



# QUERENCIA

The Official Newsletter Of Springs Adventist Academy

## International Day



**International Day** is when we get to dress up as people from different countries. It's super fun! We started the day by praying and singing some worship songs. After that, we watched a long cartoon—about 44 minutes—of the VeggieTales version of Noah's Ark. It was pretty funny!

At 9 a.m., we went downstairs to do some last-minute stuff. I was really excited and practically ran down there. Then the Parade of Nations started! We all walked into the gym holding our flags while Mr. R introduced each one and the country we represented: **Bryan** – Portugal; **Avaya & Milliana** – South Korea; **Joy** – Indonesia; **Abigail** – Japan; **Alan** – France; **Brady** – Germany; **Lyla** – Brazil; **Ethan** – Madagascar and Denmark; **Mr. R** – Thailand.

After the Pledge of Allegiance and prayer, each of us got a chance to share some information about the country we represented while standing next to our booth.

We performed this cool 3-minute umbrella dance—it was amazing! We also sang "Jesus Loves Me" in different languages like English, Spanish, Swahili, and Indonesian.

After all the performances, we had the "Taste of Nations," where we got to try food from different countries. My favorite part was playing games that came from the countries we represented and doing the craft where we painted a jar.

Then the awards part started! They gave out participation awards first, then the placement awards. Alan got 3rd place, Avaya got 2nd, and then they called my name for... 1st place! It was so cool!

To finish, I just want to say that Jesus loves you, and it's okay if you don't win. It's really the fun that counts.

--Brady, Grade 6



## Week of Prayer



From October 27–30, we were honored to host Pastor Dave Ketelsen as the guest speaker for our first-semester Week of Prayer. The series of messages was highly impactful, with each day building on the theme of developing a personal relationship with Jesus.

**Monday:** Pastor Ketelsen began by sharing a powerful story of a prisoner whose life was completely transformed after accepting Jesus as his Savior. He emphasized that true freedom comes through faith, regardless of external circumstances.

**Tuesday:** The message focused on God's perspective, reminding us that He looks beyond outward appearances and into our hearts. Pastor Ketelsen encouraged attendees to embrace Jesus as their "forever friend."

**Wednesday:** In a deeply personal testimony, Pastor Ketelsen recounted his own journey of faith, which began in elementary school at an SDA school. He concluded by stressing the powerful and crucial role of frequent and fervent prayer.

**Thursday:** The week concluded with a final message encouraging everyone to develop a closer relationship with Jesus through regular Bible reading and personal study.

– Mr. R

**"My Worst Day Ever": A Narrative Essay of Lyla Morales, Grade 7 Student**

**Appendicitis** is a serious medical condition in which the appendix becomes inflamed. It is a painful **inflammation** and infection of the appendix, a small, finger-shaped organ attached to the large intestine in the lower right abdomen. If not treated promptly, it can lead to a life-threatening infection of the abdominal cavity called *peritonitis*.

One Wednesday night (September 24, 2025), I started to feel a sharp pain in my lower right abdomen. The next day, we went to Cheyenne Mountain Zoo for our school field trip. Just as we were walking up the hill, I felt the pain again—the same sharp pain in my lower right abdomen. I decided not to continue because I couldn't bear it anymore. I met my dad, who came to assist me, and while we were walking back to the parking lot, we had to stop because the pain became unbearable. I even threw up because I also felt nauseous. My mom came and took me home to rest. I vomited for three days.

Then, on Sunday morning, I went to the bathroom, and to my surprise, I saw blood in my urine. I told my mom about it, so she rushed me to the hospital. There, they took my vitals and performed an **ultrasound**. After finding the cause of the pain, we were told to go to Children's Hospital in Briargate for surgery. When we got there, they put me in a room to relax for a bit. My mom and my aunt Marli were there, and later my dad, my two siblings, and our cousin Aby arrived too. My dad was really worried, and I think all of them were worried about my situation. Later, the nurses came in and took me for another ultrasound to see if my appendix was still intact. After that, they sent me back to my room, and we waited until around 4:53 p.m. for my **surgery**.



The medical staff brought me to the operating room and told my aunt and brothers to wait with my other family members. Only my mom was allowed to come with me. My dad left to finish his work so he could spend more time with me later. I got changed, lay down on the bed, and the **anesthesiologist** came to explain how my surgery was going to go. After that, the nurses and other medical staff brought me to the operating room. I was moved to the cold surgery table, and then I drifted off to sleep. When I woke up, I was in a new room and saw my cousin, my mom, dad, and aunt. We talked for a while, then everyone left except my mom. Later, my aunt Roxy, Alan, and Ethan came in, and we talked for a little while. My aunt and mom spent the night with me in the hospital.



I stayed in the hospital for three days. Every day at 12 a.m., they would wake me up to check my vitals, and at 6 a.m., my doctors would come to check on me. At 12 p.m., they would check my vitals again.

On September 30, I woke up to see my grandpa's face. That day, I got permission to go downstairs to see my grandma. Chick-fil-A came to the hospital to cheer up the children, but sadly, not all the kids could come and see them. The mascots weren't allowed to go upstairs, but we still got some cool photos with them. On September 28, one of the doctors told me that I could go home, so at around 5:30 p.m., I said goodbye to the hospital and went home.



Having appendicitis is not a good experience. It's actually a very unpleasant and uncomfortable feeling. Thankfully, the surgery went well, so now I don't have to suffer from that anymore. There's no guaranteed way to avoid appendicitis; however, I would suggest maintaining a healthy lifestyle to help reduce the risk of getting it.

-Lyla, Grade 7



**Vocabulary Words**

**Appendicitis** - a serious medical condition in which the appendix becomes inflamed and painful.

**Inflammation** - Inflammation is a protective response of the body to injury, infection, or other harmful stimuli. It involves the release of cells and chemicals that cause redness, swelling, pain, and loss of function.

**Ultrasound** - ultrasound is a medical imaging technique that uses high-frequency sound waves to create images of internal organs, tissues, and blood flow.

**Surgery** - procedure to remove or repair a part of the body or to find out whether disease is present. Also called operation.

**Anesthesiologist** - an anesthesiologist is a medical doctor who specializes in administering anesthesia to patients before, during, and after surgery to manage pain and ensure patient safety.

**New Swing Pads**

The swings can be used again now that the pads have been replaced. Our students can enjoy swinging without worrying about getting stains on their pants.



**Calendar - November '25**

- 01 - Education Sabbath
- 07 - PTC
- 11 - Veterans Day (No School)
- 14 - Veteran's Day Program
- 21 - Fun Friday
- 24-27 - Thanksgiving Break
- 27 - Thanksgiving Day

**Student of the Month**

**Name:** Joy  
**Grade:** Grade 2  
**Favorite Subject:** Reading  
**Likes:** She likes to wear matching colors



**Newsletter Staff**

- Editor: Mr. Ronald
- Asst. Editor: Ms. Gayle, Brady
- Layout Artist: Lyla
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