

Quisqueya Eagles Newsletter

<http://quisqueya.org>
<http://relief.quisqueya.org>



Friday, February 26, 2010 A.D.

Under Construction

In seconds, on January 12, our lives changed in deep ways. I, along with everyone at QCS, am deeply saddened by the many



losses – too many to list. We will never forget this disaster and the profound effect it has had on our lives, our friends, our school, and on Haiti. For many of us, the shaking of the earth was accompanied by a shaking of our hearts and minds – priorities and values, for many, have been rearranged and realigned in ways that honor God and his truth. Let's get with God's agenda!

In the November 21, 2008 Newsletter, I wrote:

QCS has long been a blessing to the community and will continue to be. When disaster struck Dessalines and Cabaret, QCS students, parents, and teachers donated clothing, food, and toys. When a school building collapsed in Petionville, QCS staff visited the hospital to aid the injured and comfort grieving parents. And QCS students showed their generosity by donating funds to help grieving parents with transportation costs to and from hospitals.

And now, more than ever, QCS continues to be a blessing and a witness to the community. We have long taught our students the importance of service – and now we have the opportunity to model service and compassion as we have never done before. In the face of overwhelming needs, QCS staff and students actively and joyfully pour their lives into the relief effort. QCS has been able to send out 200 relief workers – physicians, nurses, physical therapists, paramedics – every day. Over 20,000 surgeries have been performed by the surgeons QCS sends out, and countless other people have been helped with ambulance services, transportation, logistic, food, and encouragement.

During all of this, the mission of QCS has not changed – we are a school dedicated to preparing students to impact the world for God – and we are serious about students working hard to achieve excellence and success.

As I look at all the ways God has used QCS, and the amazing ways He is working, I feel deeply humbled, thrilled, amazed, and excited about the possibilities in the future.

I am glad to be back. The break was too long.

When is the next school holiday?

I missed my friends.

I am ready for school.

These were some of the comments of the students as they hung around greeting each other for the final stretch of this semester. School is on once again. We are here to continue our journey. It always has been one of my goals that this journey of learning is done in joy. Albert Schweitzer said, "Happiness is the key to success. If you love what you are doing, you will be successful." I also like another quote of his. "The only ones who will really be happy are those who have sought and found how to serve."

*He will yet fill
your mouth with
laughter
and your lips
with shouts of
joy.*
Job 8:21



Good advice, especially in times like these.

How are we doing? Do you like what you are doing?

I sign off my daily correspondence with the following:

Enjoying the day in joy.
Walking in His SonShine in Haiti,

Why?

I have chosen to follow Jesus. So much of the activities of the day depend upon our mindset. How do you greet the start of each day? It goes back to the basic questions I ask the students at the start of a school year, and it would be good to ask them the same questions again at this time:

Who are you?

Why am I here?

Why is all this happening in the world?

What are you going to do about it?

I have chosen to enjoy each day in joy.

Run the race and finish it in joy.

T.DeKoter

Tentative School Calendar

Mar 26	Fri	- progress report card
April 2-5	Fri/Mon	- Easter Break
May 18	Tues	- Flag Day – no school
May 26	Wed	- Kindergarten program grade 6 step-up grade 8 promotion
May 26	Wed	- noon dismissal for all
May 27-28		- Teacher work days

May 29 - Graduation

Aug 17 First school day for the 2010/2011 school year!

Fee waiver for the ACT in Haiti

The following is the information we received from Patrick at ACT:

I just want to let you know that the online registration system is now in place so that any student registering to take the ACT in Haiti on the upcoming April 10 administration date will not have to pay. This applies to the "ACT No Writing", the "ACT Plus Writing", and the international surcharge.

Please let your students know that they can begin registering now. They just need to go to www.actstudent.org, create their ACT web account (no charge for that either), and fill out the online form.

Please make sure they also know that the registration deadline is **March 5**.

World Maths Day

I have registered all the students from grade 2 – 11 for the World Maths Day which will happen on March 3rd. Anytime before the contest date, the 1,588,649 registered students may practice at the various levels against other students in their age category from the 43,425 school registered representing 227 countries. Our participation helped set a new World Record and for Uniting the World in Numbers.

I tried the game and it is addictive, seeing if I can get better at answer the questions asked. There are 500 'tests' each only a minute in length. Each time you play the game, other contestants will be found to compete against you. The players could be from Japan, Great Britain, Nigeria, Germany, etc. What fun!

Re-registration for QCS Families

Next month the re-registration for the new school year 2010 – 2011 starts. We will send a form home with each child presently attending school and email the form to the families who presently have their children in other school systems. The form will also be obtainable online. Please complete by **March 12th** so that we may be able to make the proper preparations for the new school year.

This newsletter will be emailed to the QCS parents, but many emails are bounced back. PLEASE make sure that the school has updated phone numbers and email addresses.

EarthQuake By Kaitelyn Dorlette

I just came from school on January 12, 2010 at 4:30 P.M. My mother, my brother Kyle and I went inside the house while dad was outside talking to his friends. My mother said *Let's get ready to eat* and as she was about to warm up the beans in the microwave, we heard a loud noise. The house began to shake. My mother grabbed Kyle and me, and ran out of the house.



As we were coming out of the house, we saw our father screaming for us to get out of the house. We ran towards him and embraced each other. He then took us by the pool and instructed us to stay there. His friends also joined us, scared because we saw the house shifting from side to side. My mom's car was also doing the same thing. I don't know how long the earthquake lasted but it felt like an eternity.

The night was a horrible one. I recall my father and mother repeatedly comparing this day to September 11th. They felt useless because the phone lines were down, no electricity, and nowhere to go. The only way we felt powerful was to pray, asking God to protect our families and friends. We stayed outside all evening because dad said it was not safe to go inside the house. By then my fear grew even more because of the unknown. I pleaded with my dad to go to New York where I think it would be safer but I did not get an answer. I cried my eyes out because it was not safe in Haiti at this time. Around 10 P.M. daddy said it's time to go inside the house to sleep. I really did not go inside the house. I wanted to go to my grandma's house. Little did I know that her house was broken. So I had to spend the night in our house.

I went into my dad's bedroom and layed on their bed. We prayed once more and kissed each other good night. Then we went to sleep. Throughout the night I can feel the bed shaking. In my sleep I asked God to lay a hand over Haiti and stop the earthquake. I fell asleep till the next day.

The next day early my father took his jeep and drove us to search for family members and friends.

We first went to my aunt Maggie's house who lived the closest to us. Although she was not home, we were told by her maid that she was OK. Then we drove to Uncle Albert but couldn't get to where he lives because the road was blocked. On our way to check dad's friend Jo, our car broke down and I saw smoke coming from the car