with a great family here at the hospital and while worried about his mum, he really enjoyed the break and staying with friends. Iain, who had to stay with Liz in hospital was just glad to get home. It was Liz's birthday in February, (she's 55 but don't tell anyone I told you it's a secret)

### **New Projects**

You may remember when we were home last year we talked about potential new developments. One part of that was a plan to build 2 new houses to accommodate teenage boys and teenage girls separately. (Because some of our kids started school so late, missed years etc, some will not finish High School until they are 19 or 20) Keeping teenage boys and teenage girls together is proving a bigger challenge than we had anticipated. Well, we have an incredible donation from one family that will enable us to go ahead and build two new houses, furnish them and cover the running costs for the first 2 years. We have already received the biggest part of this donation so we can start right away. We have drawn up plans, we are currently ordering materials and should be able to start construction of the properties in March 2012 and hope to have them operational by the end of 2012. What an incredible blessing.

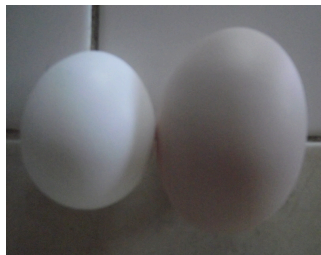
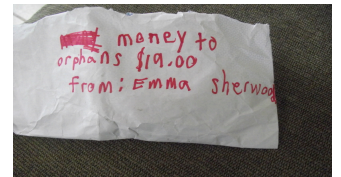
### **And there's more**

We had a team visiting last year while we were in Scotland. They used our vehicle to be transported back to San Pedro airport, unfortunately our truck is not in a good state of repair. (It's now 12 years old it's been driven 270,000 kilometers on very rough roads and usually well overloaded.) When they realized our vehicle was the main school transport, the main supply truck and our personal vehicle, they decided to do something about it and over the festive period they raised almost \$15,000 for us to buy a mini bus for the Children's Centre. We are currently looking for one that will meet our needs and within this budget.

### **And still some more....**

I'm sure many of you are familiar with the biblical story of "the widow's mite" Well in the midst of these big donations we had a much smaller one, but one that really touched our hearts. A young girl (Emma) who is only eight years old heard that her parents were going to be sending us money to buy school shoes for the children to start school. She wanted to be part of this too so she started saving her pocket money and sent us \$19 in one dollar bills just as she had them, all crumpled up and folded up.

I just wanted you all to know, it's not just the value of donations that are important, but it's the generous hearts of those who give.



### **Free Range Eggs v Battery Eggs**

I for one have never been totally convinced of the free range egg argument. Recently we expanded the area that our chickens had available to graze. In the photo to the left, you can see the difference. Egg on the left battery, egg on the right free range. You decide? (poor free range chicken.)

### **Easter Time**

Easter may be the most important time in the Christian calendar. It is the recognition and celebration of the greatest sacrifice any man can make, - giving their life for others. It is also the celebration of the greatest miracle ever, the resurrection of our Great Lord Jesus and His victory over Death. This is what enables all of us to have access to eternal life. During this Easter, we were challenged to give some thought to His sacrifice & victory and what that means to us.

### **And Finally;**

Thank you all for your ongoing support and friendships, we never take these for granted. Your regular giving is what sustains us and keeps us here. You additional gifts are always welcome and seem always to arrive when we have the greatest needs. We are so grateful to all of you, for all you do for us. Everything we do here is enabled by what you do there. You are great friends.

**Iain, Liz and Sam.**