

7A RESPONDS TO THE TRAGEDY IN HAITI



At end of January, Mrs. Houmaid was discussing with her homeroom, 7A, the tragic situation in Haiti, explaining how the massive earthquake had put the people there in nightmarish circumstances. In response to the class discussion, a couple of students asked if they could do anything to help, so Mrs. Houmaid organized a fundraising activity for them.

After the first day of fundraising, 7A raised over \$250! The following three days, they raised even more—over \$300. In total, over the course of a week, they raised \$670.30—a remarkable accomplishment.

On Tuesday, February 2nd, Alan Barrett, a board member from the local San Antonio American Red Cross, came to visit 7A during DEAR time. He educated the class about Red Cross services, emergency preparation, how they can become volunteers, the situation in Haiti, and how the money they had raised would help those suffering. Students asked lots questions about what is going on in Haiti, and learned a great deal. At the end of his presentation, Mr. Barrett presented the class with a certificate of appreciation, encouraging students to continue with their helping spirit.

When asked what they got from the experience, many students had positive responses. Jacob Flemming said, “Even though it wasn’t our problem, we acted anyway.”

Adding to this idea, Wakai Arreola commented, “Because we’re helping them now, maybe in the future they will help us.”

Christopher Sanchez took a moment to think about the experience—“I hope we can influence others to give and next time help out when there is another natural disaster.”

As a reward, Mrs. Houmaid gave the class a free dress day, but really, 7A’s true reward is the knowledge that they took steps to make a difference in the world.

