

SMALL CLOUD CHRISTIAN SCHOOL PRESENTS . . .

SMALL CLOUD CHRONICLES

"With God all things are possible." Mark 10:27

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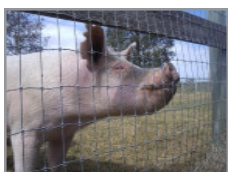
SPRING HAS SPRUNG!

Field trips! Flowers! Gardens! Baby ducks, quails, and chicks! Yes, spring has arrived!

March brought a visit to the Jelly Belly factory. The students enjoyed watching the process of making jelly beans.



March 18-25 (spring break) took Mrs. Seely and Mrs. Nelson on another trip, to aid in the establishment of a school in Atlanta, Georgia. We pray that the plans to open a school in the fall of 2008 will be crowned with success and that the children in that area will also have the privilege of receiving a Christian education.



sanctuary established to protect abused farm animals. There Stephen Nelson came face to face with a pig as tall as

In April the students went on another field trip. They visited a farm



himself. You can see from the pictures that Andie Seely enjoyed interacting

with a very tame turkey, while Mikey Petrovich had fun with the cows.

Miss Reyna Conde decided that teaching was not her calling, so arrangements were made for her to return to Canada. She left on April 8. Everyone misses her.



Sara Trujillo surrounded by Alyssa (front), Megan (left), and Veronica (right)

But we were blessed with another student teacher—Sara Trujillo. Born and reared in the Canary Islands, Sara lives in Switzerland while finishing up her degree in Child Development at a university in Italy. Sara has greatly blessed us here at Small Cloud. Full of enthusiasm, Sara interacted well with the students, using her musical skills and creativity to bring life and energy to the school.

Sara returned to school in Italy at the end of May, to take her final exams. (The

time spent at Small Cloud was part of her course studies.) We hope the practical experience she gained here will help her in the days ahead, as she plans to move to Atlanta, Georgia, in September to pioneer the educational work there. Please pray for her. It requires a lot of courage to move so far away from family and friends.

In April, Tiffany Ellington, our first paid employee, returned to El Salvador on family business. We happily welcomed her back the first week of May.

Open House was extra special this year. Songs, demonstrations, DVD presentations—each added a special touch to the program. You can read more about this event in the article on page 2.



exception. Pictured here is Mariana Cardenas, smiling broadly as she holds her little pet duck.

And how do you like this little fellow? No, it's not a duck. It's just a cute-as-a-button little baby chick.



"All things bright and beautiful; all creatures great and small; all things wise and wonderful, the Lord God made them all" (taken from a hymn entitled "All Things Bright and Beautiful," by Cecil F. Alexander). ■

ABRAHAM LINCOLN

by Andy Petrovich, age 13

I read a book about Abraham Lincoln, one of our presidents. It tells about his childhood and all the hard work he had to do at home. He couldn't attend school very often, so he learned mostly from reading. Sometimes he read by the fire, since it was the only light in the house. Lincoln continued reading and soon became a lawyer. As a lawyer, he talked to people in government.



They liked his speeches and wanted him to be a representative in Congress. More and more people listened to his speeches and wanted him to be president. Lincoln helped keep this country unified during the Civil War and outlawed slavery.

My favorite part of the book was when it talked about how Mr. Lincoln played with his boys. When they were little, he carried them around on his shoulders. As they got older, he played ball with them and let them ride him like a horse. Sometimes they came into his office. While he worked, they climbed all over him. They even used his pens as darts. This reminds me of how my dad plays with us.

What I learned from this book was how Mr. Lincoln was trustworthy in his chores and later grew up to be a man whom people trusted. He also didn't give up when he lost his first elections, but showed perseverance.

THE ESCAPE ARTISTS

by Veronica Seely, Andie Seely,
Megan Petrovich, Davey Petrovich,
Mikey Petrovich, Mariana Cardenas,
Mrs. Nelson, and Sara Trujillo

"How did praying mantises get in here?" asked Mrs. Nelson. "Oh no! We never got around to putting the egg case in the praying mantis habitat."



On the walls, on the windows, on the piano, on the whiteboard, on the carpet, on a spoon—the mantises went just about everywhere. (But you never know—there might be more hiding! While we were writing this,

we saw one on our inside door.)

Mr. Nelson, Mrs. Nelson, Mikey, Chris, Megan, and others, found the tiny little babies. They are no bigger than Mariana's pinkie nail. We put them in their home. Later we put some of them in our garden.

We added some grass, flowers, and bugs to the mesh home. Now we're waiting for them to get bigger.



OPEN HOUSE

by Kellie Hunter, age 17,
and Janteé Webster, age 17

On May 22, 2008, we had Open House. It was one of the most exciting Open Houses we've ever had. All the students participated in the event. They either sang a song, gave a speech, demonstrated an experiment, or presented a DVD or PowerPoint presentation. This was one of the most fun-filled things that we had all year!

First, the primaries (PreK and Kindergarten) sang their own song. They sang "Join the Gospel Express," and they walked in like a train. All of them did wonderfully.

Then Aaryn went up and talked about the Aurora Borealis. She had made a DVD showing pictures of the Aurora Borealis, with Bible verses and music. It was very good.



Next, Andie talked about how plants reproduce. And then it was my (Janteé's) turn. I can't even begin to explain how nervous I was. I talked about the history of algebra. Afterwards I sat down and took a few deep breaths. I was so relieved it was over.

The middlers (4th-, 5th-, and 6th-graders) presented a musical program about all the parts of speech. They did a really great job. They also looked great while they were singing because they were all dressed like detectives. I (Janteé) thought they were the best part of the whole night.

Andy was next, and he demonstrated how to make a smoothie. Then Jonathan talked about the country of Spain. But he didn't just talk about it; he also wore a Spanish costume and sang a beautiful Spanish song with Miss Perez.

Gabriel gave a nice PowerPoint demonstration about our PE program at Small Cloud. Chris talked about the pressure that builds up in a dome volcano. He demonstrated it by putting baking soda and vinegar in a test tube with a rubber stopper in the top. We watched it pop off.

And last, but not least, I (Kellie) gave a speech about chemical reactions. First, I talked about the difference between exothermic and endothermic reactions. Then I demonstrated an exothermic reaction by mixing glycerine and potassium permanganate, which burst into flames.



The students, Miss Ellington, and Miss Perez worked really hard and prepared two songs. One was in English ("Light of the World"), and the other was in Spanish ("Por Tu Gracia y Amor"). Singing was actually one of the best activities of the night.

Overall, the entire program was good; all of the speeches were awesome; and we can't wait for next year's Open House!

GARDENING AT SMALL CLOUD



A trip to the nursery: Students were paired and each pair given \$20.00 to spend on whatever plants, etc., they wished to place in their garden plot.



MY GREAT EXPERIENCE AT SMALL CLOUD

Good-bye is such a bitter word! I wish I'd never have to say it. It is most sad when you have to say it to people and places where you can feel the happiness and joy of the presence of the Lord.

Almost two months have passed; I dare say that they flew! That is something very sad for me, but the positive part is that they went fast because they were full of interesting moments.

It's hard to remember how afraid I was just a few months ago about coming here. At that time I was trying to encourage myself by thinking about the life of Abraham, when the Lord asked him to go to the unknown land that He had promised him. But somehow I felt my experience was more like Jonah's. I just didn't want to believe that this was an answer to my prayers about becoming useful for the Lord. But now I'm sure it is. The experience convinced me that this was His will, and I found serenity in remembering that wherever He would place me, He would also take care of whatever I would need. I felt like I was travelling with Jesus. I could see that His angels were watching over and protecting me.

My first stop was Georgia. There I discovered that the airline had lost my luggage! Everything was new for me, but God expelled my fears. He always keeps His promises! I didn't need anything. I got my bags back after several days.

I travelled from Georgia to San Francisco, and then on to Sacramento. Wherever I went, I met wonderful people who made me feel at home. It made me realize that we are all on the same path, leading to the heavenly city.

The first time I went to the school, the children

weren't there. But Sandy received me very kindly with her lovely smile. It looked like a lonely place to me—so different from where I was used to being. I was worried because I didn't see any shops, parks, or anything else around. And I don't drive! All I saw were some farm animals.

The next time I met the children, saw the school in action, and just loved it! Sandy and Margie were by my side all the time. I learned many things from them, and we had a great time together. I felt the harmony that only the love of Jesus can give.

I was in charge of the primaries. It was my first experience with a multi-level group, and I found it very interesting. I also had a great time with the high-schoolers. Whenever we had a break, we spent the time preparing songs for Open House. We spent a lot of nice moments together. I already miss the singing time at the piano, the laughter at lunch, and, of course, the clapping hands! They just filled my heart with joy!

I believe every person is special, and Small Cloud left a huge impression on my heart. So I want Maya, Stephen, Alyssa, Megan, Veronica, Davey, Christian, Mariana, Mikey, Andie, Andy, Gabriel, Janteé, Aaryn, Kellie, Chris, Jonathan, Sandy Nelson, Margie Seely, Christian Nelson, Mike Alford, Gretchen Schendel, and Art Schendel to

know that I'll never forget you! Nor will I forget all the other people I didn't name because this page wouldn't have enough space to list them all.

Thank you for reminding me that "with God all things are possible" (Mark 10:27). See you very soon at the feet of Jesus. - Sara Trujillo Perez



MARIN HEADLANDS OVERNIGHT FIELD TRIP

by Aaryn Whiteside, age 14

For our overnight field trip, Small Cloud went to Marin Headlands. We went to the beach, saw a lighthouse, took a night hike, and explored a sea cave. It was fun!

When we first got there, we went straight to the beach, took off our shoes and socks, and got our feet wet. Some of the boys—Mikey, Davey, and Chris—built a sand castle. We also ate lunch on the beach. We had sandwiches and crackers and other good food.



After we ate, some of us climbed over a really big rock to get into a sea cave. We took off our shoes

and socks and went inside. We knew that if we went inside we would get wet if the waves came in. Sure enough, when the next wave came in we got soaked. The water came up higher than we thought it would. We had to get out of the cave! As soon as the water went down again, we ran towards the opening and out to our left. Everyone else had climbed onto a rock on the right. Janteé and I ran so fast trying to beat the next wave that Janteé slipped. The next wave came up and splashed both of us. We turned around and ran back to where everyone else was, on the big rock. Then we headed back towards the bus.

Later that night, Mr. Nelson offered to take a group of us on a night hike. The people in our group were Mikey, Davey, Andy, Chris, Janteé, and me. We saw everything! We saw beautiful trees, huge rocks, waves, and barnacles. I loved the night hike! It was the best part of the field trip. I'm happy Mr. Nelson decided to take us.

In the morning we decided to take another hike. We hiked for awhile and then ate lunch on the side of a hill. After our hike, we went to a lighthouse. While walking to the lighthouse, we saw a bunch of seals. We also got to see a seagull nest. Then we went through a tunnel; when we came out on the other side, there was a bridge going to the lighthouse. Because it was so windy, we weren't allowed to walk over the bridge. But everything was still fun. The whole trip was the greatest experience ever!

SOME ADDITIONAL OBSERVATIONS

by Evelyn Holmstroem

We saw cow parsnips, poison oak, coyote brush, poison oak, Indian paint brush (red and yellow varieties), poison oak, Ithuriel's spear, poison oak, pearly everlasting, poison oak, sage, poison oak, seaside daisies, poison oak, and sticky monkey flowers—as well as many to-be-learned plants. (By the way, two of us are currently treating poison oak outbreaks!)

... AN SCCS FAVORITE

I love scalloped potatoes! However, when you're preparing scalloped potatoes for twenty-five people, the work can become a little difficult. Because I have only a small amount of time to make the daily lunch, I was happy to find this easier recipe taken from Weimar Institute's Newstart Lifestyle Cookbook.. You don't need to peel the potatoes! This saves time and preserves the vitamins found right under the skins of the potatoes. When this dish is served at Small Cloud, the students scrape the dish nice and clean. - Sandy Nelson

Scalloped Potatoes

4 cups thinly sliced raw potatoes, with skins
2 cups water
½ cup clean, raw cashews
1 teaspoon onion powder
1 teaspoon salt
1/8 teaspoon paprika



Place potatoes in an oiled baking dish. In a blender, process cashews in 1 cup of water until very smooth. Add remaining water and other ingredients, except paprika, continuing to blend until smooth. Pour this sauce over the potatoes, using your hands to separate the potato slices so they do not clump together. Make sure the sauce is evenly distributed. Cover dish with foil and bake at 375° F. for 1 hour. Remove foil, sprinkle with paprika, and return to oven—continuing to bake until browned (about 15 minutes). - Serves 4.

THE PARENTING CORNER

“Children as well as parents have important duties in the home. They should be taught that they are a part of the home firm. They are fed and clothed and loved and cared for; and they should respond to these many mercies by bearing their share of the home burdens and bringing all the happiness possible into the family of which they are members.” - Ellen G. White, *Ministry of Healing* (Review and Herald Publishing Association), p. 394.

