

News from Paraguay

April 2015



Dear Friends,

Greetings from a much cooler Paraguay. We are now in Autumn and it's slightly cooler (although it still reaches 30°C in the day time) and not as humid.

Today we are off school for Teachers' day and tomorrow is a national holiday for "Worker's day". We're not complaining! In 2 weeks time we get another 2 days off for Independence Day! Yesterday we celebrated Workers' day in school with a school lunch for all the staff. Pastor Ronnie gave a short message first of all. Then there are always gifts to give out.

Before that the teaching staff joined a national march/ strike. The private school teachers don't get a pension. They have fallen through a gap as state schools have a different pension fund which private schools couldn't join. The state pension for other workers wouldn't take private school staff as they were teachers! To cut the story short, 5 years ago our school administrator started working with other schools and the Association of Christian teachers to get pensions for teachers. They managed to get a law passed giving teachers the right. This was passed in 2011 and so far noone has had a pension.



Nothing has been done!...and now they want to change this law to pay out much less. We have staff who have left school at 65 years old with no pensions. In one case we had a teacher working until she was 82 yrs old. A number of schools took part and we marched through the city. We wait to hear the outcome.



Staff who've been in school 10, 20, 25 and 30 years



Heads & Coordinators