

Coming into our own

This year feels different, for staff and students alike. This is the first year we offer classes from Junior Kindergarten through Grade 12. Our school buildings are complete and we're spending the summer putting the last coats of paint on our new devotional room at the high school.

Elementary school principal, Karina, says that this year feels different. "Well, this year is different, but in a good way. We're the same people, but this year we're a lot more unified, and I think that has helped a lot. As staff, we pray for ten minutes each morning, and this has helped a lot, for us all to be on the same page, doing the same thing."

Pictured right: Our graduating students (from our Secretary, Accounting and Graphic Design programs) are preparing for their last months of instruction before practicum placements in September and October.

Jervin, our school pastor, has been leading Bible classes for the graduation students. "The themes we have for them have been really powerful," he said, "because they're challenges to serve God, how they can put into practice what they've learned here."

Jasmin, our high school principal, has been thanking God for what He is doing in students' lives. "For example," she shared, "Wilmer has been at our school for 11 or 12 years. We thought our vision wouldn't be fulfilled in his life, but this year, he said to me: 'I've made a decision to follow Jesus.' And when he told me that, it impacted me so much, because I thought that day was never going to come.

In the final months of the school year, pray with us, with Karina, Jervin and Jasmin, for unity and resources, and that God would accomplish His will for each student, especially those who are graduating and going out into the world this November.



Cathy Penelton hired as new Executive Director

Starting in July 2018, Cathy Penelton will serve as Canadian Executive Director for Global Shore Opportunities, while current director, Joti Wall, begins maternity leave. On May 29th, the GSO Board of Directors announced the transition.

"Cathy brings a personal interest in missions and a wealth of relevant experience to this position. She has the right skill set, experience and personality for this position, and brings with her a strong faith and a firm belief in prayer. We believe these qualities will enable Cathy to serve as Executive Director and take GSO through the next stages of its development."

"My prayer is that God will give us eyes to see people the way He sees them, ears to hear His voice, and courage to step out in faith when He calls us to action." – Cathy Penelton begins as Executive Director of GSO Canada, July 2018

"I have been so impressed by the way God continues to focus this organization and have been inspired as GSO has boldly stepped out and expected God to take their prayersoaked plans and bless their strategic efforts to meet the educational and spiritual needs of students and families in Guatemala."

The Board of Directors also acknowledged Joti Wall's significant contribution during her tenure as Executive Director. "Her faithful service has been and is very much appreciated. Thank you, Joti. May the Lord bless you richly as you embark on this new and joyous adventure."

Cathy joins us from Redeemer University College where she worked as a Senior Admissions Manager. Alongside her husband, Paul, and her two daughters, Kennedy & Brooklyn, Cathy has visited GSO Guatemala several times and remained a sponsor and advocate over the past several years.

"My points of intersection with GSO throughout the years have given me a deeper look into the heart of this organization," Cathy wrote in our recent monthly update. "I have watched it and its leadership grow and develop and witnessed some amazing and miraculous transformations in the lives of staff, students and short term team members as they encounter the transforming power of God. For her part, Joti wanted to express her gratitude for the opportunity to serve as Executive Director since December 2016. "Being a part of the Global Shore family for the past year and a half has been a tremendous privilege. We've built new partnerships, added new personnel, and seen the organization through transition and growth. Being a small part of the incredible work God is doing in Guatemala has been a great joy."

"I'm thrilled for this next stage of life as Marc and I welcome a new member into our family this fall, and am excited to pass my role to someone as wonderful and experienced as Cathy. She is going to be a blessing to this community, and we will see her gifts and talents move this ministry forward."

"Verdaderamente Libres": Students Truly Free at Camp

At the end of May, our school took a week-long break as staff and students gathered for our 2018 camp. First Grades 9-12 students then Grades 1-8 students came for a two-day, one-night camp full of worship, games, teachings and team cheers.

Teams played soccer, tug-o-war, and camp classics like "the wheel" (run, crawl, pop the balloon, cheer, repeat), perfected a team cheer to impress the judges, and competed in a rally to free their teacher from jail (they've been framed!) and bring the real thief to justice. Team Celeste won the Grades 8-12 camp, and Team Amarillo took home the trophy (ice cream) for the Grades 1-7 camp.

Students were taught about the theme of being "truly free" through sessions with worship, teaching and ministry time. This year's camp was a great success, and we're expecting that God will establish the work He's done over the months to come.











"In camp I experienced healing in my life. I was freed from anger. I forgave those who judged me for following God. I felt the love of God envelop me. I felt secure, that everything was OK."

"I went to camp with an ache in my heart. I felt tired. But I learned I can lay down my burdens at the feet of God and know that He will fulfill His promise in His time."

"I think this was the first time I heard God speak. I received Jesus into my heart. I felt a fire in my being when the Holy Spirit moved. It was like all that I had kept up in my heart was let out, and I could worship God with freely. I felt like a different person. I felt like a new being."

Top right: Rudy and teammates from victorious Team Celeste; bottom right: Angel and English teacher, Donya; top left: Camilo and teammates bring a guilty party to justice; bottom corner: Jose Manuel and teammates during tug-o-war; bottom left: high school secretary Alicia after diving into water games



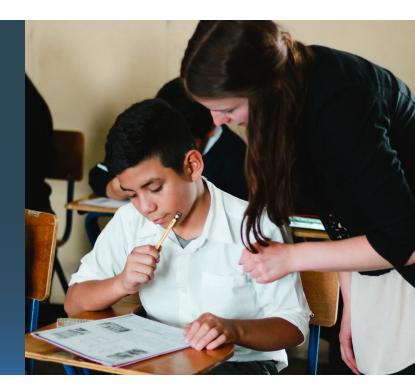
Summer Program 2018

As the Summer Program nears its halfway point, the summer team will be finishing their work term on the asparagus farm and heading to Guatemala! There are two participants heading to other locations, but ten team members land in Guatemala with Julie Bulawka, our summer intern, on July 4th. For six weeks, they'll serve in our school, building relationships with staff and students, take Spanish lessons, serve in local churches and continue the discipleship which began in Ontario. We can't wait to hear what will come from this time!vv

Now Hiring: TEFL 2019

Applications are open for our 2019 school year! We are searching for teachers and department assistants who would work at all grade levels, and would love to hear from you.

Our desire is to establish students in their identity in Christ and provide an excellent education which will prepare them for future opportunities. In an area with a lot of tourism—and globalization bringing the world to Guatemala, English is a more valuable skill than ever before. To learn more about how you can make a difference in the lives of these students, visit our website.





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