

Juntos Newsletter March 2016

February 2016 was the most difficult month Juntos has ever experienced and as we move into March and look at the events in perspective, they remain as unclear and inexplicable as before. Nevertheless, we have many sites and the events described below occurred at one, Amor Para Compartir. All the other sites continue to function very well and are not fraught with problems. The teaching team is wonderful and several new people have added very positive elements.

Here is what happened. For reasons we do not understand and will never be clear, all the children have been removed from Amor Para Compartir. Several newsletters have dealt with Amor Para Compartir, sometimes called an orphanage but more accurately described as a sheltered home. Social Services placed the children there for their safety for their families were unable to take care of them. In mid-February nineteen children were removed, ten boys and nine girls, aged three to seventeen. They were placed in a government home in Temixco. Some days later all the rest were taken to the new facility. We cannot provide the exact numbers because of the discrepancies in the reporting, but all told over seventy children were removed and placed in another sheltered home.

To the best of our understanding this a political or perhaps a personal problem. The wife of the governor of this state, Morelos, Elena Cepeda, is the head of DIF, the family social services. Her appointment is automatic, once the husband is governor, the wife assumes the post. Ms. Cepeda has spent 5 million dollars building a facility in Temixco for 250 children. When it was completed in 2015, Ms. Cepeda asked the woman who ran Amor Para Compartir to become its administrator and bring the children at Amor Para Compartir along. Lulú refused on the grounds that she and her husband were quite happy running Amor Para Compartir, had new buildings going up and were doing their best to upgrade their facilities. Was Ms. Cepeda upset by the refusal? Are there other reasons that we ignore? We have no answers.

The story was sensationalized by the media. The Mexican and even the international media covered the story entirely from one point of view, that of Ms. Cepeda. There were allegations of malnourishment and abuse; the articles implied that the location was unfit and unsafe for the children. Yet the members of the Juntos team, who have been there over the years, know for a fact that this is untrue. Two of our board members Xin and Sophie have stayed at Amor Para Compartir several times over the last few years, know the children well and were devastated by the events.

We would again like to underline that Juntos, a Canadian NGO, must stick to its mandate, to help educate, especially through computer literacy. In addition, we support other programmes, all meant to give opportunities to children and adults.

Therefore and most importantly, we have turned our attention to the children on three fronts. First the education of the two girls attending high school. We have every hope that they will continue their studies either at the school they attended or at another closer to where they are now housed. They have excelled and we are very proud of them! We have set in motion steps so they can return to their studies as soon as possible. Second, we have

requested permission to take the computer program to the new location. Juntos had already been there but did not continue because of scheduling problems. Finally, we will discuss how the soccer programme can be continued since we are talking about the same children, now housed at a different facility.

All the other sites have continued to grow and the students keep learning. Here are some examples of the work that the students have done. The same projects, an annual calendar and bookmarks, were completed at all the sites.

Image 1

The first one, a bilingual annual calendar, complete with lovely binding, was put together by two boys ages 9 and 7. Here is both the cover page and two inside pages.

I could not do this!! Take pictures from the web, insert them, create tables, borders, add different types of writing and find and insert the flags. Please look at the four little pictures on the cover and you will get a sense of how happy these children are creating and learning.

MEXICO CANADA APRENDIENDO JUNTOS A.C.



CALENDARIA ANUAL * 2016

ELABORADO por: Ángel Absalón Vargas
Martínez (9 AÑOS) y Josmar Ortega Acevedo
(7 AÑOS) PROYECTO LOMAS DE JUITEPEC

Agosto / August 2016

Lunes	Martes	Miércoles	Jueves	Viernes	Sábado	Domingo
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30	31				



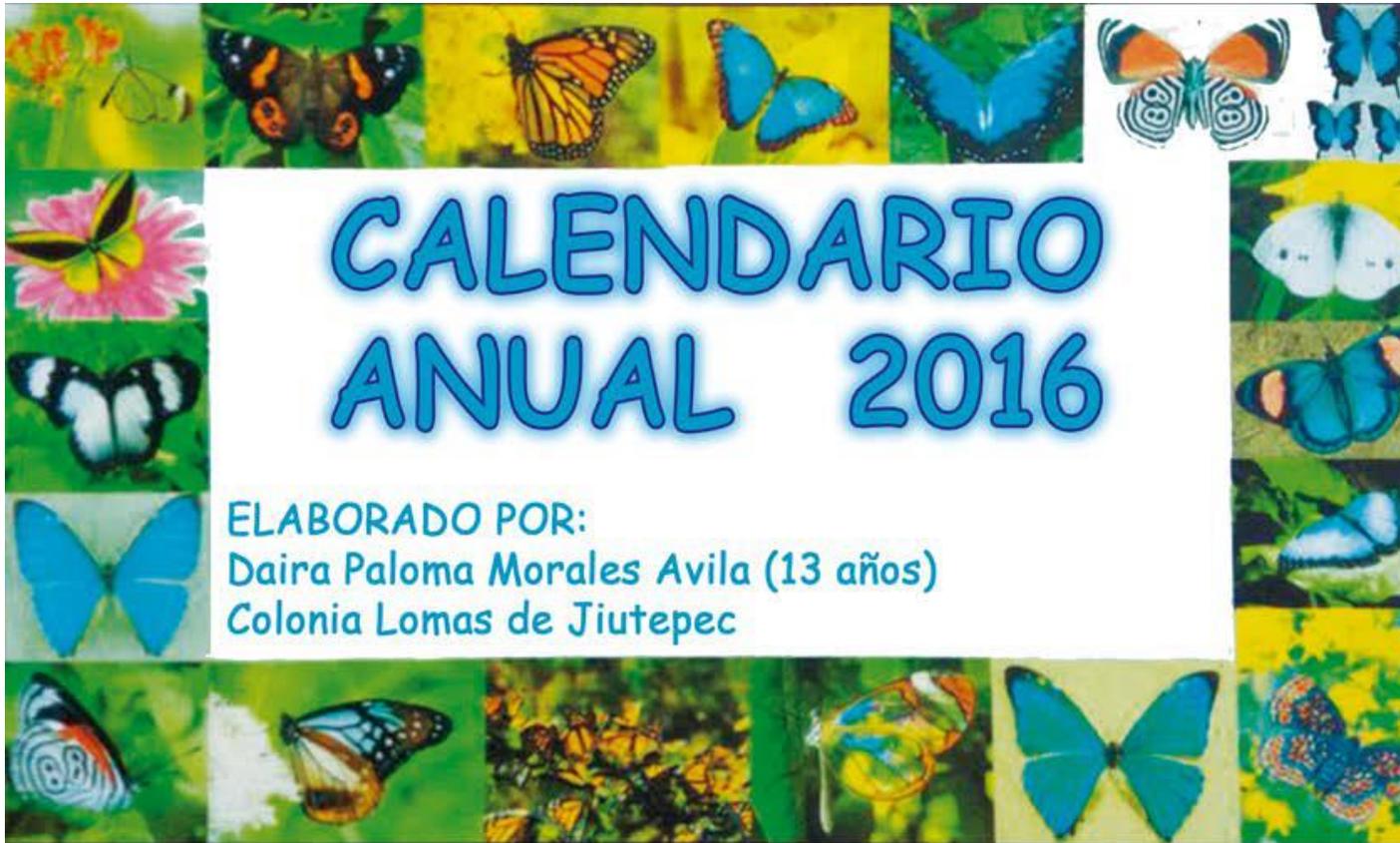
Noviembre/November 2016

Domingo	Lunes	Martes	Miércoles	Jueves	Viernes	Sábado
	1	2	3	4	5	
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30			



The creator of the second calendar, Daira, searched the web for many varieties of butterflies, copied the images and made them into a beautiful frame.

The three bookmarks show proficiency at dealing with shapes, images and text together. The text is a thank you note to the Juntos donors! And in addition, each child writes what he or she want to be when they grow up. We have three typical wishes: a teacher, a soldier and a soccer player!



CALENDARIO ANUAL 2016

ELABORADO POR:
 Daira Paloma Morales Avila (13 años)
 Colonia Lomas de Jiutepec

MEXICO CANADA
 aprendiendo
 juntos A.C.



QUERIDO AMIGO: GRACIAS POR DAR LAS
 COMPUTADORAS PARA QUE HAGA MI
 TAREA CUANDO DEJEN INVESTIGAR ETC.

CUANDO SEA GRANDE ME GOSTARIA SER
 FUTBOLISTA PARA HACERLE BIEN PERO
 BIEN CHIDO.

CON CARINO:
 ABRAHAM RAMIREZ CASTREJON
 TENGO: 10 AÑOS
 LOMAS DE JIUTEPEC



México Canadá
 Aprendiendo
 Juntos A.C.



QUERIDO AMIGO:

Gracias, por el curso de
 computación, por el apoyo,
 por las computadoras que nos
 sirven para realizar los
 trabajos y las tareas, por todo
 esto muchas gracias.

Quando sea grande quiero
 ser: maestra

Con cariño:

Daira Paloma Morales Avila
 (13 años)
 Colonia Lomas de Jiutepec

MÉXICO CANADÁ
 APRENDIENDO
 JUNTOS A.C.

Querido amigo:

te agradezco por este
 curso de computación por
 las laptops y el internet
 muchas gracias.

"yo quiero ser militar
 porque me llama la
 atención ese trabajo"

Con cariño:

Ezequiel Cortez

Tengo: 13 años

Col. Lomas de
 Jiutepec

