

Dear Everyone,

Greetings from the dregs of summer in Argentina. Schools went back at the beginning of the month. So far we are all surviving, gradually settling in and getting to grips with the new routines.

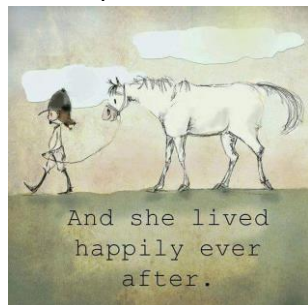


Joni is in his final year at primary school, (he's the tall one in the photo). Danny is in third grade having done first grade twice and missed out second grade. We'll see how that works out, but he likes his teacher. Baby aged three is one of the "big ones" at nursery. Both girls decided to go back to school, which was an easy choice for La Flaca who had a good year last year, and a harder one for Teen who would mostly prefer not to do anything at all. At home we are working to remain compassionate while cracking the whip around expectations and participation. Ironically, or maybe not, we find that the

girls become more amenable right after they've had a big sulk because we've clamped down on the rules. It's as though they want not to be allowed to do the things that they want to be allowed to do. This year their boyfriends have also decided to go to school which we think is good news, especially if they can all find ways to support each other through. Teen's boyfriend in particular has had a very hard life so far, and he is painfully shy, but he is starting to talk to us and he seems to want to make a better future for himself.



Hazel's main news is that I was invited to work on equine therapy activities at the riding school. The teacher in charge had already mentioned this possibility last year and it seemed like a job made in heaven, but there were some obstacles in the way, and I wasn't brave enough to pray for it, but I know some other people who did, so thank you. So I'm working outdoors, with kids with a spectrum of abilities, up to my knees in mud and worse. It's a bit like being paid to be a Scout. The pay is "token" for now, since the riding school isn't financially solvent at the moment. This is something we hope/need to change this year. The new manager is organizing a big event for the weekend of the 23rd March, which should put the riding school on the map, and we need to use that opportunity to promote the therapy work locally amongst parents and professionals.

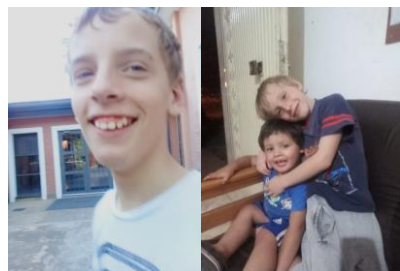


As for the rest of life, Martin is busy preaching at the Gloria de Dios church, and has been enjoying doing theology and church politics over coffee with an unexpected allie from the Lazos church. Hazel spent last weekend on a Scout leader's training with 120 Scouters from our region, and now we are busy planning our programme of camps and activities for this year. Joni has chosen cycling, basketball and Scouts for his out of school activities this year, while Danny continues with horse riding and music and hasn't yet decided if he wants to be a Scout or not.

The blog can be found at www.frostmartinhazel.org and thanks to all those who encourage us by telling us you have read it. Thank you to everyone for your prayers and support.

Love From

Hazel X Martin



Joni & Daniel

