



The Truth Shall Make You Free

OUR NEW PATIO IS THE JOY OF THE SCHOOL



Part of the November group, taking a well-deserved break.

There are no words to describe the joy one feels when watching a centenary of children flutter around and run in our "new" back yard. One can see the small first grader glide, imitating a plane; or a group of girls jumping rope; or the other children who, marbles in hand, are competing for the right to be the best player of the morning. Of course there is always the boy running through the small crowd in an urgent hurry, running over anyone who might get in the way between him and the bathroom door –time has gone by so quickly while playing and he has just now realized that when nature calls, one must heed its voice!

Generous hands that leveled, cleaned, and with so much love covered with concrete this irregular and limited back yard –to you I say: these children are enjoying this space because of

the great love you harbored for them.

Their last group, which came at the beginning of March, allowed us to watch our children's happy faces that day, when the students of our school were finally allowed in the patio, only after all the work with the cement was completed.

I promised Scott Emley to post a picture of the work which the last group from Manhattan (and in November, also from Topeka) concluded this past month, but because of an error on my part, the unsaved pictures I took were erased from the camera's memory card –though they will forever be "saved" in my memory. Scott, I hope the image I just painted will be a testimony to the

short, but incredibly successful and strenuous trip. I feel compensated enough, watching the children enjoying the space every morning of very week.

Scott, Eric, Jill, Allen, Katy, Sue, Barbara, Thaine, Carol, Mary, and Jon, all under the direction of a man of quiet and serene temperament -who like his team profoundly cares for this school,

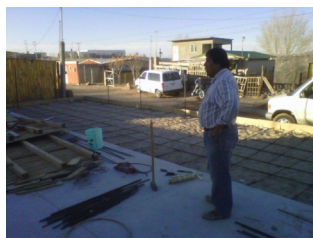
–our true friend and brother, Lynn. You are fully responsible for the laughter and joy of 130 children, 5 days a week.

We are already looking forward



Scott Emley working hard at pouring the cement (that looks heavy!!). Jon Funk, Sue Rice, and a local worker waiting to flatten it even. It took a lot of effort to make this happen!

to the second part of this project, which is importing into Juarez what will surely be the best and most beautiful building in all of Anapra... but that story will have to be told in another letter.



LOTS HAPPENED
THESE 3 MONTHS!

In this issue:

- February 14th
- Spring Parade!
- News on our six graders
- A request for prayer
- A little bit about us.

“We mingled, laughed, played, and reflected on the value of keeping the flame of love alive in our marriages”

IT’S ALL ABOUT LOVE AT SUSANA WESLEY SCHOOL

The traditional “Cena de Matrimonios” (dinner for married couples) at our school took place in February, a celebration framed by the romantic live music of the local group Ogaz, the delicious menu, and the obligatory brindis. The live music was a special treat, provided to us by a group that entertained us for an hour and did not stop surprising us with their romantic voices and melodies. It was a special night. Nine couples met

at the classroom for multiple uses –dressed up for the gala- and we mingled, laughed, played, and reflected together on the value of keeping the flame of love alive in our marriages.

We would have liked to see more couples join us this year, but the room is not that large and the work schedules of many parents did not allow for a larger attendance. But those of us who had the opportunity of

being there truly enjoyed the night.



Sparkling apple cider made for a wonderful toast. It was a romantic and beautiful evening all around.



SPRING HAS ARRIVED TO JUAREZ!

And with it came the traditional Spring parade, which marches through the streets closest to the school every year. Boys and girls dressed as flowers, wild animals, and even some as the meritorious father of the Americas, Don Benito Juarez (whose birthday is celebrated this 21st of

March). It was a beautiful fiesta of color and ruckus; and we made good use of it, inviting the community, with signs and even our voices, to use water responsibly and recycling for the convenience of future generations. And so, the contingent marched, covering our

neighborhood with a message of happiness and joy, on that temperate morning. We hope the messaged reached all of those who heard it.



ON THE WAY TO MIDDLE SCHOOL

Since February this year, the 6th grade group has been under my supervision, with the idea of getting the young men and women used to the changes which will be a part of middle school life. I must confess that teaching this group has been much more

difficult than I expected, and preparation for class requires at least a couple hours of work every evening; but it has helped me remember subjects which I had left in oblivion for many years now. The kids are doing a great job and I think that this time before gradua-

tion will be of great benefit to them, since having three teachers so far this school year is helping them with the pressure of getting to middle school, where they will have at least 7 different teachers (one for each subject).



This semester our 6th graders went to the Museum of History, located in Juarez' old downtown area, and saw a play with their teachers and Dina and Antonio Briones. Fun and educational!





CONTACT US!

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ABOUT US

Susannah Wesley School, or "Colegio Susana Wesley" in Spanish, is a mission school envisioned, built, and supported through the service of Pastor Antonio Briones and his family and the support of faithful and loving partners in mission across the border.

The school supplies a Christian education to children from 1st through 6th grade. It is officially incorporated to the SEP (Office of Public Education), and is acknowledged as a private school following the standard national curriculum.

The children of Susana Wesley receive ESL classes, as well as art, music, and Bible lessons (learning a Bible verse every week). We hold a short morning service on Fridays. The school is set in Anapra, an impoverished neighborhood of Juarez, Mexico, and it runs on a limited budget, but its excellency in education and service have been noted in Mexico and abroad. In 2009, the children of Susana Wesley tested so highly on the nation-wide standardized testing that the school was awarded a city-wide 9th place (among hundreds of schools) in academic excellency and was placed in the **top 2%** of Chihuahua state's (a state larger than Texas) elementary schools. In 2010, Lydia Patterson Institute in El Paso TX, awarded a full tuition scholarship to two of our children. We are very grateful to Dr. de Anda, President of LPI, for this award.

To watch a video about our school, our children, and the work we do, please visit our website.

IF YOU LOVE US PRAY FOR US!



PRAY FOR US!

Unfortunately we must say that the city is experiencing terrible days, and not only because of the insecurity, which is quite evident; but now, because of what happened in Japan with an amount of at least 9 maquiladoras have closed their production lines, leaving at least 2000 unemployed people behind here in Juarez. Some of our parents were affected by this closure and have joined the huge list of people who have lost their jobs.

A good number of our students will be taken back to

small towns in central Mexico and others are talking to us about their interest in staying in school, but letting us know that they wouldn't be able to contribute financially to the school anymore.

We are ready to carry on, as to this day, by faith. We the Briones family continue to go without a salary, but the mercy of God is great and thanks to Him and to those who have decided to support our ministry, with difficulty we make it through

each month ... but we have always managed to pull through.

Your prayers are more important than ever in these hard times, and we ask from the depths of our hearts: Please give to us the smallest allotment of your worship time or Sunday school classes, in your meetings and your family and personal devotions. A short 30-second prayer is a powerful gift. I am asking you in all honesty and frankness, because we greatly need it.