

## **Report about Escola Cristã João Calvino relating to August 2009**

Dear brothers, sisters and readers,

Another month of work in our small school. God has blessed us each moment and we keep going strong in our purpose of adore Him. In August, our principal, Célia, wasn't with us, because she went on holidays with her family to Holland. But the work progressed intensively. Below you will find a brief impression of how was the work in August.



### **Devotional and Collective Moment**

In the beginning of the month we had our devotional and collective moment with the children. This time, Elias, who is also the administrator and secretary of the school, brought us a message about Psalm 119.105, focusing in the fact that in this life of darkness, God's Word is our light to guide us in way to eternity. The Escola Cristã João Calvino was put by God in the life of these children to help them to follow the way of the Light.

### **Development of the works during the absence of the principal**

With the trip of Célia, Elias had to assume some of her functions, for example, giving assistance to the coordination talking with parents and/or students. It was good to see how intensive and important is the work of the coordination with the students and parents.

As all of you already know, we are introduced in a context where the majority of the families don't know God as the owner of their lives, and the consequence of that is that their families are unstructured, influencing directly the development of their children in both aspects intellectual and moral. The result of this is that lots of time we have to give specific instructions to students, but also to parents. Commonly we invite parents and students to compare in the school to a specific talk, which we also open God's Word to exhort and correct. In this month, something curious happened with regards to that.

Two of our students, Michele and Jobson, from grade 4, where talking about soccer while waiting for their parents to go home. Each of them defeated their own soccer time, saying that it was the best. Michele is a girl who has a very strong temper and whiling talking she used a word that reached Jobson's ego, who also is a very turbulent boy and both started to shoot offensive words to each other. In that

moment, there was a mother of another student, who was waiting for her children and saw everything that was happening. She felt horrified about what she was seeing and reprehend those children, but as she didn't get success, she resolved to look for the coordination sector to inform about what was happening. Everaldo, immediately went to the place where the children was shooting aggressive arrows to each other and had a hard talk with them, showing how they were wrong and after having convinced them of error, warned them hardly to look for that mother who had seen and heard it all to ask for sorry. In that moment, that mother had already gone home. The next day morning, both the children, convinced about the need of asking for sorry to that mother, arrived at school with disposition to look for her and for that were anxious. Suddenly they saw that mother. Everaldo had already said to the children that they had to resolve the problem by themselves. In that time, Everaldo allowed the children to use his room for this special meeting and withdrew from the room, while the children called the mother to talk. Few minutes later, that mother stepped out the room smiling and very happy, telling that the children had asked for sorry, recognizing their guilty and saying that they would not have that kind of attitude anymore. We also were very happy because the situation was solved by the students and that worried mother. After that, Everaldo and I had a talk with those children to take the advantage of that situation to explain according to the Bible the importance of forgiveness and to say that our school wants to guide them in this way. It was a very edifying conversation for us and also for them.



But that was only the beginning of the story. In the grade 3, there are some students who visit frequently the directorship or the coordination room. It has been a very big challenge to their teacher to deal with the adventures of the “jays”, named like this because all of them has the name started with the letter “J”. They are children full of energy and also with families full of problems. One of them is raised by the grandmother, because the parents don't have conditions to take care of him; another also lives with the grandmother, but because his parents don't have time to take care

of him, because they need to work during all the day; other one lives with the parents, but they are almost divorced; and the last one lives with the parents who are members of a Pentecostal church and used to say that what their children do is completely normal, because he is a little angel, without sin.

Those children had been closely monitored, but always we invite their parents to exhort about their responsibility in the education of their children. This is the hardest part, because lots of the parents think that that preoccupation should be only from the school. At home, the children used to obey, because if they don't, will get a spanking, but in the school we cannot use that kind of punishment. Thus, the attitudes that the children aren't allowed to do at home, that want to do at school. Some parents stay surprised with this and sometimes they think that the school is exaggerating with their children, since at home they are very obedient. Some of the parents used to protest affirming that our school don't stop calling them to have meetings. We had dialed with this in a natural way, because we already were clear for every father and mother that our commitment is to educate their children according to the Bible principles and those ones who don't agree with that can be at will to take out their children from our school. Knowing that, lots of parents have "tolerated" our form of working, but at the end, they see how we love and worried about their children.

Coming back to the "jays", we invited their parents to come to school to have a serious talk about the behavior of their children. The initial idea was to have a meeting with them all at the same time, but before the reality and the specificity of each of them, we realize that would be better to talk with each father or mother individually. It was interested to see how the parents worried about their children, and at the same time they felt limited because don't fell able to accomplish their role as parent. All of them, during the conversation, melted into tears, crying for the difficulties that their children were having. There was a mother that we barely talked and she burst into tears, because she considered herself as an absent mother because the need of working during all day together with her husband. She knew that the absent of the parents was affecting the behavior of their child, because being in grandmother's house he was being influenced by other relatives and friends and also suffered a bit with the rules of his grandmother (don't do this; don't do that). Before that situation, Everaldo proposed a way to monitor closely the development of that child, in which the mother would observe and write, very day, in the child diary. Thus, the teacher and coordination would write in the diary about the behavior of the student, commending or censuring his attitudes during the lessons, and suggesting attitudes or activities to help to the development of the child. The mother, in turn, would take her doubts, inform if she could monitor the child, if she could help him doing his homework, or even present her difficult with regards her son, so that we, as school, could help. This method has already been put in practice and we already can see progress in the life of that child and mother. Lots of things still need to be done and changed, but the first

step was very well done. Thus, we justify the importance of the participation of the parents in the process of teaching. With its attitudes, parents can be responsible by the failure or success of its children in the school.

Other talk that we had that attracted our attention was with a mother who are with big difficult in her matrimonial relationship. She says that her husband is very distant, doesn't keep a good relationship with his children nor with the wife; doesn't valorize the family. This mother has two children registered in our school. One of them is registered in the grade 1 and if we don't pay attention to the problems now with her little brother, the same can happen with her during the years. Whiling talking we noticed the great challenge that that mother is facing and the children themselves are knowing that, and this reflect in their attitudes in the classroom.

During the talk, this mother lamented by all the times that his son was called to attention and by the lots of time that she had to come to school only to deal with the behavior of her son. In that moment she started crying, talking about her difficult to do these things without the help of her husband who doesn't worry about that. In fact, he gets angry when he knows that the school, once more, wants to talk about the behavior of their son. We gave lots of advice to that mother, emphasizing the importance of dedicating attention to her children, developing activities together with the father so that the children will receive more attention. At the end, she thanked very much for the assistance that she receives from the school and is willing to help paying more attention to the education of her son, and also to charge him to improve his behavior.

It happened that about a week over our talk, we were informed that they were separated. How sad! It is very sad when we see a broken family. The children themselves already knew and, even without understand about that situation, had accepted the fact that "daddy" and "mommy" would not more live together. But, we didn't stay stopped knowing that. Everaldo had the sensibility and courage to invite the father to attend to a talk in the school. That father accepted the invitation. He came to school and spent hours talking with Everaldo about his situation and also about his behavior as parent, recognizing that he really don't have been neither a parent nor a present husband. He also talked that he didn't agree with the separation and that would do the possible to reestablish the matrimonial relationship through looking for forgiveness of his wife. At the end of the talk, Everaldo also offered himself to visit the couple together with his wife, Marta. It is a kind of support with the goal not only to reattach their relationship, but to present them the need to insert a third person in their relationship: our Lord Jesus Christ.

## **Eneilza and Geovania Graduation**

August was a very special month to two of our teachers. Geovania (Grade 4) and Eneilza (Grade 5) concluded their graduation course in Lyrics. The graduation ceremony took place in August. As usual, it is a very rewarding and joyful moment to hear your name being called and to receive your so long awaited certificate of studies, mainly if your relatives, who follow you during all the way until the end of the course, are there to prestige that so important moment. With regards to that, God provide, specially to Geovania this blessing and joy of having her relatives in that so special moment of her life. The relatives of Geovania live in São José da Coroa Grande-PE, and during their way to Maceió, they suffered a terrible accident. The car which they were driving overturned three times before falling into a small ravine beside the road. The car was crumpled, but Geovania's family don't suffer nothing but small scratches. Knowing about the accident, Elias went with the kombi to help Geovania's family. Arriving there, all of them was stained because the danger that they had experienced and because the material damage, since it seems that the car didn't have an insurance, but they were very grateful for the security given by God. Looking at the condition of the car, they could see God's hand working.

In the moment of the ceremony of delivering the certificate, we could see the joy of both teachers. Eneilza was happy because it was the day of her graduation; the day which she could thank to the Lord for finishing her course. Geovania also was very happy for having finishing her course, but her happiness was in double, because she could see how God was merciful with her, depriving her of a moment which would completely obfuscate her first happiness, granting her in the same day also the blessing of security and protection.



## Some grades

The grade 5 in accomplishing their studies about a good alimentation, could see the blessings of God who gives us a great diversity of food, which being well administrated, grant physical and mental health. They learned about the food pyramid, but they really love when they have practice lessons. How delicious! Nothing better than thanking to God by food, eating right after!



The grade 1 is accomplishing a reading Project with comics. One of the characters is a boy named Cebolinha (little onion). They take advantage to confection, in Arts lesson, that boy. It was easy! It was enough to buy some onions and the head was already done.



This month we will not have an article, but next month, surely we will write something.

Once more we thank you brothers and sisters who had support this so important project to these children, specially to the children whose parents are from our church.

It is our constant prayer that the Lord may give you all that you need to continue serving to His purposes.

We remember you that this report is also on our web site:  
[www.irbmaceio.com.br/ecjc/atividades.php](http://www.irbmaceio.com.br/ecjc/atividades.php)

May the Lord continue blessing you all

Escola Cristã João Calvino, September 18th of 2009.

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