

Recife NewsBeat

September 2021

Greetings one and all!

First off I will start by apologizing yet again! I honestly thought I had sent out another newsletter this year, but my Mum informed me that I hadn't and that I needed to! So without further ado I will start, otherwise I'll be wishing you all a Happy Christmas, the year is going that fast!!

My last newsletter ended with me saying we were in another lockdown, which actually lasted for 3 weeks. Didn't really seem to make any difference, but hey! We have since had one more "lockdown", which was in May. However since this it seems like there has never been a pandemic! Yes we still have to wear masks whenever we leave the house (tho many people don't) and there are still many restrictions, but many people are just acting as if nothing is going on! We have finally managed to get the vaccine too. I had a little trouble getting it at first, cz to travel, we were told that outside of Brasil

the Brazilian vaccine is NOT accepted or accredited. So would be difficult to travel. When I went the first time and was told it was the Brazilian one, I had to decline. This could have caused problems as IF I had refused a second time, I would have been blacklisted and wouldn't have been able to have the vaccine until all age groups had been offered it! This extreme measure was put in place, cz misinformed people were refusing to have the Brazilian vaccine, after hearing something that the President said against it! Thankfully, the second time I tried to get the vaccine, they were giving out the Pfizer vaccine. Last Friday I had my second dose! Robério has his second dose in October (cz he had Astra Zeneca) All the team at Vale have recently been fully vaccinated too!

Vale continues with the same regulations! The kids are used to them now. We decided to do our yearly Bible club (EBF) in July. Usually we open it up to the wider community, but this year we just stuck to our kids who are at Vale every day. We just divided them up, with the littlies (4-7 year olds) in the mornings and the older crew (8-10 year olds) in the afternoons. It was about the five senses and using them for good. It was very simple, but they loved it! Especially the new games we introduced, the cupcakes they had to decorate (tho there seemed to be more sprinkles on the floor than on the cupcakes!) and the last day water play!

The teenage girls group (11-15 year olds) we have also wanted something "special", cz the kids had! So as with last time, they had a pijama party! This involved "sleeping" at Vale for a night, Bible study, application and drama (the theme was the story of Esther) There was also pool time, games (I introduced them to the chocolate and dice game!) a quiz with pie in the face, Bingo and a Luau round the pool. I was the "glamorous" assistant for the Bingo and one of the prizes was this Pooh jacket in the photo, so obviously I had to model it, amongst other things! It nearly caused a riot! Initially some of the girls thought they were too "cool" for Bingo, but after seeing the prizes, they became the most fervent players!

We didn't get much sleep that night!



During this term I also have done a talk to all the teenagers about menstruation. This is cz many have no idea about it, what happens, why it happens or what to do! It is a huge problem, especially within poor communities! At the end we gave them all sanitary pads, as many do not have access to this product! It is not seen as a priority when you don't have money!



EBF fun time!

Talking of the girls, here in Brasil when you reach 15 it is a very big deal! It is most girls dream to have a big party (kind of like a debutant ball) however it is a very lucrative business and the likes our girls would never be able to afford to have one. So, we decided as there are 8 of them who turn 15 this year, to do a collective party for them. They had a special photo shoot, that I took couple of weeks ago. We took them to a very "pink" desserts restaurant where you can take photos n eat amazing puddings, then to a local park for a colour powder fight! Was fun!



Pool time!

Some friends of Elienai have lent special dresses for the girls to wear at the party (each girl has chosen her favourite dress to wear) The party is on the 15th October. They also have had to attend extra type Bible study classes once a week too. (trying to give them a Biblical viewpoint for their lives)



Teaching!

Something new that started this term at Vale was adult education (alphabet) classes. There are 13 pupils, most are relatives of kids at Vale, or are from the local community. It has been amazing to see how being involved in this has increased their self confidence and esteem! They are all doing really well. One sent a message to the teacher just saying "hi", but before this, he couldn't even recognize letters or spell! One grandma (we have known for years) before undertaking this course never used to lift her head up and look you in the eye or talk. Now she looks you in the eye, laughs, talks and looks like she's grown inches!! It's so amazing and a real privilege to see!



Friends time!

Talking of photo shoots, I have also done another couple for my dancer friend at 2 events she was involved in! She now calls me her "official" photographer! She has also said that when she has the means she will pay me, cz it's unfair and could be seen that she is exploiting me! (she's not!) but for now am using it all as experience!

Robério has had some work coming in over the last couple months, thank God! Though from this week, he is back to no work! BUT God provided the last time and will again!

Prayer points:

Thanks:

- God's provision
- God's protection

Requests:

- For renewed finances.
- For employment for Robério
- For wisdom as we contemplate the future with the virus, especially at Vale

Rua Compositor Raul
Valença, 240 (casa 5)
Passarinho
Recife
52.160-295
PE, Brasil

Praying you all are well and safe!
Love and prayers
Ali (and Robério)

Email: alidontcare@yahoo.co.uk FB: Ali Young Instagram: somenteali

