

NEWSLETTER JUNE 2008

There have been many developments at **Tiwala Farm** in June. These include improvements in farming methods and infrastructure, planting of new crops and implementing new programs and services for children in our community.

'Back to School'

Tiwala kindergarten classes commenced at the beginning of June. We had to say farewell to a few of our students who have now graduated to grade 1. Pictured right are the kinder kids doing a welcome presentation for the 5 new children who have joined our classes! **Tiwala** also welcomes our new teaching assistant, Mila Alboc, who is brilliant with the children!



Tiwala received donations of books and educational supplies from Victory Christian Fellowship and the Department of Social Welfare and Development. We are very grateful for these materials, which were very much needed and have been put to good use! As the number of students is due to increase this term, **Tiwala** is looking at extending our classroom as well as setting up an outdoor learning area and playground for the children.

Afternoon Classes

Tiwala welcomes our new Project Manager, Jerome Reynancia to the team! Jerome has set up an after-school tutorial group for the youth in the village. Some of the youth have only recently been integrated into the schooling system, after spending most of their time at the dumpsite. During the afternoon sessions these children receive extra tuition, help with assignments, reading lessons and one-to-one discipleship and counseling. Through this program **Tiwala** hopes to build the children's confidence and encourage children and their parents to appreciate the value of education.

World Cultures

Tiwala's main theme for this term is 'World Cultures'. We began by teaching the kids about their own native culture. This included learning Filipino history, cooking, crafts, native dress etc. and learning the Philippine national anthem! To sum up their studies of Filipino culture the children put on a cultural show, wearing traditional 'Igorot' attire (pictured left). The children performed tribal dances and songs, which were adorable to their audience! **Tiwala** will be teaching the kinder and older children in the village about different countries, races,



cultures and traditions. We plan to do these cultural shows regularly, celebrating each country that is studied. The finale at the end of the term will be 'International Day', where older and younger children will group together to do a multi-cultural performance which will incorporate traditional songs, dance, drama etc. from world cultures. Families will be invited to participate, share traditional foods and view displays of their children's projects. **Tiwala** hopes that our children will have opportunities to meet and interact with children from other cultures in the future.

In conclusion...

Tiwala's Saturday activities, which include Christian values formation, praise and worship, creative art, etc. have proven to be a great way of bringing the community together. Adults, youth and children are showing keen participation in these programs, which hopefully inspire and enlighten them!

We are thankful to all who have contributed to **Tiwala's** progress this month through prayer, practical and financial support. If you would like to partner with **Tiwala** in some way, please visit www.tiwala.org for details!

Gail Narramore
(Founder)