

Newsletter – April 19, 2016

Hello again from hot and humid Cameroon! As I sit and write this letter to you it is 90 degrees with 55% humidity, at 3 o'clock in the afternoon... hot! I've been busy in the swing of things here at school. Those of you who work or have worked at schools know what I mean when I say the end of the year is crazy! With graduations and celebrations, grades and tests, meetings to attend and decisions to make, it's hectic to say the least. And then add on top of that all the regular tasks of a teacher and it all equals one busy missionary! But I'm not complaining, I love my job and I love my students!

We've got less than eight weeks left in the semester, and just over four weeks until my 7th and 8th graders perform their rendition of *The Three Bully Goats Griff*. We've been working hard on it since February (with just two hours of rehearsal every week!) and they are all very enthusiastic. As you know I am also teaching music to the same group of kids. It is so wonderful to see my students grow in their understanding and appreciation for the fine arts. In class we learn not only how to read and write music, but we study music from around the world, learn about different music artists (past and current), and we do activities which teach them how to find deeper meaning in both the lyrical and instrumental pieces.

We had a two week break between the end of March and beginning of April. During that time I hosted a "work party" at my apartment where eight out of fifteen students showed up to work on our performance. (See a picture below!) I have students who are from around the world, including the United States, South Korea, and of course Cameroon. We had a great time learning lines, doing character development, and eating snacks! I am so blessed that they wanted to spend a few hours of their school break with me.

I recently received some care packages from some of you, so again I say thank you! It's like Christmas morning to receive gifts from my other home!

As Learning Support Specialist I work diligently with teachers to assist students with learning disabilities to achieve their highest potential. Our institution, Rain Forest International School, seeks to serve the children of missionaries and the greater Christian community. I consider it an honor to help meet the educational needs of these children so that their parents can do the important work of Bible translation, church planting, community health, and the like. I can only do this because of the prayer and financial support of wonderful people like you! Many of you give faithfully to my ministry on a regular basis, and I thank God for you! If you have not yet committed to supporting me on a regular basis would you consider doing so? Many missionary families would not be able to come to the field if adequate Bible based education were not provided. I urge you to prayerfully consider being a part of not just my ministry, but the ministries of my students' families as well!

As some of you already know I am planning a trip to the US for about six weeks this summer while school is not in session. I would love to come and speak to your church, bible study, youth group, or other organization and share about my experiences here in Africa! I am available from June 12 – July 28. Please respond to this email if you have questions or are interested.

If you wish to send cards or care packages please contact me for the correct address.

Prayer Requests:

*Please continue to pray for more consistent running water and electricity. Often times there is not enough to go around so constant utility cuts disrupt daily life.

*Please, as always, pray for my students and their spiritual, physical, and emotional wellbeing. Pray that they would grow to have a personal relationship with Jesus Christ.

*Keep our upcoming performance of *The Three Bully Goats Griff* in your prayers. It is a message about bullying, and is already proving to be full of life lessons.

*Continue to pray for my health and safety. We receive regular updates about terror threats, and while nothing has happened here in the capitol city, Yaounde, it is still disheartening to hear of conflicts near our border with Nigeria. With Boko Haram and ISIS sometimes targeting Christian institutions, we could sure use the prayer cover!



Blessings,

Holly Emmerich

Learning Support Specialist, Teacher, Director of Discipline
Rain Forest International School

John 9: 1- 3 As Jesus was walking along he saw a man who had been blind from birth. "Rabbi," his disciples asked him, "why was this man born blind? Was it because of his own sins or his parents' sins?" "It was not because of his sins or his parents' sins," Jesus answered. "This happened so the power of God could be seen in him..."

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