

Step report *Brazil*



Welcome to our first report!

Our first week in Brazil has been an incredible experience! From the moment we arrived, we were welcomed with such warmth and hospitality by Pastor Acácio and his family.

What we we've been up to:

On Saturday, we experienced a Brazilian hypermarket and were very generously fed coxinhas (a popular Brazilian street food made of shredded chicken and cheese wrapped in dough and fried). We were practically rolllllling out of there!

We celebrated Summer's birthday at church on Sunday, with a Churrasco (Brazilian BBQ) before watching Brazil sadly lose their World Cup match. Although the result wasn't what everyone hoped for, the atmosphere was incredible and definitely something we won't forget. We also had the opportunity to take part in the church service, and it was such a joy to serve alongside the church family.

We've started building a wall! Before we could even begin laying bricks, we had to clear the area by cutting down banana trees with machetes and moving lots of bricks. We were then taught how to lay them ourselves, which was so exciting as we watched the wall gradually take shape. Throughout the week we've made great progress and are officially halfway through! We also got to try some delicious local food and even made a few friends with the local monkeys.



In the hypermarket



Going bananas to make way for the wall!



Great atmosphere, bad score!

Getting to know the local area

We have some free time in the evenings, so we've enjoyed exploring Pindamonhangaba [Ed. I love this place name!]. On Tuesday evening, we heard people playing volleyball and decided to investigate. It turned out to be the Pindamonhangaba volleyball team, who are currently top of their division! They welcomed us onto the court, where we took photos, danced together, and had so much fun. The next evening, inspired by the pros, we played volleyball ourselves and also found an AMAZING pizza place. Once we'd worked out what the menu actually said, we thoroughly enjoyed our meals. 10/10 - would definitely recommend to a friend.



Smile, you've got to move all these!



out and about



With Pastor Acácio

We wrapped the week with a well-earned day off that turned into an unforgettable adventure. Pastor Acácio took us to his land, where we experienced the beauty of the area while also going outside of our comfort zones. The hike was not for the faint-hearted as we found ourselves clutching onto a rope on what felt like a 45° incline just to avoid sliding down! It was incredibly challenging, but also exciting and reminded us of how beautiful God's creation is! To top it all off, we were rewarded with another delicious churrasco, which definitely helped us recover! After a week of serving it was the perfect way to build deeper friendships and create memories that we will never forget.



An adventurous hike!



With the Pindamonhangaba volleyball team



oh yum, a Brazilian churrasco!

Prayer points:

- That God would create opportunities for us to do outreach to the local community
- That our Portuguese would improve and there would be less of a language barrier
- For the project to come together logistically
- A lot of us currently have colds, so pray that our health is fully restored!

Wholehearted mission

Latin Link's verse of the year is from Colossians 3:23, ***"Whatever you do, work at it with all your heart, as working for the Lord..."*** Our 'whatever' can only happen because of your support. Please consider donating to help keep us serving: www.latinlink.org.uk/donate

