|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| |  |  |  | | --- | --- | --- | | |  |  | | --- | --- | | |  | | --- | | Graphical user interface, text, website  Description automatically generated | | | |
| |  |  |  | | --- | --- | --- | | |  |  | | --- | --- | | |  | | --- | | **ND NEWS MARCH 2022**    **THE DAY WE'VE ALL BEEN WAITING FOR!** Last Tuesday, for the first time since the pandemic began, we started up our  ***Transformers groups***again on the farm! You may remember that during lockdown, we were bringing the families out for day retreats, and we also ran camps for the TF children at the end of last year.  But since having to stop the TF groups in March 2020, all our kids (like Yago, João Vitor and Julya) have really missed them.   A picture containing person, young, child  Description automatically generated A person smiling for the camera  Description automatically generated with low confidence  A picture containing person, person, outdoor, standing  Description automatically generated There are also all the new children (like Jessica, Emanuelly and Rayk - see below), the ones who were waiting for their 8th birthday so they could start coming too!      A picture containing person, outdoor  Description automatically generated  A picture containing outdoor, person, ground, sport  Description automatically generatedIt's so good to have them coming regularly again. We always say that the farm only comes alive when the children are there. It's a place that God set apart first and foremost, for them, a place where they feel at home and are free to be themselves - they absolutely love it!   A picture containing person, outdoor, child, young  Description automatically generated  This year we decided to give TF places  to 60 children (8 to 14 years old) and we'll run camps for the ones on the waiting list.   **MORE CAMPS FOR MORE KIDS** This year we're planning to run one weekend adventure camps every month, for the Transformers groups, Transformers+, the waiting list children, TF mums and TF dads.  It's so exciting that we now have the big barn facility which was built mainly with the camps in mind. A group of people sitting at desks in a classroom  Description automatically generated with medium confidence This photo was taken at one of our camps last year where the team were trying their best to keep everyone socially distanced inside!   **FOOD FOR THE BODY & THE SOUL** A group of people posing for a photo  Description automatically generated with medium confidence  We've got 22 mums signed up so far for  ***TransforMUMS***this year, Monday afternoons on the farm. Here are some of the mums last Monday. The idea is that they bring their empty ND bags every Monday and fill them up on the farm with the yummy cooking and baking that they have made with Margareth and Tamara.     **A picture containing person, indoor, group, people  Description automatically generated** A group of people sitting in chairs  Description automatically generated with medium confidence    Then they take the baskets home to have with their families. There will always be a special moment each week, when they can fill up on spiritual food too if they would like to. Jesus said, "I am the bread of life. Whoever comes to me will never be hungry again". We look forward to sharing some of the mum's developing stories with you as the year unfolds.  A person standing next to a tree  Description automatically generatedThis is JANICE. She has 2 sons who are from previous relationships, Davi (11) who comes to Transformers and has been suffering from anxiety attacks recently, and Odair.  Janice is a strong character who many would describe as difficult, but she's always asking us to pray for her.  She got married  recently and her husband also has two children from two other relationships who spend weekends with them when their little damp flat becomes even more cramped!  Odair is a very angry young man who is often in trouble with the police. He was diagnosed with scitsophrenia when he was very young and despite being very intelligent, social services made him attend a special needs school. He was badly bullied by the older children both there and in his neighbourhood as he was growing up. Janice sent a message to Margareth on Sunday night, accepting the invitation to 'Transformums' the next day. She said, "It's going to be so good for me, because I'm in a really bad period of my life at the moment ... whenever we go to the farm we can just switch off from it all.  I've been diagnosed with Diabetes and they've now found three lumps in my breast too, so I've to have some treatment and I can't stop thinking about it. Please pray for God to bless us cos with the diabetes and everything, it's complicated."  The next day at the little TransforMUMs service, the tears were pouring down her face as she listened to one of the team sharing about God's love for her.   **KILLING THE MISSING**  A picture containing table, indoor, window, floor  Description automatically generated**A group of people posing for a photo  Description automatically generatedA group of people posing for a photo  Description automatically generated**A picture containing ground, outdoor, person  Description automatically generatedA person and person taking a selfie  Description automatically generated with medium confidence In December, for the first time in over 2 years due to the pandemic, I and my three youngest children, were finally able to return to Brazil and 'kill the missing' (as the Brazilians say!)  It was amazing to be back on the farm, out and about in our local communities, and just to have quality time in person with staff, Transformers FPs and all my children together.  Many of you will have shared in the excitement in 2020, when we completed the building of the new facility which we built on the site of our old barn, bang in the centre of the farm. One of the highlights of this recent trip for me, was finally being able to see it! **A group of women posing for a photo  Description automatically generated with medium confidence**The photos and videos were fab but it was way better in person than I had dared to imagine. It was really inspiring to sit at that table with nature flooding in and to and make plans for the year ahead at ND and as you might imagine, our children and their families absolutely love it!  Once again, thank you so much to all of you who gave so generously and helped us make the dream come true.  **WORST FLOODING IN ITABIRITO FOR OVER 30 YEARS** Thank you to those of you who sent us donations for the recent victims of the terrible flooding in our local town. We were able to buy lots of bottled water, cleaning materials, rubber boots and food packages, for some of the worst affected. Most of those families were temporarily housed in nearby schools, however nearly all of them have now returned home. The local council received government funding to buy them fridges, cookers and mattresses as well as other necessities.  Our team will be returning to the families we've been visiting with some ND care packages, made up of towels, bed linen, cups, plates and a few other little things. A picture containing dirty, broken, old, indoor  Description automatically generated A picture containing wall, indoor, floor, messy  Description automatically generated    The greatest needs we are seeing however, are emotional ones, due to the trauma of losing their homes and their personal possessions, like photos, and after going through such a frightening and close to death experience. Some of the families have told us that we are the only ones who have stopped to sit down and spend time with them in the middle of the mess and to ask about how they are feeling.    **TRIBUTE TO A VERY SPECIAL MAN**  **A person and a child  Description automatically generated with low confidence**On 30th December, my dad, Ted Collington, crossed the finishing line here on earth with Jesus His Saviour, to spend the rest of eternity with Him. My dad was a spiritual father at New Destiny. He and my mum were missionaries at New Destiny for the first 7 years and continued to be a much-loved part of the community there for another 7 years, after dad had his stroke in 2013. I am so grateful for    A person and person posing for a picture  Description automatically generated with low confidencetheir faithful service and the support they gave to me, my 5 children and ND in that crucial first chapter of the work.  I've always been blessed to be one of Ted's three kids, but I lost track a long time ago of how many spiritual children dad had!  During his time serving at New Destiny, dad blessed everyone around him with his friendly, fun personality, his faith and positive outlook on life, his amazing preaching and Bible teaching gifts, his storytelling, his cooking, his warm hospitality (together with my mum - they were a team!) And during his lifetime, he inspired so many people to draw closer to God and live wholeheartedly for Jesus. His other passion was talking to God, and every day that he was able, he spent hours in prayer for our family and many other people and situations, including the work at New Destiny, the children & their families, the staff & their families, and the wider ND community (that's you!)  A person and person holding a plate of food  Description automatically generated with low confidence One time I asked my dad what would happen to all those prayers when he died and his answer was Revelations 5:8 in the Bible, which talks about all our prayers continuing to be held safe before God the Father, until each one is answered in His perfect timing, even after we've gone to heaven! May this reminder inspire us all to keep on praying for the children & families of ND - every prayer that is in line with His heart, is powerful and eternal!    If you would like more info about anything at all, please contact Susie, our supporters coordinator  ( [susie@ndaventura.org](mailto:susie@ndaventura.org)). Thank you!   God bless, Morven & the ND team   **Ps. How to give a donation or any monthly amount** Royal Bank of Scotland, New Destiny Trust, Account 00167388, Sort 83-22-19.   (If you would like us to claim gift aid too, so your support goes even further, please send an email ( [susie@ndaventura.org](mailto:susie@ndaventura.org)), just to confirm that, including your full name and address in the email. It's that simple!) | | | |