



Reaching Taiwans'
Working Class

Johnson's Prayer Partners August 2018

Education Special



First Day of School in New Zealand

The Importance of Education...

Thanks to God, our children so far have been adapting well to changes in their schooling situations. For both Henry and Eva, their first experience of school was Taiwanese school, entirely in Mandarin Chinese. Before we left Taiwan in July 2017, Henry completed grade 3, and Eva completed grade 1. School in Taiwan is very formal and emphasises a lot of memorisation (especially with Chinese characters) and little creative thinking. This type of schooling was wonderful for their Chinese language and for the integration of us as a family into our local community. However, it also placed a lot of pressure on our children, especially in the number of hours expected to be devoted to homework each evening. In addition to local school, for our first couple of years in Taiwan, we had Henry and Eva enrolled in NZ correspondence school (Te Kura) English lessons, so their English ability would not suffer compared to their native-speaking peers in NZ. Once Esme was born, we began to feel under too much pressure as a family, so we stopped the correspondence school lessons. Since returning to NZ, we have been relieved to learn that our children's reading and writing abilities are at an appropriate level for their ages.



Henry and Eva both love their NZ school, a state school in Te Atatu, West Auckland. They are especially enjoying playing sport and other activities. We have decided that on returning to Taiwan, it is best to allow them to continue with Western-style education. Morrison Christian Academy has opened a satellite campus near Chiayi City, for the children of missionaries and for other children who have foreign passports. Morrison uses an American curriculum, but also

requires children to learn Chinese. The Chiayi satellite campus opens on 13th August 2018, initially with about 10 children. They have employed two teachers, one of whom is a Kiwi, Tania Ratu. We are thrilled that our children can have such a quality and tailored education and that we will be able to remain in Chiayi County, where there is such a need to hear the good news of Jesus Christ. In this installment of Johnsons' Prayer Partners we'd like to introduce you to the Morrison Education System in Taiwan. Please Read On!

Morrison Academy

Morrison Academy's purpose statement reads:

‘The purpose of Morrison Academy is to meet the educational needs of the children of missionaries throughout Taiwan’.

Both OMF and other missionaries on the island, can testify to the truth of this statement. Many have said that they would not be able to continue their ministry to the Taiwanese if Morrison wasn't here to educate their children.

The vision of Morrison Academy is that every student will experience a quality, biblically-integrated education, so that each one will be equipped to impact the world dynamically for Christ.

This is indeed a huge task. Morrison is blessed with having a Bible focused curriculum, dedicated Christian faculty as well as mission-centred leadership.

Morrison has three campuses throughout Taiwan in the north, south and middle of the island. A satellite school will open in August to cater for our family and other missionaries in Chiayi County after the need was

brought to the Morrison board. We thank God for His provision of facilities and teachers.

The majority of students who attend Morrison are not missionary kids or even from Christian families. Therefore, it is a mission field for the staff, providing opportunities to speak gospel truths into the lives of the students and witness to their families. We are looking forward to joining this new faith community as a part of our second term in Taiwan.

On the work front ...

It's been a pretty busy couple of months with a number of speaking engagements in churches and small groups in both Chinese and Kiwi contexts. The month of August continues in the same manner. We are also very pleased to announce that our financial goals are slowly being met and at latest count we only have around 10-15% to make up before we can return to Taiwan. Thank you for your ongoing prayers regarding this.

Also in this regard and in terms of education, the last five years at Chinese school have been essentially free of charge for us with the children at public Taiwanese schools. The shift to Morrison next year will however cost us considerably more and this is the bulk of the money we still need to make up before returning to Taiwan.



One of our first Holidays in Taiwan

Prayer Pointers

1. Give thanks that we are slowly reaching our financial goals to return to Taiwan in January 2018.
2. Also give thanks for a relaxing time away over the school holidays.
3. Please pray for continuing speaking engagements this month, that we will continue to build strong relationships and financial partnerships.
4. Give thanks for the two days of regular work that Simon has each week.
5. Please pray that Helen will be building supportive relationships of trust with other women.
6. Give thanks that Simon is growing in God with the help of an experienced spiritual director.
7. Fun times at Sun Moon Lake, Central Taiwan
8. Trust in the Lord with all of your heart and lean not on your own understanding; in all your ways submit to him, and he will make your paths straight. Prov 3:5-6