



# Brazil São Paulo 2 Action Team

BMS Volunteer Centre, Rua André Saraiva, 783,  
Vila Sonia, São Paulo, SP 05626-001, Brazil  
E-mail: [brazil2actionteam@bmsworldmission.org](mailto:brazil2actionteam@bmsworldmission.org)  
[www.bmsworldmission.org/actionteams](http://www.bmsworldmission.org/actionteams)

## Prayer Letter March 2009

Hello all!!

We now have less than a month until we return – it's a scary thought! We are now very much into the routine of working, thank you for all your prayers as it has been a real blessing.

We are currently working four days a week at CBAE and one day a week at Agape church with Compassion. The English people that we are, we have now worked out a schedule for ourselves where each member of the team works with both morning and afternoon PEPE once a week where the teachers have basically told us that we can do whatever we like! So far Lianne has taught quite a few songs, Sam has been successful with craft and Lisa did a 'Singapore day' even managing to find lychees in São Paulo for the kids to taste, which they loved! The other two then led classes with the other aged children – two classes in the morning and one in the afternoon. We teach in pairs – in the mornings one of us teaches English to one class whilst the other does group games and fun stuff based on the English they have learned, then we swap over and start again! In the afternoon we both teach the class together. It was certainly a challenge at first as we had 38 children on our first day teaching alone – no pens or paper and with an age range of six to 13! However, we have settled into a routine and have taught introducing yourself, ages, numbers, colours, animals and body parts! It is such a privilege to teach the kids and to see the delight on their faces when they can say 'I am SOSO!' (Their current favourite phrase!) They also love the game 'heads down, thumbs up!' which we play when it rains here in São Paulo, which is surprisingly often! Please pray for energy for the lessons and also for peace in the classroom as the kids can be uncontrollable at times and fights break out frequently which can be frustrating



*Teaching colours during English lessons at CBAE*



for us as it is hard to keep discipline in the classroom. We all admit that it is not easy working eight hours a day with kids and please pray for God to give us initiative and refresh us day-by-day as we need it!

Working at Agape once a week is still going well and we had the opportunity to perform a drama we made up for each of the classes and then share a little bit after what the drama meant to us and its biblical significance. Apart from work, we are still very much involved in the church which has continued to be such a blessing to us. We currently attend three services a week as well as Bible School and have had the chance to join the worship group, perform a few hilarious dramas (in which Lisa dressed up as the half-Japanese pastor because she apparently looks the most like him!) and take part in prayer meetings. The pastor also gave us the opportunity to visit a house in which 20 or so Bolivians live who have come over from Bolivia seeking a better life. It was a great evening in which we sang and shared the Bible and got to meet and talk to people from a different culture and background. Please join us in praying for them as many of them have left their families and also that they would feel encouraged to joining Brazilian church services as they are very shy. The pastor is also thinking of starting a Spanish service for them, so we ask for your prayer for guidance on that as well.



*One of the dramas performed at church!*

A quick Bally Funky update – THANK YOU for all your prayers as they have definitely worked and the Bally Funky has currently stopped! There are rumours of it coming back however, so continue with us in praying that it won't – we are all very happy and getting more sleep! Another answer to prayer has come in the transfer of our friend Creuza (who we mentioned in our last prayer letter) to a much better hospital. We went to visit her (Sam and Lisa getting very lost in the hospital and ending up in the maternity ward...) and she is now in a room with only two beds. The hospital is much cleaner and she is well looked after. It seems she has a massive tumour in her stomach and the doctors are deliberating whether to operate and start chemotherapy. It was good to visit her and we had an awesome time worshipping and praying with her – continue in joining us to pray for her and her family who have been finding this time tough, especially financially.

During February it was also Carnival time which meant, for many people, flocking to Rio to drink, dance and be merry and for the church to pray very, very hard! We had a four days off from work in which we went fishing, had a sleepover with the youth, did some much needed shopping, went to Ibirapuera park with the worship group, celebrated our friend's birthday (introducing Brazilians to party-poppers!) met up with the other BMS Brazil team and celebrated Lianne's 23rd birthday with a surprise PEPE party, a pancake party with friends and also the classic Brazilian tradition of chucking eggs at the birthday girl! It was a lot of fun and we had a great time. It is a reminder however how much prayer this country needs – at this carnival more people died than last year due to drunk drivers. Pray that this stronghold of alcohol and

drugs would be broken, especially its influence on the younger generation as, for example, we have a nine-year old boy in one of our classes who already drinks beer regularly with his father.



*Us and our PEPE kids at Lianne's surprise birthday party*

Health-wise we have all been fine although the same cannot be said for our house! We awoke one morning to find our bedrooms, bathroom, kitchen and living room flooded! We were without running water for about two and a half weeks and it kept getting fixed and breaking again but hopefully now it has been fixed for good! At the beginning of March we returned to the BMS house for a long weekend to reflect on the time we have left

and also to share in several other churches. However, this time the BMS house was quite full containing us seven rowdy Action Teamers, BMS workers Micah and Christine who are working in Brazil for six months with child protection for PEPE, and Joan and Dave who are in Brazil for a short time to share in churches and check out some PEPEs! It was amazing to see and talk to other English people and Christine took us all under her wing and enjoyed having seven 'children' for the weekend – it was also a novelty to be looked after again! On the Saturday we shared in a service where the Holy Spirit was so evident and we were all touched in one way or another. We led worship, performed a dance and a different drama which we then explained in Portuguese. It was a very special night and the service was followed by cachorro quentes (hot dogs!) and lots of conversation! On the Sunday we returned to Jardim Olinda church which was the first church we visited when we arrived in Brazil and where we sang "Lord, reign in me" in English. We were once again invited to sing at the front – where this time we could sing "Reina em mim" – how far we have come! Apparently this has been the first time Lara has arranged for Action Teamers to share in churches (we have shared in about six in total) and we realise what a privilege it has been to share in such a way and are very grateful to God for it! The time to reflect was very helpful and we were able to see how much God has blessed us as a team and also as individuals. Please pray that we would maximise the time we have left here and also for our hosts who we are preparing to say goodbye to.

### Praise points

- ◆ The continual building of some amazing relationships both inside and out of the church
- ◆ Being able to share in churches
- ◆ Answers to prayer in regards to Bally Funky and Creuza

### Prayer points

- ◆ That we would make the most out of our time left in Brazil – especially a visit we are making to a Brazilian tribe!
- ◆ Energy, enthusiasm and initiative with the kids!
- ◆ As we prepare to return home

### Love Brazil 2 (The Brazil nuts)

*Lisa, Lianne & Sam*