

News letter Oye LENA

Educational project, Curahuasi



october 2016

4/10/2016 Trip to “Puka Puka”, a school high in the mountains.

Nothing but radiant faces as we are welcomed by the kids of Puka Puka, even though it's still early in the morning and a little bit chilly. The kindergarten is nicely decorated, although there is only just enough room for everyone at the table. First, we teach the pre-schoolers the colours and afterwards we play with the miniature cars. Afterwards we go outside and everybody, even the older kids, joins a Peruvian version of the famous Belgian play 'Skipper, can I cross over?' You can see everyone opening up and having fun. Nice to see how grateful they are! The Sun begins to burn and it is time to return, everyone enjoyed it very much!

By Ruth Amant



6/10/2016 To the hot water springs with our special ones.

Our trip to the baths of Cconoc starts at 8 am: at this early hour we gather the children and leave by bus . Almost everyone is going along: Jean Pier, Clariza, Maria, Diana, Lucho and Fernando. It is Diana's first time in Cconoc, but immediately, she feels like a fish in the water. The weather is outstanding and everyone is having a great day. As they enjoyed themselves enormously, it was not easy to get Maria and Fernando out of the water ... A successful trip, a next one to come!

By Margot Wuyts



12/10/2016 To the hot water springs with the toddlers.

This week it was the toddler's turn for a trip to the thermal baths of Cconoc. As always, we split into two groups. For some new pre-schoolers it was the very first time to visit Cconoc. Thanks to our swimming straps they were not afraid of the water and swam eagerly from one side to the other. The kids enjoyed the warm water, the radiant sun and the water games they played. A day they won't forget soon, and they are already anxiously awaiting the next trip!

By Aurélien Steenhaut



12/10/2016 To the mountain school in Cocchua.

Wednesday October 12th, we went together with three volunteers to the mountain school in Cocchua. Upon arrival the children stared at us smiling shyly.

Once they had breakfast their enthusiasm and curiosity awakened. The first theme, "Traffic" was taught by playing with the so-called Lotto cars in different colours, they had to search for small pieces of prints concerning the traffic theme, and we drew all kinds of vehicles.



On a lawn a little bit further we showed them how to cross a street by using a song and a game. I was not only touched by the cute little faces, but I was also struck by the view over the mountains. "Mira la vista! (Look at the view!)" I said to one of the kids. She gazed at me as if I had seen a ghost and ran quickly back to her classmates. I wonder if I ever will get used to the mountains like she did....



By Janne Bernaerts

16/10/2016 Day of people with a disability

Every year, people with disabilities in Peru get extra attention on the 16th of October. Of course, Oye LENA loves to participate. José Abel, María, Lucho and Fernando go to the special school and were expected to present themselves on the plaza.

But our three kids with cerebral palsy don't go to school and the parents weren't planning on participating with this day. This is why we decided to pick them up and have a fun day.

Emma, Alessio and Stefanie took Clariza, Jean Pierre and Diana to the central square, where a speech was held by municipal officials. Afterwards we paraded



around the square and the flags of Peru and Curahuasi were raised. To conclude the morning, we went to the most beautiful bakery of the village and ate the best cakes! Everyone enjoyed it and returned with a full stomach.

17/10 Visit to a school for special education in Cusco.

Monday October 17th, we scheduled a day trip to Cusco, together with Emma and Stefanie . We visited a school for children with disabilities and a hospital where children with cerebral palsy receive therapy. First we took a look at the school. My first impression? Wow! So beautiful, so large and so orderly! We received a warm welcome by the Director who guided us around. We also got the chance to take a quick glance in some of the classrooms.

It is important to note that the Federal Government has no role in the fact that this is such a beautiful school. It is thanks to the municipality of Cusco itself, which is the richest region of Peru due to its tourism related to inca ruins such as Machu Picchu. The municipality itself has only made this donation because the children and their parents demonstrated for months in front of the Town Hall. Afterwards, we went to the private hospital "San Juan de Dios", where it is forbidden for visitors to visit all of the facilities. As a result we were only allowed in the corridors where we received a brief explanation. What a pity... I must confess that I noticed that the staff dealt with the kids in a loving way and that the building seemed OK at first sight. Over all a nice and instructive day! By Charlotte Crockaert



23/10/2016 Monthly visit to the orphanage of Cachora.

After a car ride with a beautiful view, we arrived at the orphanage. Some of the children were waiting for us, others were still busy with their latest tasks. I also met two brothers, Brayan and Jesús, who used to come to Oye LENA. We brought some posters with us as a present for them and of course they wanted to put them immediately on the walls of their rooms. When all the children had finished their tasks, we started with our games. As a starter, we imagined ourselves as Ninjas and some of the children succeeded to do so in a realistic way! We continued to play and once we felt tired we ate cake together, we talked and we learned the children some English words. They were so interested and wanted even more! After the break, we walked back to the lawn to play again . The children laughed and enjoyed it visibly.

I felt really grateful to have seen and experienced this.

By Uma Vermeersch



26/10/2016 To the mountain school in Ccochua- part 2.

Every Wednesday we go to one of the two mountain schools, and this time I came along to Ccochua. Compared to Oye Lena: what a difference!. The classroom was very messy and claustrophobically small. It was really useful for me to make this trip as it meant an occasion to see that not all of the schools were as luxurious 'as Oye Lena, indeed other schools are not at all as well-equipped and as big as Oye Lena. It really was an eye opener.

By Aze Peeters.



25/10/2016 Very first siblings day!

In the past we noticed that the brothers and sisters of our special children don't always treat them well. We heard or experienced real abuse but also noticed jealousy towards the things (presents & care) they get from the project. So we wanted to start a sibling project to improve the relationships between them and their overall quality of life outside the project and include them in our project so they feel part of it.

Student Aurélien Steenhaut chose this initiative for her bachelor paper and made the first steps and I helped her with this project. To make this happen, Aurélien and I took a couple of afternoons to visit the homes of our special children and met their siblings. This gave us the opportunity to know their home situation, get to know them a little bit and invite them to the project for an afternoon of activities.

It was a wonderful surprise to see that most of the special children had a sibling or a close cousin turning up with them to 'Proyecto con los hermanos'! Once we all introduced ourselves, the children presented themselves a bit further by drawing the things they like to do in their free time, the people who are important to them, what they like to do at school as well as their dreams in life.

The second activity was aimed at getting to know the children's relationships at home and how they felt about their brothers and sisters. The children were asked some questions concerning their feelings about day to day home situations and asked to throw the ball to cans which corresponded with different emotions.

It was a very pleasant afternoon and we look forward to meeting them again for some more activities next month.

By Aloe del Campo

27/10/2016 Cumpleaños Susi

The 27th of October is the birthday of Susi, our Peruvian teacher. We celebrated the occasion with a big cake and a birthday song. Susi has been working for the project for almost 2 years now and is like a second mom for our toddlers!



30/10/2016 Halloween es mi fiesta favorita!

Sunday the 30th, we scheduled a Halloween tour through the village of Curahuasi along with the kids. With homemade candy baskets and small lanterns, we went to the Plaza de Armas, disguised in our most scary outfits where the children were waiting for us. One by one they came, and they could choose to disguise or to paint their faces.. At 6 pm as the sun was going down and it was getting dark,, the Chinese lanterns were illuminated and we started the cortege. We sang our songs in front of many shops and the kids were able to gather baskets full of candy. After an hour, not only the baskets, but the bellies as well, were full and everyone went home more than satisfied. What a joy to see all those happy faces!

By Delphine Vandermeersch



Feliz cumpleaños y bienvenidos!

Zharit Lluvitza (aka Shadi) celebrated her birthday this month and Aaron, brother of Naymar turned 3, so he could join the group of toddlers on the project.



Volunteers come and go...

Volunteer Ruth Amant worked for about a month at Oye LENA and put in a lot of effort. She loved the kids and it was clear they loved her! Thanks a lot Ruth.





Short messages

Ingrid Hendriks visited Casa Lena and offered a box full of dolls, toothbrushes, toothpaste and some other stuff. Thanks Ingrid!

Ex-volunteer Laure Vanhove sent us a postal package full of gifts. Clariza got a lot of jewels and Lucho an MP3 player. This will stay at the project so he can listen to the music on the playground when they play outside.

Godmother Vanessa Burms sent a postcard to Clariza, she was very happy with it! Thanks Vanessa and daughter Noortje.

Our pig gave birth to 8 piglets, but it was no easy for her. The volunteers helped with to feed the weakest pigs with milk, but 4 did not survive. Luckily, the rest are hopping happily around these days. Thanks ladies for fulfilling the role of mommypig!



Oye LENA is looking for more godparents!

Do you want to become a godparent to one of Oye LENA's toddlers?

If you do, you can offer a whole new future to a child for only a couple of eurocents a day. Thanks in advance!

Godparents can let us know if they prefer to sponsor a boy or a girl, aged 3 or 4.

When you become a godparent, you receive a picture and a drawing via e-mail (two weeks after the first donation). Most communication will happen via e-mail in order to keep costs down. If, however, you would like to receive regular mail on special occasions, you can leave us your address.

If you do not want to send your godchild messages via mail or e-mail, that is no problem at all. If yes, you can do so in English. We will make sure a translation is available. However, keep in mind that our children are still very young. A nice picture will do more than a long letter. Also, do not forget that it can take a while before your letters arrive in Peru. If you want to avoid long waiting times, it is also possible to send an e-mail. We will make sure your e-mail gets printed and given to the child. You can send your e-mail to oyelena.peru@gmail.com.

The postal address is:

ONG OYE LENA (Stefanie Van Erps)

Oficina oficial de correos de Curahuasi, Curahuasi, Abancay, Apurimac, Peru

It is also possible for you to come and visit the project and your godchild, just tell us in advance if you want to come over.

In order to make sure payments go as smoothly as possible, it is best to use a standing order. That way, you automatically deposit a fixed amount into our bank account (a minimum of €10 = €0.30 a day). Oye LENA has a Belgian bank account:

BE28 06889753 0620

BIC: GKCCBEBB

The money is not destined to your individual godchild, but will be used for EVERY child on the project, for:

- buying food and drinks. The children receive a free lunch, fruit, a snack and drinks every day;
- financing visits to the doctor's, where the children receive free treatment and medication;
- buying toys and educational materials;
- celebrating birthdays and other festivities: cake and presents!

If you wish to stop being a godparent, you can do so anytime. You only have to send us an e-mail and cancel your standing order. We will also keep you up to date with all the latest developments of the project and your godchild!

Lots of love, The Oye LENA – team

Did you know ...

You can receive a tax certificate for your donations from € 40 and more?! This certificate can be added to your tax declaration and the amount of your donation will be deducted from your taxable income.

To determine if you have the right to a tax certificate for a certain assessment year, all the donations you did during that year are being count up at the beginning of the next assessment year. If you reach a total sum of € 40 or more, you receive a tax certificate (at the beginning of the year following to the year you made the donation in).

Do you want to know how much is being deducted? Take a look at the table below. How much do you earn on an annual basis and what is your taxable income.

Marginal tax rate per €40 - tax deduction per €40

€ 0,01 - € 8.070	25%	€ 10
€ 8.070 - € 11.480	30%	€ 12
€ 11.480 - € 19.130	40%	€ 16
€ 19.130 - € 35.060	45%	€ 18
€ 35.060 or more	50%	€ 20



The certificate will only be given for donation to the account number:

IBAN BE48 5230 8027 2427 / BIC TRIOBEBB

Leraars zonder Grenzen vzw, Jan de Graefstraat 7, 2600 Berchem

with mention: "gift aan LzG, ONG Oye LENA"

