



Shepherd's Field
CHILDREN'S VILLAGE
牧羊地儿童村

Heartbeat

January 2018



Joy to the World!

Christmas at **Shepherd's Field Children's Village (SFCV)** was filled with loads of special activities. We had an amazing Christmas party in the Outreach Center for all the children, complete with a visit from **Santa!** He brought a gift for every child, lots of treats, and a yummy birthday cake. Thankful, joyous kids even sang Happy Birthday to **Jesus**, which helped to make it a beautiful holiday celebration.



There were other Christmas events worth mentioning, like the **African Choir** from the **African Outreach Ministry** from the **Beijing International Christian Fellowship**, who visited Shepherd's Field and sang beautiful Christmas songs for the kids and staff. The children also accepted an invitation for a field trip to a beautiful international hotel in Tianjin, where they made Christmas cookies with the hotel staff. And speaking of Christmas cookies, the kids made some here on campus, too – along with our good friends from the **At Cafe** in Beijing. Several other groups of volunteers also came out, and hosted Christmas parties for the kids, and brought presents for everyone. All in all, the children of Shepherd's Field had a very merry Christmas.



Stay connected with us for the latest news, updates, photos and stories from Shepherd's Field.



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Smiles are Good Therapy

Last month we added a couple of smiling faces to our Therapy Program. These two seven-month-old girls – **Cora (Kong Wenxin)** and **Olive (Zhang Rongxuan)** – arrived at Shepherd’s Field in November, and were diagnosed with hydrocephalus, post-operative with shunt placements. Within the few weeks they’ve been enrolled in our program, both girls have begun to make marked improvements in their developmental play skills; core, head and neck control and strength; and socialization skills. Our Therapy and Medical teams will oversee further cranial imaging for the girls in the near future, so we can provide the best possible help for them. Their sweet smiles light us up every day, as we help these cuties begin their therapeutic journey.



Olive



Cora

Tears of Sadness and Joy

In late November, we said farewell to **Jubilee (Li Ruxuan)** and **Winston (Wang Wenxuan)**, both from House of Blessings. They were recalled to their home orphanage in Shiyan, Hubei Province, and will both be missed very much around Shepherd’s Field.

In mid-December, SFCV staff members Tommy and Laura Thompson finalized their adoption of **Meili Beth Thompson**, formerly **Pippa (Yan Yangjia)**. We rejoice with the Thompsons as they welcome Meili into her new Forever Family, but we’re also sad to see them leave Shepherd’s Field and head back to Colorado.



Winston



Jubilee



Meili



Russell James

Russell (Song Xiping) underwent anoplasty surgery for anal stenosis on Dec. 8, and was in the hospital for a week. After a successful operation and several followup examinations, the doctor stated that any fistula surgery can be performed after the Spring Festival.

After treatment in October for stomach inflammation, **Xander (Guang Fujun)** is willing to eat, but not too much. He's willing to exercise, but not too regularly. Since December 11, **Nurse Song** has monitored

Xander's weight, blood pressure and heart rhythm. His weight has remained steady at 35 kg, his blood pressure is normal, and his heart rate is slightly higher. He recently received a

comprehensive examination in **Baiyi Children's Hospital** in Beijing, and no other issues were found except for mild gastritis. The doctor says that Xander's autism complicates his condition, and makes treatment more difficult.



Xander

On December 12, **Hector (Dang Guobu)** was diagnosed with appendicitis, and was immediately transferred to **Baiyi Children's Hospital**, where the doctor arranged for an emergency appendectomy. While recovering from the surgery, Hector caught an upper respiratory infection with a high fever. Please pray for a complete and quick recovery so he can come back home to SFCV.



Hector

The Vocational Center Cooks!

Hungry? Shepherd's Field Public Health Coordinator **Lael Houston** recently introduced our first few students – the older boys of House of Blessings – through a delectable culinary experience. Our young chefs learned how to make homemade, healthy goodies such as stuffed peppers, organic fruit popsicles, tomato soup and meatballs. Soon, the boys will design their own healthy menu. Eventually, all of our school children will learn to cook, which will prepare them for their lives ahead. Lael also teaches Health and Science classes, and always makes them interesting. So far, the kids exploded some balloons using chemical reactions; shattered glass without touching it; and even made "elephant toothpaste"! Our kids are learning how the body works – from the function of the lungs and the importance of not smoking to the importance of brushing one's teeth. Recently, they learned how the heart works, and they'll soon dissect an actual heart in class. *Talk about hands-on learning!*



Is China Calling You?

Do you have a desire to serve special-needs orphans in China? If you'd like to volunteer – or just want more information – please review our current staffing needs, and send us an email at: naomi.preedin@chinaorphans.org.

Medical Professional – Are you a Doctor, P.A., Nurse or other skilled professional who'd like to change children's lives every day of *your* life? If so, Shepherd's Field sounds like your place! We're currently looking for a long-term volunteer to join our Medical Team for at least four to six months, beginning as soon as possible.

Office Worker(s) – We're in need of two office staff – preferably bilingual – to handle administrative tasks, guest relations duties, and organizing children's files and records.

Greenhouse Staff – We have an immediate need for someone to help in our greenhouse and gardens, mainly to tend the flowers and plants around campus.

Teaching Staff – Are you a teacher who's looking to improve the lives of children, while enriching your own? We have an opening on our Little Lamb's School Teaching Staff, starting as soon as possible.

Media Staff – Here's an opportunity to use your website and/or graphic design skills for the cause of Chinese orphans. We're searching for a creative, experienced person to take full responsibility for our website and monthly newsletter.

For more information, please visit the staff page on our website or contact us via email at: naomi.preedin@chinaorphans.org.



We are grateful for your prayers and financial support!

To donate by check:

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