



Dear Vamos Adelante Friends,

Here comes a little update of our latest activities: Studying with a Vamos Adelante scholarship is much desired but not all children qualify after having filled out the little test paper, where they have to show us that they truly would like to study with much responsibility. Interesting enough the candidates for the lower grades prepare themselves real well for the interview. They come clean with well combed hair, practiced what they have seen in school and almost everybody passes. The higher grade students often think this test will be easy and are mostly busy being teenagersNeedless to mention that they often have to return for a second test or even a third. Several did not make it as they did not put much effort into studying.



Each student receives two pairs of shoes , one solid shoe for daily class and a good tennis shoe for sport classes. The shoe company is really good and the shoes last for over a year, most parents tell us. When they are too small the children often pass them on to the smaller siblings. As each year, it is tons of work trying to find out the correct sizes , as the mothers often prefer to ask for at least 1-2 sizes bigger than the needed one so that the shoes last longer. That the children then barely can walk in them is another story but we are trying our best to avoid this by measuring the sizes ourselves. The children are so proud once they hold the shoes in their hands, it is like Christmas but twice! Most parents can only afford to buy one pair per year, if that, and often they just buy rubber shoes, cheap tennis shoes, used if possible as that is cheaper.



The school material the students need each year seems to increase and we have decided to give out 3 big bags during the year plus other material and books the teachers ask for . The general costs for a scholarship in Primary school has almost doubled and we spend around US \$ 200 per child, in some schools even more.





During the last months of 2016 we launched a Project called “ Mi Escuela Alegre” (My Happy School) as the general ambiance in the public classrooms are totally depressing for both teachers and children. For this project the village committee, parents, children and teachers need to get involved together to improve the conditions for their school, which also means more united responsibilities for the whole village. Vamos Adelante provides ideas and the materials as well as guidance for executing the project. For 2017 several very boring classrooms in San Andres Osuna will be transformed to a positive environment, accompanied by garbage bins for the patios and ideas for recycling the garbage .



Above are two of our schools ,which function very well. In addition small playgrounds help to convince the children to ask their parents to send them to school. We have several applications from public schools who would love to participate in the program .

Here Vamos Adelante promoters are evaluating an area where we now are building two classrooms.

In San Andres Osuna the classrooms are totally over- filled with students and there was a desperate need for more space. Outside we are considering to eventually create a multi function court area, as that helps to reduce many aggressions in children. Sitting in temperatures up to 35 degrees makes them tired and irritated and a shaded place where they can play and run would be very helpful.





Although the Easter Bunny is standing in front of the door we would still like to share these pictures with you.



Christmas 2016

Thank you Santa Claus and Santinitas for bringing presents for so many children and elderly.



Vamos Adelante wishes you:

HAPPY
EASTER



Having clean water is vital and the water project (catching rain water via the roof)we launched last year and which continues this year has been expanded to 80 benefited families. This project has changed their lives totally as the women do not have to spend so much time and effort getting water from far away any longer. Many happy tears were shed once the water recipient was installed and could be used.



Dr Friedemann returned for a visit and so did the dental group. In addition a local dentist comes to see the students approximately once a month when it does not rain. Our promoters also focus much on preventive dental care for the whole family when doing house visits and now most brush their teeth (except the fathers in many families) Water filters have been given to affiliated families. 6 families received a house 2016 and in 2017 6 additional families were fortunate to be considered as candidates .



Here are our promoters transporting some heavy items, like food and books to a village where they do frequent home visits. Of course, this is only possible in some areas where the dirt roads permit the Tuk Tuk to pass. Most times though we all walk. Thank you so much for supporting Vamos Adelante!!

