

NEWSLETTER MAY 2008

Tiwala Farm has been filled with activity throughout the summer. **Tiwala** kids have been enriched by their varied experiences at our summer school, and touched by the love and care they have received from volunteers and guests.

'Gardening with Lolo'

Tiwala kids were delighted to have their beloved Lolo (Granddad) with them for the first week in May. Lolo Mike did an amazing job of making a special garden with the kinder kids, near their play area. Lolo Mike taught the kids how to plant and gave them the opportunity to exercise their new skills. The kids are really proud of their little garden and regularly care for it. Teacher Jaki will continue planting with the children and will include a mini vegetable patch, which they can maintain and harvest!



Getting Creative...

Creativity was a big focus at our summer school. We were very fortunate to receive donations of art supplies, which enabled us to invite many children's participation. We always encourage children to do 'free art', enjoying the process



and using a variety of materials to create something unique. We also taught the kids about re-cycling and allowed them to share their own ideas for making things out of scrap. We loved watching the children get 'stuck in' and believe that these workshops give children opportunity for self-expression and developing confidence. We hope to repeat these workshops on weekends and during school breaks.

Health, Film and Fun!

Tiwala has incorporated health and environmental issues into our community outreach programs. This month we had two 'children's encounters' for our extended communities (around 100 kids per session). These encounters included a combination of lessons in environmental health, cleanliness and personal hygiene. Following was film showing, highlighting Christian values, such as sharing; kindness; honesty etc. Guest speakers elaborated these points further, allowing child participation. Each session concluded with snacks and games on the beach!

Tiwala would like to thank the Calayucay community officials and health workers for their involvement and great help with these programs.



Trees for Tiwala!

Tiwala received a donation of over one hundred tree seedlings from the Philippine National Oil Company (PNOC), aided by the Pollution Control Association of the Philippines, Inc. (PCAPI). The seedlings consisted of a variety of fruit bearing trees, the majority of which were planted to form part of the boundary around **Tiwala** Farm and to create much needed shade. Lolo Mike initiated the planting, providing his expert advice to our gardeners. Should this planting project prove to be successful, the PNOC will donate more seedlings to **Tiwala**, which will be dispersed to the families in our community.

In conclusion...

We have just about reached the end of our summer holidays and are starting to prepare for the next semester! We anticipate fresh challenges, growth and progress in all areas, with the help and guidance of our ever-faithful God!

Gail Narramore
(Founder)