Hello!

So crazy to think that this is my second monthly newsletter! Praise God for this! I am continuing to learn a lot as I serve with LHI. Every day I continue to fall deeper in love with these kids. My heart is filled with joy as I get to snuggle and giggle with the little ones, play volleyball and talk with the older ones, and as I teach English.

This month I had the pleasure of being a part of a very close friends wedding and so it was a blast to be able to be a part of that! I sure did miss the kids while I was gone for the week and loved being greeted by them when I returned.

School is going fabulous! We are learning about food currently with my Preschool class and just finished tests over the beginning units with my second grade and high school class. My preschool class is loving all the songs we sing! It is very fun for me as well. My second grade class keeps me on my toes for sure. A few weeks ago we had a couple surprise visits from animals so they weren't the most productive days as you can imagine. The first was a dog (Honestly have no idea how that happened!) and the second was a little lizard friend. My high schoolers are writing a paper that shares a little bit about themselves with me. Some of my students from the orphanage are being pretty vulnerable and so I am grateful for that. Both my second grade and high school class have asked me to give them more homework... WHAT? Never in my life would I have thought my students would ask for that! I started the year having one volleyball class on Friday and somehow the kids have convinced me to play volleyball with them on Mondays and Wednesdays as well. I love how much they are enjoying playing a sport I love!

With time I have been building deeper relationships with the kids. One of my second graders named Ángel (sounds like *on-hel*) has grown quite the liking of me. We are constantly having tickling wars during meals along with the other little boys in his dorm. Ángel is so kind and is spreading the love of Jesus at such a young age. The other day I asked him who his favorite superhero was and he replied "Jesus". This kid melts my heart. He has two younger sisters here as well and he shared that his purpose in life is be godly and to protect his sisters.

My Spanish is continuing to get better. It is a very slow process but there are the little victories when I find myself keeping up a conversation in Spanish. I am not saying I make perfect sense, but baby steps right? I have a Spanish Teacher finally so yay for that!

Thank you for being a part of this journey with me! I am grateful for how God is working and will continue to.

God Bless,

Sam

Please pray for...

- My Spanish learning

- Ángel's desire for Jesus and for his family

-The kids here who struggle with their past. Many come from harsh backgrounds and battle with their pasts, some making mistakes that can bring harm to them and others

-Growth as a school whether that be unity, strategies that are helpful for students and teachers, resources for the school, etc.