



From Richard's Desk:

Therefore, we are ambassadors for Christ, as though God were making an appeal through us; we beg you on behalf of Christ, be reconciled to God. 2 Corinthian 5:20

Over the past few months we have well and truly been into Winter Sports Camp season. It's a period of time when we have 3000 intermediate age kids competing for their school against 8 or 9 other schools for a whole week, It also provides us a time when we can input Christian truths each day with our quality living sessions. Please pray for the impact of these sessions as they are hugely important and often will be the first Christian content these kids hear. However added to this is our witness of whom we follow and the understanding that we are representing Jesus Christ. . It astounds me how many of these kids walk into the dining room and can't believe the meals they receive, can't believe the friendliness of the staff, can't believe the beauty of the site we call Totara Springs Christian Centre and the vast majority leave a little different that when they arrived. It is a huge privilege to be called an ambassador and even more a huge responsibility as we consider who we are representing. There is such a need today, please pray that we understand that need, pray that we understand what it means to serve, pray that Jesus is represented well in this place. I have a real desire to see Totara Springs to be a place of excellence, a place where people are pointed to Christ . Thank you to those that share that prayer and the support you show to God's work here at camp

August

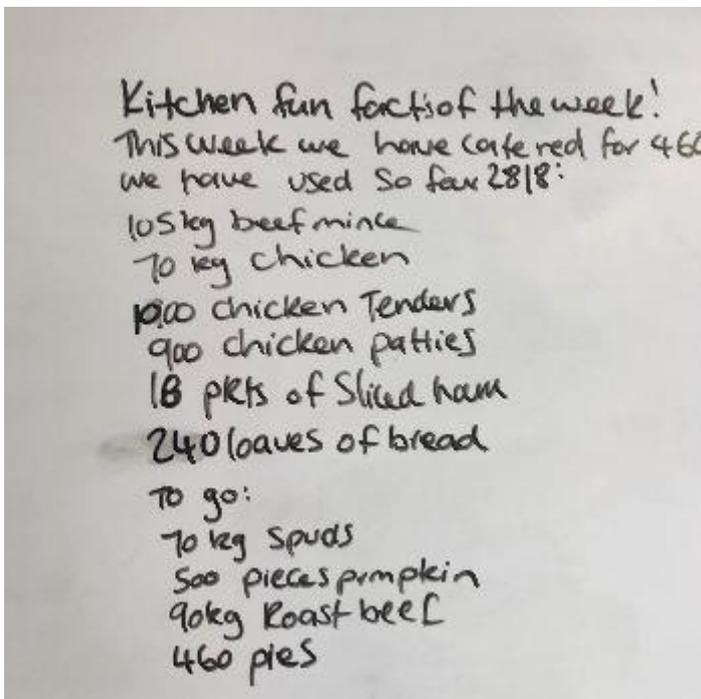
August is really defined by our Intermediate Sports camps with 3 of them during this month. We were, however able to squeeze in 2 schools and 2 craft groups as well as the Battle of the Camps. Below is a photo of camps in the pool after having their "Battle"



One of the sports we do is Table Tennis and one of these teams had only been playing once they found out it was a sport at camp, so very little experience. They went on to come 2nd overall.

One of the great things about our Intermediate sports camps is that it gives kids a chance to try new sports, whether it's minor ones like table tennis, chess, draughts or bowls or major codes like basketball, Soccer and volleyball. We have now completed 6 of our Intermediate Sports Camps with 2 more to go.

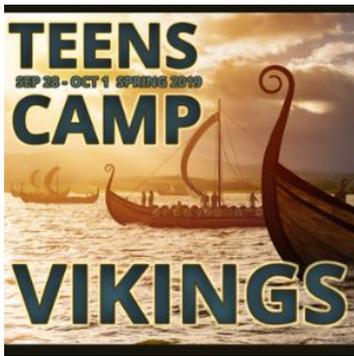
Remember, if you would like to share with us in teaching and interacting with kids, please get in contact with us - it could be 1 night a week or more if you would like, it's a very rewarding experience.



A camp is fed from the kitchen and our Catering team have been super busy during the Intermediate Sports Camp, our last one for August was our biggest with 10 teams. Some fun facts from the kitchen!



2 schools, 1 Church, 2 Sports Camps and it's the School Holidays once again!! Remember, if you have Kids who want to come to camp, now is the time to register them. We are always on the lookout for leaders - our camps can't run without them, so go to our website for more information on these. We look forward to meeting your kids.



Totara Springs Family News:

This month we have 2 overseas volunteers joining us - Jaz and Aaron as well as Josef returning from his "summer holiday" at the camps in America. more about Jaz & Aaron next month.

What else is happening?

Mini Golf is just getting better at Totara Springs. The first few holes have now been poured and progress will continue as the weather and time permits.



Hydroslide Update

To all our supporters

As you'll be aware, in April 2017 our much loved and main outdoor activity, the Hydroslide, was damaged beyond repair by remnants of Cyclone Cook. Over the past 18 months we have been working with hydroslide experts from around the country to design, build and soon install our new hydroslide.

I am pleased to advise that this project is no longer a consultation and no longer in a design phase - we have now moved to a manufacture phase. This is incredibly exciting and whilst the process has taken a little longer than first envisaged we are now at the business end. This type of project, however, does not come without a financial cost. We have been able to raise over \$415,000 to date plus we have the guarantee of an interest free loan for \$100,000 should we require one. The slide costing has been set at a little under \$600k and therefore we have a short fall of approx. \$100,000 (double that if we did not require the interest free loan). We can raise a bank loan for the short fall if required, however this would be a last resort.

I will therefore over the next few weeks be sending a separate email to this one to all our supporters to ask for financial assistance to raise the funds required if people feel they can do this. This email will provide a design brief and costings. We would therefore ask that you pray and as God prompts, consider whether you are able to donate to this venture. We will provide further details in the next few weeks.

Prayer

- Kim Beale who continues to speak at our Intermediate sports camps
- Courtney as she runs her first teens camp and builds relationships with leaders
- New staff settling in.

Praise

- The hundreds of people who have heard about God through Sports Camps
- Good weather
- New Staff