



Registered in the Philippines as



November 2012

## Educational development

The educational side of the foundation is really growing and starting to flourish. We started our "Sponsor a child" campaign in September and we now have 16 of our initial 20 kids sponsored. This is a great achievement as foundations always say it's so difficult to find sponsors for kids. Thanks so much to those of you who are sponsoring kids. If you'd like to sponsor a child and give the gift of education then get in touch! Also spread the news to family and friends so they can help too.

It's also amazing to see how in just the few months we've been running this program how the kids' grades have improved. We have one child who when we started the sponsor a child scheme had an average grade. Since then he jumped up to the top 5 of his class, and last grading period came round proudly to tell us he is now top of his class (a major achievement when you know how over crowded and understaffed the schools are here). We have another girl who used to be in the top 10 and has now improved to be top 5. We have other children who had failing grades but who are slowly but surely pulling their grades up and hopefully by this time next year, we won't have any more failing grades.

On the first of every month, the parents of our sponsored children come round and collect their allowance. This is just a basic, across the board rate. During the month, if the kids have additional projects or school needs, they can come and apply for extra which is then given if they haven't already gone over their monthly limit. The sponsorship really helps the kids and it's exciting to see how they are developing. Once our initial 20 children are sponsored, we will add children to the sponsorship program so it will grow step by step and we won't take on too much too soon.

We've also had positive reactions from sponsors in terms of how we keep them up to date with the child's progress. All sponsors get a 'child's profile' when they first decide to sponsor a child. This is so that the sponsor can get to know a bit about the child. They also receive an introduction letter from the child and the grading cards throughout the school year. The kids will also send letters throughout the year, updating

their sponsor. The point of this being so that the sponsor can really get to know their child and he/she is not just be a name on paper.

If you'd like to sponsor a child, we ask for Php1000 per month or £15. Please do contact us for more details if you are interested .

Also on the educational front, we have recently had a new volunteer teacher started to come on Fridays. She teaches the kids in an alternative learning system that is geared towards their own individual levels. The children are split into three levels (beginner, middle and advanced). They are split based on their ability rather than age as we have a 10 year old who can't read and can barely write his own name, then we have another 10 year old is one of our brightest kids. The classes are going well and are lots of fun and the kids will have their first "graduation" on December 22, at the same time as our Christmas party.

Our hope for the classes is that it will boost their self confidence with studying and hopefully mean that when some of them get back in to education (with a sponsorship) they won't be so far behind their classmates.

We are currently hoping to be able to employ a full-time education co-ordinator in the new year. This would enable us to really move forward with the projects. The difficulty of employing a teacher is funding. To employ such a teacher for a year would cost a little less than £2700/Php150,000 or £225/Php15,000 per month. However we do believe the benefits of having a teacher, outweigh the financial cost.

If you would like to help us employ a teacher to help teach children in Payatas and help out of school youth get back into education you might be interested in sponsoring our teacher, then please do let us know. You can be creative, get a group of people sponsoring together, or hold fundraising events. Thanks so much once again for the continued support!



Naomi Tomlinson

## More News!

- ◆ **Quote of the month** "Ang Saya!!" (translates loosely as 'that was awesome' or 'made me happy') - **One of the under 8 footballers** said with a beaming smile after walking off the pitch from the first ever Payatas FC U8 game.
- ◆ **We now have Fairplay For All packs available with a Payatas FC wristband, of £1 or P70. We also have Triple E (UK side of FFA) wristbands available. Please contact us for more details. All profit from the donations goes to continuing the work here in the Philippines.**
- ◆ **We have found a potential building for the new drop-in centre that we are currently negotiating with the owners about and hope to move in to in January if we are successful.**
- ◆ **If you would like a speaker to share about the work in the Philippines for your church, event, a club or for any other occasion please let us know and we would love to come and chat to you more about it!**
- ◆ **If you would like to volunteer with us here in the Philippines, please don't hesitate to get in touch and we'd love to discuss the possibilities with you.**

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## The Faces of Payatas

We have many kids at Payatas that are so grateful for the help of Fairplay For All/ Triple E and therefore your help. So we would like to introduce you to some of the kids.

### Meet Jacko

Jacko is six years old and works as a jumper boy with his two older brothers. He has started joining some football trainings but is still a bit shy to join regularly but hopefully over time that will change.

His normal day begins at 2am as he wakes up to scavenge through the dumptrucks driving to the dumpsite. When Jacko first came to the drop-in centre he was difficult to keep in control as he would regular fight and argue with the other kids. He craves attention, sometimes getting this in negative ways but on the whole his attitude is greatly improving and so the attention he is gaining is more positive than negative. Over time, as he has been coming more often, his attitude has changed more.

He has recently started to join study times in the drop-in centre and is slowly but surely learning things a child his age should have known for a few years, like colours and shapes. We hope that with further assessments we will be able to either recommend him to our sister foundation's children's home or (and our always preferred option) keep him with his family and sponsor his education. Hopefully soon he will no longer be working and that will soon just become a memory.

*Naomi Tomlinson*

## Alaska Cup and Payatas FC!



The Alaska Cup is the biggest football tournament of the year for kids. In the Under 12 category, for example, there were about eight groups of six teams, and only the top team would qualify for the next round.

We brought the U16 girls and the U12 and U14 boys and all the players tried their best. With it being the biggest tournament of the year many of the rich schools with good facilities joined, and it was to the boys' and girls' credit that they drew with Ateneo (one of the richest schools in the country) and even beat another one. The girls lost 2-1 to a different and similarly wealthy school, Brent, but defeated another team. The boys did particularly well, defeating a football academy also, eventually coming out of the group with two wins, a draw, and two losses.

Given the inevitable overage players who are fielded by other teams, and the quality of the wealthy schools and teams there, this was a really good effort from the boys. Meanwhile the

girls also tried their best and came away with 1 win, a draw, and three losses—though the last two losses were when they were tired. They also showed a glimpse of good potential for the future, two of the players being just 11 years old and playing very well, including scoring the winning goal in their victory.

As such, the footballers have a bright future. With further training, more determination, and playing against teams who stick to the age brackets of course, the team will continue to showcase its improvements.

The players are becoming more and more responsible in the trainings and as their attitude and confidence are improving so are their performances. Many times the team were passing well and working together as a team, while individual skill, such as a great shot, save, or pass, continued to show the future of the team.

Football provides a way for the kids to express themselves and show they can compete against anyone despite their disadvantages. We're very proud of them for continuing to do that.

Meanwhile as their education sponsorship is steady their grades and focus off the pitch has also shown good progress. The next step for the team will be to train more regularly on grass or better areas, something which we're working on with potential sponsors. A team minibus would also enable better transportation and open up options to us.

*Roy Moore*

## Ways to support!

- ◆ Please do pray for us for the kids, and for the work
- ◆ If you would like to give us gifts in kind, please contact us (details are below) and we can discuss the best ways to go about it.
- ◆ If you live in the UK and would like to support us monthly please send us an email and we will send you a direct debit form, which allows us to claim gift aid back. Thanks for any help you can offer us!
- ◆ If you would like to give us a one of donation, you could send a cheque to the address on the bottom of the page or make a bank transfer (please contact us for more details on that).

Check out Decembers newsletter to 'meet' more of the kids and hear how we celebrated Christmas with the kids and how moving the drop-in centre is going!

### Contact:

Revd. David Tomlinson  
(Secretary)

St. Francis Vicarage,  
Burnhope, Newton Aycliffe,  
Co. Durham. DL5 7ER

Tel: 01325 310804

Email :

togetherwithtriplee  
@gmail.com

Website:

www.triplee.org.uk

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