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Hi Folks,

At a time when there are more newsletters than you can shake a stick at, here's another one. Hope you are not too bored with them to miss reading this one.

May our great God bless you and your family during this Christmas time.

Children's House.

Yet again we have had a series of mixed blessings.

We had a yet another very sick baby come to us just after we wrote the last newsletter. Jose had many physical problems and after a period in our hospital came and stayed with Liz and I for a couple of months. He had improved so much and put on weight (from 4 pounds up to 9 pounds) and as planned, he went home to be with his mother and grandmother.



However after just over a week at home he was rushed back to the hospital but despite our best efforts we were unable to save him and he died at the end of November. Little can prepare your heart for the loss of such little helpless lives.

But we don't give up and this week we have yet another 2 month old baby (Isaac) come to be with us. He was born with a number of health problems and was abandoned by his mother in a hospital on the other side of the country. He was only with us a couple of days and he too has become very very sick and is currently in our own hospital where he remains. We are not too sure all that is wrong with this little one, we know he has problems with his digestive system and had an operation before he came to us but we have no medical record to find out exactly what was done. He has problems breathing and he has a very low heart rate. Right now he is holding his own. We are weaning him off oxygen today and re-introducing formula milk into his system and we'll see how it goes.



The other children are enjoying their school holidays and are all very excited for Christmas.

Boy's House

Very little to report here.

We continue with 3 boys in this house.

Luis graduated from junior school and won 2nd best student of the year.

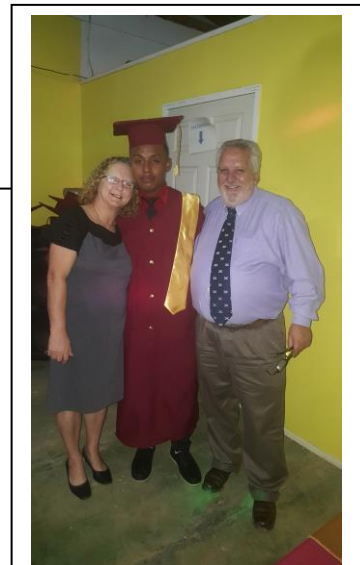


Julio & Jose have made it through first year of high school and will move into second year. They both really struggle with academic work and just made it with a number of re-sits for exams.

Older boys

Jayson has graduated from Colegio with his Bachiarato in Ciencia de Letras So he now has that and all his marine papers and awaits being called to a ship. We are so proud of Jayson.

Darwin has settled well into USA and has finished his 2nd semester with pretty good grades especially when you think he is in a new country and studying in a foreign language. Best part was he was top of the class in English. Go Darwin!



Girls House

We continue with 6 teenage girls,

Nohemi has graduated from high school, a real achievement for a girl who has had 2 major operations and spend much of the school year in a wheelchair.

Aryani graduated from junior school along with Luis and will start high school in February.

Karla, Yessenia and Delia all completed 1st year in high school with very good marks.

Andrea continues in vocational school. She travels over an hour each way every day to get to school, so leaves the house around 10am and doesn't get home until 6.30pm. She has passed most subjects with good marks but struggles in a couple too.



McKenzie Family

Samuel continues in college in Inverness and working in Tesco. He is facing many challenges after returning to Scotland from this; Honduran middle of no-where on the edge of the jungle culture/living in a Christian missionary community/ being home schooled/living with parents' 24/7/having no money and no-where to spend it even if he had some. He has been offered a rare opportunity to have a total fresh start, to re-invent himself, but although that might sound exciting it is also very scary. He is facing many opportunities, many challenges and many choices please pray for wisdom for him.

Simon, Katelyn & Dylan all came out to Honduras for a 2 week visit. The first time any of them have seen the children's centre and seen first-hand the work we are part of. They had a great visit and as well as seeing the work we had a chance to visit one of our islands for a couple of days and snorkel on the second biggest reef in the world. It was so good to have them here. Jackie did a great job being at home on her own with Isla.

Iain & Liz continue to prepare to return to Scotland in June 2017. We have such mixed feelings with all the excitement of having more time with our family but the dread of leaving all our children here. We still need to find replacements for us here so if you know God please ask Him to send someone soon. If you know anyone who might be interested don't be afraid to assist God and ask them to get in touch with us.

Liz has been seizure free for a year and after a thorough review of her medication we are very slowly reducing it. We have already completely withdrawn one medication and are halfway through withdrawing a second. She said that she is feeling things again, excitement, joy, sadness she didn't realise quite how sedated she has been. If you have a faith, please pray that this progress continues.

George Normington

It is with great sadness I write that George Normington, the man who first brought me to Honduras 20 years ago, passed away this week after a long and valiant fight against cancer. George was such a kind and generous man who continually offered himself to others, he gave his time, his energy, his money and his love to those around him without even imposing himself on anyone. George loved his family and was totally devoted to them. Our thoughts are with Elsie, Andrew, Julie & Mike, Naomi and Arron. Our sadness at the loss of our friend is great but we have an assurance that George is with his Lord, he is without suffering and he waits for us to join him. If ever there was a man who reflected the love of God it was George Normington. He will be missed by so many; George was simply my best friend.

Angus McKenzie

As I was writing this newsletter I got a call to tell me my Uncle Angie passed away this week too. Uncle Angie has been battling Parkinson's, Alzheimer's and cancer for a number of years. He was a man I could genuinely look up to, a great example of a father, and an inspiration of how to live a full life. A great artist and climber who bagged all the Munros and more. Our thoughts are with Auntie Joan, Rona, Trina and their families. Thank you for everything you did for me Uncle Angie.

And Finally: As 2016 draws to a close we want to say a huge thank you to all of you who have supported us for so many years. We continue to hope that you feel a part of the work we have been doing here, there have been so many lives touched through the children's centre, so many children who wouldn't be here without it, children who have received an education, experience love and care in their lives sometimes for the first time. Thank you for all you have done. We have attached a calendar for 2017 that will remind of us throughout the year. May our great and mighty God bless each of you in 2017.

Iain & Liz