

October 2012

Dear Friends,

Hello once again from Cambodia! I trust that it has been a blessed October for you – happy belated Thanksgiving to my Canadian friends!

Here are a few highlights from the past few months of my time in Cambodia:
-We have finished our first quarter of this school year. Teaching continues to be a wild adventure and the main focus of my time here. I am enjoying using my gifts to glorify God through teaching the students at Logos. This year I am teaching approximately 250 students, as I teach all of the elementary and middle school students, and around a dozen high school students. It is a joy to get to know each of these students. All of my classes are in the two computer labs, so I recognize the immense blessing that the labs are!



Robo-Sumo tournament at Robotics club!

-Other work related tasks continue to fill up much of my remaining time – Robotics Club, Swim Team, running chapel audio and visual equipment, and various other events around Logos. I was able to share some of my learning about technology in the classroom with the Logos staff in three professional development sessions in early October. It is exciting to me that we have the opportunity to grow together as a staff and offer the students various opportunities along side their education. We also participate in a variety of devotional times at school – staff devotions every morning, student devotions every morning, and chapel, as well as a staff retreat at the beach. It is wonderful to be able to gather as community.



Fun at the staff retreat!

-We have come into a season of holidays in Cambodia. After 9 continuous weeks of school, we have had our first set of holidays in mid-October. This holiday is the most spiritual based holiday of the year – when Cambodians offer food at their local wat (Buddhist temple) to the spirits of their dead ancestors. It is a very dark time spiritually in Cambodia. Late in October, we had a holiday for the birthday of the king's father and in

November we will have several days off for Water Festival. We are grateful for the time of rest during this part of the year and look forward to some time to catch up on school work and explore other parts of this country.

-During the Pchum Ben holiday, I was able to travel to the city of Sihanoukville, by the ocean, and the island of Koh Rong. My travel-mates were taking their PADI scuba certification, and I took the opportunity to get away during Pchum Ben and enjoy a quieter and cooler place. It was a fantastic time away before heading back into the busy-ness of school.

- While we were away, the king's father died, which has led to nationwide mourning in Cambodia. We had a seven day ban on music being played in the streets and we see reminders of the king's father all of the city. King Norodom Sihanouk was the king who gained independence for Cambodia from the French, and was viewed by many as a national father-figure. Please pray for the country of Cambodia that they would turn to God, our Father for their assurance and peace.



Flags line the streets in memory of King Father Norodom Sihanouk

Please join me in praying for the following items:



Rainy season is back!

-For continued strength as the school year moves on. There are various strains here that are not present in Canada, including heat, floods, health concerns and traffic that make life simply more tiresome. Teaching is a joy, but an exhausting one!

-For the hearts of the students at Logos. We have heard of at least

one middle school student who has decided to follow Christ this month. For many students it is a significant decision to choose to follow Christ rather than the religions of their families. We pray for their hearts to be opened to the truth of Christ and his word.

-For strong relationships within our community and as we reach out to the Cambodian people beyond our community. We have been reminded many times that one of the main reasons missionaries leave the field is because of relational issues – we pray for protection against disunity in our community.

Thank you for your continued support and prayer. It is such a privilege to be working in Cambodia and sharing God's love with the children at Logos International School.

Blessings,

Lisa Hines
48 Homewood Ave.
Hamilton, ON L8P 2M2
<http://lisahines.wordpress.com>

Action International Ministries
3015 A 21st Street NE
Calgary, AB T2E 7T1
<http://www.actioninternational.org>