

NEWSLETTER MARCH



Steinreich Bibelschule
ausrüsten weitergeben



During this month of March, Bible school learned how to make lemonade out of lemons. Just like everyone else, SBS also suffered under the global effects caused by the Covid-19 pandemic. Even though we cancelled a few events and finished school a week early, we don't feel as if we were robbed, rather we feel we had been given an opportunity to face a challenge which allowed us to step out of our comfort zone and take new, proactive action.



PRAYER & FAST DAY



We were grateful that we were able to go through with the activities which took place in early March such as Prayer & Fast Day, Feet Washing and Bonfire Night. These activities allow students to share and are designed to encourage growth in their personal relationships with God and one another. They are a highlight for most everyone each year.



Even though we didn't invite guests to graduation this year, we were thankful that our choir was heard by approximately 1,400 people who attended our programs early March in the CMM Burwalde church, Km. 7 Mennoniten Gemeinde and our Chamber Choir program at the Campo 72 Neu Sommerfelder church. It was a great blessing to be able to visit and sing for these churches.



PROGRAMS





GRADUATION!

On March 20th the decision was made to close school a week early in order to allow students and teachers to return their homes and in order to comply with the Government restrictions. This gave us 2 days to complete a week worth of exams and host a banquet and graduation. This challenge was terrifying and thrilling at the same time. The entire school, staff and students alike, came together as team and not only made it work, but did so happily and with great success. Within a few hours the teachers and administration had rescheduled the exams for the next two days and the students knew what to expect. Unfortunately, the Student Council was not able to follow through with the fundraising/community day they had planned for March 22nd; but they made the best of it by inspiring the students to sell more raffle tickets in the short time they had left, then they drew and announced the winners during the Graduation Program. Graduation, which is usually attended by hundreds of people, was now watched by hundreds of people from home during the live stream. This year we had a record breaking 18 graduates. It was a variety filled group, which included students from Belize, Tamaulipas, Chihuahua and Canada. Most of them attended SBS for 4 consecutive years, but one graduate (Marlene Wiebe) took part-time classes for more than a decade and was now able to graduate. Due to the circumstances Johnny Thiessen wasn't able to graduate with the group, but did so a few days earlier before returning home. We wish this group of graduates all the best and God's blessing!





BANQUET

The formal graduation banquet which is usually planned months in advance and includes the graduate's families, was turned into a Sunday picnic.

An after SBS Mission trip to Sonora turned into an after SBS Mission trip to Tomochi. As mentioned in the previous Newsletter the Mission class had visited Tomochi for a weekend in February and started many projects, not all of which had been finished. A group of students and staff who stayed around the week after Bibleschool visited Tomochi for 4 days where they continued the job. The greenhouse was finished, the fence was repaired to keep animals out and a beautiful bond was built between students and children of the orphanage.



MISSION TRIP



The willingness, flexibility and adaptability of our students and staff turned this unfortunate turn of events into a positive experience which drew us together as family and will be remembered and talked about for years to come.