

VENZ CARL



SEX: MALE
BIRTH DATE: 17/08/2007
SCHOOL: TALISAY
GRADE: 1
FATHER: BENCHOR
OCCUPATION: LABOURER
MOTHER: REMEDIOS
OCCUPATION: HOUSEWIFE
SIBLINGS: 3

Venz Carl and his family live in a small house by the sea. The house was built for them by Mercy in Action, and so it is a lot more stable and comfortable than most of the houses in their neighbourhood. Venz Carl's mother is a housewife and looks after her young children. She is also an active member of Mercy in Action's Source Mum's group, and helps cook the food for all the children on the schooling programme. She has also been involved in Mercy in Action livelihood projects, such as jewellery making. Venz Carl's father works as a construction worker and earns around 1000 pesos a week (£15). The family are very happy that both Venz Carl and his older sister are on the Mercy in Action schooling programme to help with the cost of their education.

Venz Carl's favourite school subject is Maths. He loves to play basketball with his friends and is also a talented dancer. His ambition for the future is to become a Seaman and travel the world.

MAE FLOR



SEX: FEMALE
BIRTH DATE: 22/05/2003
SCHOOL: TABUNOK ELEM
GRADE: 4
FATHER: JOSEPH
OCCUPATION: UNEMPLOYED
MOTHER: SONIA
OCCUPATION: RAG MAKER
SIBLINGS: 5

May Flor, her 5 siblings and her parents currently live in her aunts house, although they are about to be evicted and currently have nowhere else to move too. The house is made of plywood and bamboo. May Flor's father hasn't been able to work for the last two years, due to suffering from a leg injury after falling from some stairs. This leaves May Flor's mother to be the sole earner for the family. She works as a rag maker, so she can stay at home with her young children. This job earns her 100 pesos (£1.50) a day. This is not enough money to pay for everyday essentials, such as food, medicines' and clothing, for the children, and so trying to afford educational expenses is impossible.

May Flor is very happy that she can now go to school without causing more financial pressure for her parents. Her favourite subject is Maths. Her favourite game is called 'Chinese Garter', a sort of Filipino jumping game. She also enjoys dancing with her sisters and friends. When she is older she hopes to attend college and become a teacher.