

March 2017; miscellaneous

This month feels a bit like the “Miscellaneous” section of a board meeting agenda, a series of snapshots and little things, with no obvious order or theme. But as un-intriguing as this may sound, I am very aware how important seemingly random or negligible moments can be in the lives of our students ... and mine too.

Last Thursday, I was almost certain the day would be a boring one for the kids, and that I would have to be motivating them a lot. We ended up having the best morning we’ve had in a while, with good attitude and lots of laughter. I’ve been extra tired the last few weeks, there are lots of bugs and viruses going around, everybody had the sniffles at some point. It took me a while to get over my frustration with my lack of physical and mental energy, but it has helped me to rediscover the beauty of solely depending on God’s provision. Learning how to be weak the right way is a slow process, but a wonderful one. And just as I was in the process of realizing why God didn’t just give me more energy, I came across this quote: **carry the cross and it will carry you**. If anybody doubts the truth in those words, I dare you to try it for yourself. What is hard for you right now? God wants to come through for you, you can trust Him. It’s going to be on HIS terms though.



So what’s happening in the classroom this month? Our Japan studies are coming to a close, the Japanese candy is almost all gone, Haikus are written, the four main islands of Japan explored, and the term *archipelago* has meaning now! Our second ski trip to Terry Peak went well. The kids braved high winds out on the slopes and took more frequent breaks than during the first trip, which in turn made for great quality time to hang out. For weeks the weather was unpredictable, and so was attendance. What do you do on a morning when only two of your students show up? We took some extra time for devotions, and questions about God, and I came to realize that even on a morning like this, nothing is random.

Likewise the fact, that during a month that I am fighting head colds and overall tiredness, we happen to have quite a few helpers visiting with us. Wendell’s daughter Callie and her friend were spending some time with us during their spring break, bringing real expertise and lesson planning skill. Also, students from ORU in Oklahoma came to check us out and did such a great job loving on our kids that one 3rd grader literally hung on to one students’ leg, not wanting her to leave 😊

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With little over 8 weeks of the school year left, we are planning on taking our world cultures studies onto the next level. We want to go on a two day field trip to Denver in early May, trying out new things to eat and find out what else we can learn about the world we live in. We have been offered to stay overnight at a friend’s church, and the kids are going to make an effort in raising some money on their own. We do ask you to consider helping us raise the funds for this trip. To make this more interesting, we will send out a gift for every donation over \$50 that will allow you to get a little inside view into our classroom. 😊 And of course there will be lots of pictures and stories we will share with you after the trip.

Finally, a prayer request: **We need teachers!** I have fallen in love with the kids at the school, and I’m really enjoying the adventure and challenge it is to teach at Oyate. I won’t be teaching full time or even half time next schoolyear though as Eric and I will take on a new full time job: parenting! 😊 Our little one is due in October, we are very excited and ever since I announced the news the kids ask curious questions every day. So even if you are not a teacher, even if you don’t know anybody who might be interested (and maybe you do), spread the word, and please *pray* with us. This job is so much more than just a job ...



Ela Sutton at Oyate Concern

Putting Wings on Weary Hearts

www.oyateconcern.org

Oyate Concern P.O. Box 148, Oglala SD 57764

elisabeth.sutton@yahoo.de