

# Newsletter Oye LENA

## Educational Project, Curahuasi - Peru



November 2016

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### 9/11/2016 Visit local German school

*This week, we visited the German school, 'Diospy Suyana' in Curahuasi. We were warmly received by the principle. He explained us the vision of the school and gave us an extensive tour. This school is not what you would expect in the centre of Curahuasi. It has a very large amount of kids, beautiful and spacious classrooms and an abundance of materials and means. The school tries to stimulate kids from different angles, hoping to create more opportunities for them. Besides a general education, they have the possibility to play sports, music and receive personal guidance.*

*The goal is to give a qualitative education without losing traditional Peruvian values. The Peruvian culture is represented throughout the school grounds. In the middle of the playground, for example, a garden was created where the three ecological zones of Peru are represented: the coast, the mountains and the jungle (costa, sierra, selva). Each year they also dedicate some time to local dance and music.*

*The goal is for children to stay in touch with their culture despite going to a german school. The hope is that the kids will put their knowledge and abilities to work locally. It was very interesting to get in contact with another school and learn about their methodology.*

*By Delphine Vandermersch and Uma Vermeersch*

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### 9/11/2016 Biweekly visit to the mountain school in Puka Puka

*On Wednesday morning I had the opportunity to go with a group of volunteers to a local school in a little village called Puka Puka for the first time. When we arrived the children were putting the date on the wall. There were only 6 children including a new girl aged 3 who was on her third day of school. We had several activities prepared for them all of which were related to the topic of clothes.*

*First of all the children were given some spy bags and asked to find a series of clothes and accessories which were inside, for some a little challenge! The second activity consisted asking the children to dress up some paper dolls with items of clothing which matched the colors and patterns presented on the dolls. Following this we watched the film of "The Emperor without Clothes" and the children were asked to draw the clothes. To finish of the morning we all went outside to play. As always we had children from other classes coming to join us.*

*It was a wonderful morning and the children came to thank us when the time had come for us to leave.*

*By Aloe del Campo*

## 11/11/2016 Second Brothers and sisters day!

*On Friday the 11th of November we organised our second brothers and sisters day. On this day, we organize activities for all the brothers and sisters of our special kids. They were picked up by bus and everyone was looking forward to it. We played games in the theme of this months, clothing. We made dolls with jewels and pearls and we dressed up. Mostly we just had a lot of fun and gave the brothers and sisters all the extra attention for one day. They were very enthusiastic and were already asking for a next visit! See you on the 6th of December!*

*By Aurélien Steenhaut.*



## 12/11/2016 Monthly visit to the orphanage of Cachora

*As every month, we went to the orphanage of Cachora, where 2 old-students, Brayan and Jesús, stay. Before we left for a 1,5h drive, we bought some cake and juice.*

*When we arrived, at first we helped the kids doing their laundry, which was really nice cause this way we had the possibility to talk to them and had a nice little conversation about theirs and ours families. The big ones even speak some English!*

*After this we went to play some games on the football field. We played «fat Berta» and the Harry Potter Game and also some little games which the Kids proposed. The kids seemed happy, open and satisfied. After playing, we drink the juice and ate the cake and then we had to leave again and say goodbye until next month!*

*By Hanna Dunkelberg*





## 15/11/2016 Biweekly visit to the mountain school Puka Puka

*On Tuesday 15th of November, I went to Puka Puka for the first time. Normally, we were supposed to go to the mountain village of Ccochua, but the school was closed so we went to Puka Puka instead. When Alessio and I arrived, we were received warmly by all the kids.*

*We brought the "hammer game", which was easier for some than for others. Some of the kids didn't know how to use the hammer, or that it wasn't ok to just hammer the nails into the table instead of the provided mat. Afterwards we played the Maya game and domino which was also a lot of fun.*

*We closed the morning with our "Fat Berta" game with all the kids of the school. It was a crazy gang. About a thousand high fives later, we left the kids who were already looking forward to our next visit.*

*By Margot Wuyts*



18/11/2016 Cconoc con los especiales



In november it was the special kids' turn to go to Cconoc and they love it. Maria, Fernando, Lucho, José Abel, Clariza and Jean Pier, everyone was present and enjoyed the beautiful morning in the water.



## 21/11/2016 Fiestas en Curahuasi

Every year, around the 24th of November a big festival takes place in Curahuasi! A whole week of celebrations and activities such as dancing competitions, parades, cock fights, bull fights, feasting, downhill races, horse races and many more! The traditional “fiestas” also include rooster and bull fights. Luckily, the bull fights aren’t violent and the “fighter” only waves a red cloth for a few times after leading the bull back to its stables. The rooster fights however, are fought until one of the roosters gives up or dies.. This is part of a long tradition in Curahuasi (and Peru) which may arouse a lot of questions. However, in a spirit of openness and to be able to portray the life here in Curahuasi as true as possible, we believe it is important to mention its existence. During this week the NGO closes its doors and does not organize any activities itself in order for the children, their families and the volunteers, to be able to participate in the town’s events.



## 21/11/2016 Fernando wordt geopereerd

Fernando and his blind brother Lucho have been coming to the project for years. Fernando has a genetic form of cataract making him visually impaired. A few months ago, we took him to the German hospital Disopy Suyana where they told us a surgery was urgent. Without the surgery Fernando would go completely blind within one or two years. The surgery would take place in Lima in the best clinic of the country. The parents agreed and we bought 4 bus tickets, but, on the moment of departure they were all gone. The appointment was cancelled and we weren't able to get a new one.

Now, we learned that there is an Austrian ophthalmologist visiting the clinic in Curahuasi for two weeks. We hope to convince the parents this time and put out a call on Facebook to sponsor his surgery. We had a massive reply. THANK YOU VERY MUCH EVERYONE FOR YOUR IMMEDIATE AND GENEROUS SUPPORT!

The operation and his recovery have been heavy, and it has been a stressful couple of days. Because of your massive concern and interest, we have shared his recovery day by day via Facebook. Below, we are grouping the messages of those days:

Update 1, Friday 18/11:

The parents have heavy drinking problems and neglect their children. They are very afraid for this surgery. I agreed with the social worker to go to their house together with the police. 50 minutes later, the social worker arrives, 20 minutes afterwards, the police finally arrives. We go by the family and the father isn't home, he is wandering about, drunk. At night he had arrived drunk and the mother had run away in fear. He outed his frustration on Lucho. Thankfully when we met her, the mother was sober, and agreed to the surgery. A few hours later, after some tests, the doctors decide that Fernando is indeed eligible for the surgery which is immediately planned on Monday. We close the day with an ice cream.



Update 2, Sunday 20/11:

Fernando has to be checked in the hospital today. We bought him some pajamas and toys and went to his house. By chance we encounter his mom in the streets. She doesn't know where Fernando is but fears that he is with his father who is out drinking in a "chicheria". We go to look for him but he isn't there. The father is very drunk but, miraculously, leaves us alone. We go and look for Fernando and find him pretty quickly. We also pick up Lucho and their sister Fanny to go to the carnival fair. They enjoy the trampoline a lot, a beautiful sight to see. Afterwards we want to leave for the hospital where Fernando and his mom will spend the night but she is scared to leave Lucho and Fanny. What if the father returns home drunk? We ask if she can ask some family for help and so we drop off Fanny and Lucho at an aunt's house. They will stay there for the night so we give her some money for supper and breakfast, ready to leave for the hospital. What a relief!



Update 3, Monday 21/11:

Today at 8 o'clock Fernando had his surgery and it was a success. It even went better than expected. WAUW! Fernando did wake up in panic and has a lot of pain. He is very restless so we decided that Alessio Vecchiato would spend the night with him.

Update 4, Tuesday 22/11:

The night went pretty well and the checkup by the ophthalmologist has been positive. He still has to stay in the hospital for a night so that the swelling can go away. Pier-Jan Van Maele stays with him the whole day to keep him company.

Update 5, Wednesday 23/11:

Fernando can go home today! But, because his house is very dusty, he will stay with us on the project for a couple of days. He will stay in our special class where he also has a shower and toilet. Fernando still has checkups with the doctor every day and his sight is improving. Stefanie Van Erps, Hanna Dunkelberg and Emma Schneider take turns in accompanying him to the hospital.



Update 6, Friday 25/11:

Everything is going well and Fernando received the correct glasses. He was also allowed to go home, the risks for infection are minimal now. His next appointment is on the 22nd of December. We will keep you posted!

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## Feliz Cumpleaños!

This month, Rossel and Eliazar were the lucky boys celebrating their birthdays. Rossel's godmother Sara Defoor left a present in September when she left for Belgium. Finally Rossel could open the present! He was super excited, thanks.



## Volunteers Come and Go



Belgian Pieter-Jan Van Maele and German Hanna Dunkelberg stayed with us for 5 weeks and had a fantastic time. During the holiday week, they stayed on the project and accompanied Fernando in the hospital or during his stay on the project.

Both have a heart of gold and will be missed. Thank You!

## Short Messages from Peru

Patrick Vandeveld, godfather of Romina gave a present along with a volunteer who came to the project. A backpack full of goodies. Romina was pleased with her surprise! Thank you.

Inge Janz, German, stayed at our B&B for 25 nights and brought a long a lot of things for the project while even helping out occasionally. Thank you Inge!

Many volunteers receive visitors during their stay at the project, and sometimes, these visitors bring a little extra for the kids! So did Kirsten, a friend of Emma Schneider, who brought us lots of goodies! Thank you!



The German couple, Meike and Bernard, came to camp at Casa Lena for two days and left several things behind, among which two First Aid kits. Thank you!

The sink in our playground had been made too high for the kids and the water didn't run away properly. During the holidays, we decided to install a new and better one. This was done with some of the donations of all our godparents, thank you!



## Short messages from Belgium

Lawyer firm La-on from Antwerp chose Oye LENA as their primary good cause for this year. They made a generous donation covering all the food and maintenance products for 2017. Thanks a lot Paul Cools and all your colleagues.



# Oye LENA is looking for more godparents!

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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](mailto: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"

