

Bringing life, hope and opportunity to children

An insight into the work of UNIVIDA Issue 13: Nov 2012

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New Format Kombi - nado! **Christmas Family Gift Box** Visiting Team in Brazil Sarah's Sandal

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Fasier To Read An Share!

New Email Format for UNIVIDA Newsletter

Hello and welcome to our new newsletter format. We hope you will find this quick and easy to read and share with your friends and family. You should have received an email version of this newsletter in your email inbox. This is the printer friendly pdf version available on the downloads page of our website.

Please let us know what you think, we love to hear from vou.

It's now the run up to Christmas and since we have lots to share we'll be sending you another email at the beginning of December with more details about our Christmas activities.

In the meantime, please enjoy a quick tour of what's been happening in Brazil. Please note that we've also changed our office address here in the UK. We hope you will see just how big of a difference UNiViDA is already making despite the fact that as a charity we are still only 2 years old!



Christmas Family Gift Boxes

We want to pack 200 Family Gift Boxes with activities, gifts, the Christmas story and suggestions to help families spend time together during the Christmas Season.

We are appealing for help to make up these boxes in the form of a special Christmas donation.

Each box will cost approximately £5.



Picking up the keys at the VW Dealer, 26th October

Kombi nado!

After a year and a half of fundraising, the new minibus arrives!

Combinado is a portuguese word for "it's a deal" or "it's organized." Along with a deep sense of gratitude, that's exactly how we felt when we finally picked up the new VW Kombi Van from the dealership on the 26th Octo-

The new vehicle is now in daily use transporting staff, visitors, food, water and allowing us to run important errands around town.

Our heartfelt thanks to everyone who contributed towards this campaign. We would particularly like to thank St Seb's Church in Wokingham and St Luke's in Walthamstow. We think of you all every time we get in our new vehicle!

Want to see more photos? Visit our website to see more photos of the children and staff with the new Kombi.

English Giants Teach Small Steps

Volunteer Team From UK

Make A Trip To The University of Life

In the words of our own students, The University of Life was invaded by 'English Giants' last month as we received a volunteer team from Christchurch, Epsom. "Teacher, how come they are so tall?" was a question we were asked so many times as the children took on the challenge of getting to know the tall pale skinned visitors.

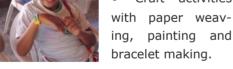
For many of our students it was the first time that they had met anyone from another country or heard anyone speaking in a foreign language. Minds were certainly racing as the children absorbed the fact that these people had come on an aeroplane from far away, specifically to spend time with them.

It goes without saying that the team was a complete hit with the children as they provided endless entertainment and learning opportunities for the children throughout their trip.

Some of the Highlights

- Live Saxophone music at playtime
- Hockey ball skills





- Drama and music presentations - in portuguese and english!
- Singing lessons



Most importantly the team shared their love and friendship with the children and staff, using the theme of Psalm 23 and the well known Footprints Poem. This poem reminds us that when we pass through life's greatest challenges, God is there to carry us over even what may appear to be the most insurmountable obstacles.

Thanks to the team for all their preparation and commitment to a successful trip.





Visiting Team With University of Life Students

Sarah's Sandal

By Marc Marques

Recently as I was passing through the playground Sarah, age 8 came to me with her broken sandal and a paper clip asking me for my help her fix her shoe.



My immediate reaction was that I didn't want to touch her sandals, because I could imagine all the dirty places they had been, walking through streets filled with rubbish and sewage.

But then I realised that those sandals were all she had to protect her from those very streets and the disease and injury she would suffer if was forced to walk home with a broken sandal. My perspective changed and fixing her shoe became very important to me.

There are lots of things in our daily lives that may seem very little but to someone else, like Sarah, a little time to fix a sandal can make a huge difference.

Thank you or your continued support for all of our work here in the slums of Fortaleza, Brazil. I look forward to seeing you during our trip to the UK this coming January and first part of February 2013.