

NEWS FROM LA ESCUELITA – JUNE, 2014

Earthquake

There was a major earthquake in Nicaragua during the week before Easter. The epicenter was located in a small town north of Managua on Lake Managua. The first quake was followed by several more in the following two weeks, some of them in the 6.0 to 6.5 range on the Richter Scale. An international team of earthquake experts predicts that the Managua area is due to have another large one sometime soon.

For two weeks, the entire city was on Red Alert. Schools were closed, people were told to pack suitcases ready to evacuate and have food and water available at all times. It was a very frightening time for the whole city, but especially in the heart of the earthquake fault zone where La Escuelita serves.

There was some damage at the school - tiles from the ceiling fell and the back wall cracked. Eight children who attend the school and their families were evacuated from their homes to shelters, and one former teacher, Sughey Gomez was also evacuated to a shelter.

At this point, the Red Alert has been lowered to Yellow, and schools are back in session. Even when there were no classes, many of the children still came to the school looking for their lunch, so that program continued.

We hope to have photos of the damage soon.

Introducing A New Teacher



Rebeca Gomez

Just as the Academic Year was beginning in February, Sughey Gomez was able to find a new job where she will be making more use of her accounting education. The other teachers, Alicia and Leonor, were sorry to lose her, but supported her decision.

Then the task of finding a new teacher began. Now we welcome Rebeca Gomez to the La Escuelita family. Rebeca is a student with Alicia, advancing their teaching credentials. She comes to La Escuelita with the same enthusiasm and love for the children and has fitted in very well. The teachers are happy, the students are happy and we welcome Rebeca to La Escuelita!

Please Remember
It is your donations that make La
Escuelita possible.

Dental Week

Oops, No Hygienists, But Keep Brushing Anyhow

We were very sorry that the Dental Hygienists from the Pennsylvania College of Technology were not able to come to Nicaragua this year. However, the two Nicaraguan dentists who have helped so faithfully for several years will continue to provide care for the children at the school. This process was delayed by the earthquakes, but will begin as soon as things are back to normal.

Nursing Week



For the eighth straight year, the group of students from the Yale School of Nursing did their marvelous work under the leadership of their faculty preceptors. Every child received a complete physical examination, and the nurses leave the teachers with a long list of students in need of follow-up care. These students and their leaders also raise money which provides the follow up that is needed. The program is only one week, but the health care lasts all year long.

Now Two Psychologists

In previous newsletters, you have met Fabiola Reyes Sosa, the psychologist who has worked with these children for a couple of years. She has now been joined by another volunteer, Carolina _____ is also working with children and their families helping them with their emotional issues.



Teacher Delegation

In June a delegation of teachers from the US will come to visit La Escuelita as part of their experience of sharing educational methods and materials. These teachers will visit several schools, both in Managua and in the countryside, as they seek to learn about education in Nicaragua. At La Escuelita they will present classroom lessons and bring new ideas and teaching materials to share. They will also meet with students from the Dreams to Reality Scholarship Fund and attend class with them.

Follow this delegation's trip on facebook at [LaEscuelitaNicaragua](https://www.facebook.com/LaEscuelitaNicaragua).