

# Education Alive

## Hats Off To Reading!



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Elaborate marches and rallies, fluent reading, spectacular poems and stories, intriguing choral speeches, entertaining songs and jingles, creative banners and hats! How much more extravagant could this year's Reading Extravaganza have gotten?



Students in Canouan celebrating the gift!

In an effort to support the Language Arts curriculum in the Primary Schools, the Ministry of Education hosted one of this year's major literacy enrichment activities dubbed *Hats off to Reading: Celebrate the Gift*. For the second year, schools organized their Hats off to Reading activities and celebrated the gift of reading in fine style.

The purpose of the Reading Extravaganza was to highlight activities and student-centered presentations that exemplify different aspects of the Language Arts curriculum, fostering greater appreciation and enjoyment of reading. Literacy coordinators also used this Extravaganza to showcase the growth of students who are involved in intensive reading programmes.

Generally, the students' presentations were outstanding and their faces expressed the joy of being able to read confidently. Excitement seems to have been in the air as students all around the country

celebrated the gift of reading. One student enthusiastically shouted: "Big up to Reading!"

Though the emphasis of the Extravaganza was each student's ability to read, other areas of student development were exposed during the activities. The Extravaganza brought out the creativity of the students. This could be seen in the hats of various shapes and sizes that were presented. These hats carried motivational slogans and pictures and were made from materials like newspaper, hard-plastic, cardboard and gift wrap paper. One hat even had a drinking straw to quench your thirst while reading! It seems that a lot of thought was put into the creation of the hats. Some students even had President Obama taking time out of his busy schedule to be a part of their celebration!



Students of the Argyle Primary exhibiting their banner

Reading is a productive approach to improving students' vocabulary and word power, as well as developing their communication and mental skills.

The Reading Extravaganza was an initiative of the Department of Language, Literacy and Communication in the Curriculum Unit. Literacy Coordinators and Teachers of the nation's schools must be applauded for their efforts.

## A Reciprocal Gift



**Students of Form 4G2/Dr. JPEM learning to sign**



**Principal (SCSN) & students having fun during activities**

Gifts are regularly exchanged during celebrations and business transactions. However, two neighboring educational institutions have partnered in a mutual and cooperative relationship to share their gifts.

About 25 fourth-formers of the Dr. J.P Eustace Memorial Secondary and students from the School for Children with Special Needs (SCSN) Kingstown are now engaged in a very interesting peer programme. The programme between the two institutions has been designed to foster practical and positive development through partnership.

Since the collaboration began 22<sup>nd</sup> January, 2009, the Dr J.P Eustace Memorial Secondary students have actively engaged in planning and executing activities with the children from SCSN Kingstown. Under the supervision of Krystal Robertson of the Special-Education Division/Ministry of Education, the aforementioned groups interact once every other week for about an hour, during which time they share their talents and skills.

So far, the children with special needs have been learning activities like cycling, steel pan-playing and hair-braiding from the Dr J.P Eustace students, while those from the Dr J.P Eustace have been learning Special Education activities like communicating in sign language. They have been aided by the students of SCSN and their Principal (Ag), Naseem Smith-Williams.

It is expected that the students' interaction would result in a unique sense of camaraderie- one in which each group would reap the benefits of both giving and receiving.

The students of the Dr J.P Eustace Memorial are required to record and write about their new experiences, in the hope of

eventually producing a computer-generated booklet. They are expected to gain new documentation and computer skills.

On the other hand, the students of the SCSN may not be able to put their booklets together using the computer. Nevertheless, they will be given the opportunity of using their creativity to document their experiences. Selecting their own pictures is one way in which they can assist in the production of their booklets.

The peer programme will end with a ceremony in June 2009, during which both sets of students will receive their completed booklets and certificates of completion. By this time, it is expected that each student would benefit from the collaboration.





## Eight (8) Areas Take Precedence...

During the year 2009, the Ministry of Education is focusing on a number of critical areas, in an effort to continue providing quality education in St. Vincent and the Grenadines.

The following are the eight (8) areas taking precedence:

- ◆ Monitoring Teacher professionalism and productivity
- ◆ Crafting the regulations for the teaching service
- ◆ Regulating the Early Childhood Sector
- ◆ Finalizing of policies and manuals relating to discipline in schools, teachers' code of ethics and school management
- ◆ Placing teachers' guides in all curriculum areas in all schools
- ◆ Continuing the programmes to strengthen literacy and numeracy in all schools
- ◆ Strengthening structures to deliver the Caribbean Vocational Qualifications (CVQ) and Competency-Based Education and Training (CBET)
- ◆ Strengthening support structures for students who are challenged physically, mentally, emotionally, inter alia

## A Significant Milestone in 45 lives

Instructors, relatives, friends and well wishers had the opportunity to share in the success of a number of Teachers, as the professionals celebrated a significant milestone in their lives.

Some 45 Teachers were recognized for their hard work and academic achievements at a recent Conferment of Awards Ceremony in Kingstown. Having embarked on an academic journey from January 2007, to December 2008, 45 teachers now hold BA (Hons) degrees in Leadership and Management in Primary Schools from the University of the West of England (UWE), Bristol. Six (6) graduated with first-class honours.

The 45 graduates were fortunate to have benefitted from a programme that was jointly funded by the Government of St. Vincent and the Grenadines and the European Development Fund (EDF).

In his speech, Prime Minister Dr. Hon. Ralph E. Gonsalves expressed his pride in the fact that 100% of the teachers that started the BA programme survived the challenges of the courses and successfully completed the degree requirements, with notable performance, too. Prime-Minister Gonsalves also expressed his excitement in what he deems the realization of the Government's Education Revolution and pledged his commitment to education and to better equipping Vincenians for their roles in the global-knowledge economy.



UWE is one of Britain's most enterprising universities that seeks to establish mutually beneficial partnerships with educational institutions all over the world. The university offers education to students in their home countries and at the UWE campus.

The ceremony for the Conferment of Awards took place at 10 am on Friday, 6<sup>th</sup> March, 2009. It was held at the Kingstown Methodist Church and was attended by Officials from the Ministry of Education, as well as visiting Vice-Chancellors and Professors from the University of the West of England.

## Myth or Merit?

Critics who continue to perpetuate the conception that “Calypso is bad” and “Calypso music is devilish” have been challenged. The Junior Calypso Symposium 2009 sought to destroy some of the perpetual myths that hover around Calypso music and exposed interested Junior Calypsonians to the many merits of the art form.

Fearing being labeled “indecent revelers”, perhaps some students remain skeptical of their own involvement in the Junior Calypso Competition. However, the presenters at the Junior Symposium sanctioned the youths’ involvement in the art form, embracing the theme “Preserving Our Culture through Youth Development”. They portrayed Calypso as constructive and artistic; much more than “boom-boom music”!

To an audience of interested students, Music Teachers and members of the general public, veteran Calypsonian Kenneth “Vibrating Skaes” Alleyne gave insight into the composition of Calypso. He continually emphasized the construction of positive

the students a clear definition of vocal technique and a better appreciation of how delivering Calypsos utilizing good posture may help maintain the normal curvatures of their spines.



Choir Director and Music Teacher Donna Clarke brought a practical approach to vocal techniques. Mrs Clarke stressed the importance of vocal exercises before singing, and then demonstrated a few exciting exercises in which students actively participated. One of the benefits that Clarke’s presentation brought to light was the fact that good Calypsonians are forced to develop keen ears- something students could use to their advantage in areas like listening and dictation in Foreign Languages.

Another veteran Calypsonian, Glenroy “Sulle” Caesar, encouraged the students by telling them that performance has the ability to develop their confidence- the very confidence they need to function in different capacities throughout their lives.

Students thinking of pursuing music professionally were intrigued by the numerous opportunities from which Musicians can benefit from recorded music. Education Officer/ Music, Joffre Venner, sensitized the students to the operations of the music industry. He made mention of the Eastern Caribbean Collective Organization (ECCO), through which Musicians including Calypsonians, would be able to receive income from their music.

In an effort to undermine the influence of existing myths and emphasize the merits of the art form instead, the Ministry of Education has been organizing the Junior Calypso Symposium annually since 2003. It is the Ministry’s hope that more and more students would recognize the personal and cultural value of the art form of Calypso.

The sixth (6<sup>th</sup>) annual Junior Calypso Symposium was held at the Peace Memorial Hall on 14<sup>th</sup> January, 2009. It was organized by the Ministry of Education, in collaboration with the National Cultural Foundation, the Carnival Development Corporation and the SVG Calypsonians’ Association. The Junior Calypso Competition will be held Tuesday, 30<sup>th</sup> June, 2009.



**Group Session at the Symposium**

lyrics, which he said may help to destroy many of the myths regarding Calypso music. Alleyne explained that a Calypsonian is essentially an “Educator”, presented with the opportunity of “educating”, positively impacting the moods of the listeners and possibly influencing behavioral changes through his/her music.

The Symposium helped to outline the various benefits for juniors engaging in Calypso competitions, and Skaes encouraged the children to learn to master the art of writing good Calypsos, as composing good Calypsos is likely to help the students in their approach to English Language Composition (and vice versa).

Enhancing the quality of vocal and stage performance at the junior level was one of the highlights of the Symposium. In his presentation, Curriculum Support Officer/Music Dexter Bacchus gave



## CXC Holds Orientation Workshop

An orientation workshop for teachers of the Caribbean Certificate of Secondary Level Competence (CCSLC) programme was held in St. Vincent and the Grenadines on March 06, 2009.



CCSLC, which caters to the needs of 3rd and 4th form students, is the most recently introduced certificate programme offered by the Caribbean Examinations Council (CXC). The CCSLC examination came on

stream in 2007 and was first written by Vincentian students in 2008.

Based on the generally fair performance of students in the region, CXC assumes that teachers of CCSLC do not fully understand the requirements of the syllabus. Consequently, the workshop addressed areas of weaknesses noted by CXC and particularly targeted the methodology and delivery of CCSLC material.

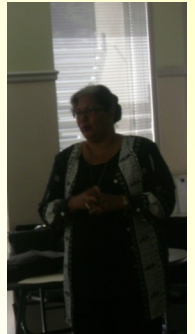
The workshop was facilitated by Mr. Gerard Phillip and Mrs. Cheryl Stephens, two Assistant Registrars for syllabus devel-

opment from the West Zone Office, Jamaica, who have been journeying to several islands.



Referred to as “*The examination that prepares you for life*”, the CCSLC programme prepares the foundation for further education and training. The programme is skills-based, but is just as important as CSEC. The Ministry of Education highly recommends that all 3rd and 4th formers write the CCSLC exams as a first step towards CSEC.

The 2 CXC officials made it clear that CXC is committed to assist in the creation of an ideal Caribbean citizenry. The examining body continues to work towards producing a competent and efficient labour force of persons who will participate fully as productive members of society. The workshop was held at the Service Commission conference room.



## Teachers Access Training

Some 20 Secondary School Graduate Teachers are pursuing an International Postgraduate Certificate in Education (IPGCE) from the University of Nottingham.

The aim of the programme is to improve teaching practices by building new ideas and strategies which are tested out in teachers' own classrooms. More specifically, the programme aims to improve teaching by:

- ◆ Helping teachers to understand their own education system from an international perspective
- ◆ Enabling teachers to become conversant with the basic assumptions, concepts and principles of a range of learning theories and to evaluate their usefulness in specific educational situations
- ◆ Promoting a deeper understanding of a range of teaching strategies

- ◆ Developing expertise in practitioner research
- ◆ Making appropriate use of professional and research literature

The IPGCE consists of four compulsory units which are being delivered through face to face contact and via the internet.

The areas being covered are improving education, theories of learning, approaches to teaching and school study.

The programme is expected to last 12 to 18 months. Upon completion, teachers will acquire 60 credits which could be used toward pursuing an MA degree in Education.

# Modern Languages for Life

“Understanding and appreciating different cultures allows you to think of yourselves as citizens of the world.....Modern Languages prepare you for modern life!”

Sound words of encouragement came from Deputy Chief Education Officer Luis de Shong on the occasion of the opening of the Primary Schools National Oral Presentations. A former teacher of French and Spanish and an avid lover of the languages, Mr. de Shong passionately articulated the value of learning French and Spanish in our modern world.

The Oral Presentations took place in two (2) consecutive sessions- Friday, 20<sup>th</sup> February, 2009 (French) and Friday, 27<sup>th</sup> February, 2009 (Spanish).

At the end of each session, every school was awarded a certificate of participation. Outstanding students and schools also received special prizes for their efforts. Shawnelle McNicholls of the Fair Hall Primary received the award for her performance in French and the Petersville Primary received the award as most outstanding school in the Spanish segment.



**Audience at Spanish Oral Presentations**



**Audience at French Oral Presentations. Shawnelle McNicholls [2nd student from Teacher in the front row] of Fair Hall Primary-outstanding French Presenter**

The National Oral Presentations provided Primary School students across the nation with the opportunity of exhibiting their knowledge and skills in the target languages. Before an audience of students, teachers, officials from the Ministry of Education, parents and well wishers, individual schools presented items based on themes from the French and Spanish curricula. Songs, different types of dances, dialogues and skits were presented, as the students embraced various aspects of French and Spanish cultures.



**Students of the Sandy Bay Anglican School presenting “Le Petit Chaperon rouge”- (Red Riding Hood) at the French Oral Presentations**



**Outstanding School in the Spanish Oral Presentations-Petersville Primary presenting “Al Mercado” (The Market Scene)**

By the end of the presentations, the participating students were challenged to continue to engage in the learning of the modern languages and clearly benefitted from each other’s presentations. The assessors were Mrs. Laure Courier and Ms. Joye Browne for the French segment and Mrs. Harriet DaSilva and Mr. Darrel Williams for the Spanish.

The event was organized by Education Officer/Foreign Languages, Flavia Howard, and was jointly sponsored by the Alliance Française and the Ministry of Education.



## Farewell & Goodbye



As Japanese Volunteer Haruka Kakuwa said “farewell and goodbye”, she left behind something for which she could be remembered.

On Friday, 13<sup>th</sup> March, 2009, one week before departing our shores, Kakuwa met with Senior Education Officer/ Curriculum, Deborah Bacchus, and Education Officer/Home Economics, Ingrid Robinson, to

officially hand over a compilation of recipe cards and an accompanying data CD.

Kakuwa has left the compilation of recipes behind to encourage students “to indulge in the cooking and eating of healthier dishes, rather than the bread and chicken that they seem to eat everyday!” The recipes, which she compiled herself, are unique Vincentian dishes that employ Japanese methods and ideas of cooking.

Haruka Kakuwa came to SVG through the Japanese International Corporation Agency (JICA) and was attached to the

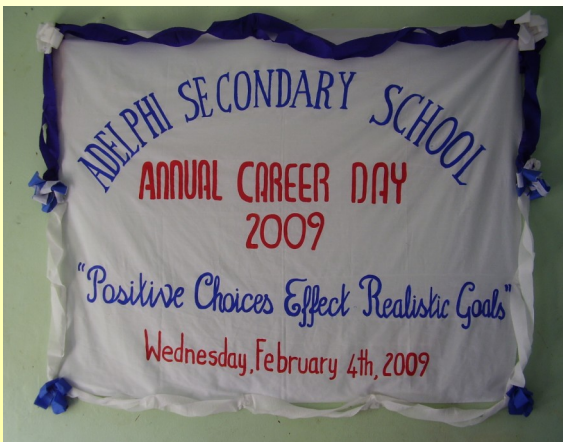
North Union Secondary School as a teacher of Home Economics/Food and Nutrition.

The Japanese enjoyed her stay of 1 year/9 months, as she found Vincentians to be extremely warm and friendly. Kakuwa departed our shores on Friday 20<sup>th</sup> March, 2009, to resume duties as a Teacher in Japan.

**Education Officer/ Home Economics, Ingrid Robinson, reciprocates by handing over a locally made bag filled with seasoning, pepper sauce and other Vincentian condiments**



## Positive Choices... Realistic Goals



The day commenced with an opening ceremony during which the Principal, Mr. Hugh Thomas, addressed the gathering. Thomas challenged the students to be proud of their school and remain focused. The students were also encouraged to see the institution as the best and the Principal took the opportunity to highlight many of the school’s successes in recent years.

“Positive Choices Effect Realistic Goals” was the theme of the Adelphi Secondary School’s Career Day.

With great pride, Thomas reminded the students that the Adelphi Secondary School was presented with a recognition award from the Ministry of Education for being the most improved secondary school in the 2006-2007 academic year.

Also addressing the gathering was Senior Education Officer/Secondary schools, Mr. Carlton ‘C.P’ Hall. Hall encouraged the students to focus and to make their years at school count. The SEO also pointed out to the students the difference between a ‘job’ and a ‘career’. He challenged the students to begin seriously thinking about a career path and to work assiduously to achieve their goals in life.

The students were exposed to careers in various fields such as Media, Agriculture, Tourism, Coast Guard Services, the Police and the Health Sector. The Career Day was held 4<sup>th</sup> February, 2009.





**St. Mary's R.C. School's  
2009 Science Fair**



*“Getting Science Students In Line  
For 2009”*

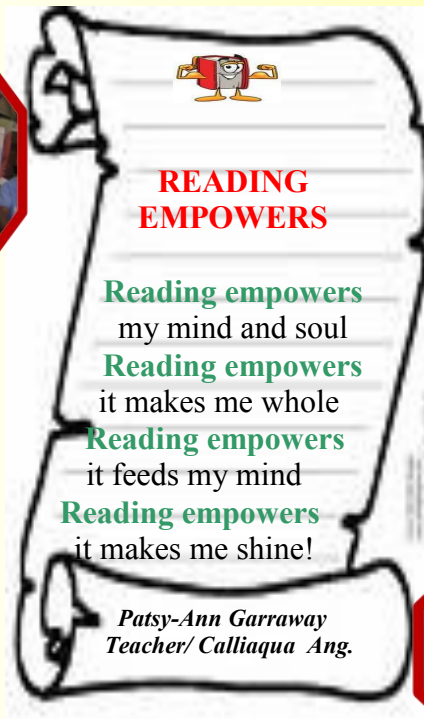




Special Needs Students (K'town)  
Future Photographers and Musicians  
**"YES WE CAN!"**



Students of the CW Prescod Primary  
reading their journals



**READING  
EMPOWERS**

Reading empowers  
my mind and soul  
Reading empowers  
it makes me whole  
Reading empowers  
it feeds my mind  
Reading empowers  
it makes me shine!

*Patsy-Ann Garraway  
Teacher/ Calliaqua Ang.*



Students of the Buccament Primary celebrating the  
gift of reading



A student of the Questelles Gov't  
confidently reads as his teacher looks on



Hats galore at Summit school during their Hats Off To  
Reading Celebration

**HEATS DAY AT PETIT BORDEL  
SECONDARY SCHOOL**



**LEFT:**  
Athlete  
Yurnic Nanton  
in action



**RIGHT:**  
Ready..  
Set...Go!  
Junior  
Sprinters take  
off at full  
speed!



# Netball Action

Fun and games were on the agenda when a number of schools gathered at the Kingstown Netball Center on two different occasions to witness the Vita Malt Secondary Schools' Netball Finals and the Primary Schools' Netball Finals.

Excited spectators electrified both events as they cheered for their teams in the two sets of final matches. The Secondary Schools' finals comprised of two exciting matches- Troumaca Ontario Secondary vs. Barrouallie Secondary in the junior division, and St. Joseph's Convent Marriaqua vs. Dr. JP Eustace Memorial in the senior division. Out of these matches, Barrouallie Secondary emerged junior champions and Dr. JP Eustace Memorial, senior champions.



**The jubilant Dr JP Eustace Memorial team when the final whistle blew, declaring them Senior Champs**

A similar atmosphere to that of the Secondary Schools' Finals was evident as the Layou Government and the Richland Park Government vied for the coveted title of Primary Schools' Netball Champions. When the final whistle blew, it was the Richland Park Government that reigned victorious, a victory they dedicated to the late Larry Bascombe- an outstanding sports enthusiast from their community.



**The 2009 Primary School Netball Champs Richland Park Gov't**

Following the final matches in both the Primary and Secondary tournaments, brief remarks were made by Mr. Elford Charles, Education Officer with responsibility for P.E/Sports, and Hon. Mike Browne, Minister of National Mobilization, Youth and Sports. Charles extended congratulations to the winning teams and used the opportunity to thank all the stakeholders who collaborated to bring about successful tournaments. Minister Browne spoke about the importance of Netball, but further emphasized the importance of academics as its complement. Charles (speaking on behalf of the Minister of Education) and Minister Browne both pledged their Ministries' continued support to the P.E/Sports programme.



**2009 Junior Champs/ Vitamalt Secondary Schools Netball Tournament, Barrouallie Secondary School**

Outstanding Netballers and teams were awarded during the presentation ceremonies. Recipients were recognized as being "Most improved player", "Most valuable player", "Player who scored the most goals in the finals" and "Most disciplined team".

Netball, as any organized sport, is a good source of Physical Education and a way for Netballers to build a variety of new skills in playing the game and in other areas of their lives. Besides, playing Netball is a great way to relax and have fun!

The Vita Malt Secondary Schools' Netball Finals and Presentation Ceremony took place 13<sup>th</sup> February, 2009 and was sponsored by St. Vincent Brewery Ltd. The Primary Schools' Netball Finals and Presentation Ceremony took place on 13<sup>th</sup> March, 2009. Both Netball Finals were organized by the Ministry of National Mobilization, Youth and Sports and the Ministry of Education.



## Grammar School Reigns Supreme



After five (5) weeks of intense competition and matches with nail-biting endings, the St. Vincent Grammar School (SVGS) now reigns supreme.

Apart from being awarded the overall champions, the SVGS also swept the award as winner in Zone C and its Sunil Ambris as MVP/Finals (82 runs not out).

The Georgetown Secondary was recognized as placing second in the Tournament and as winner in Zone A, while the Campden Park Secondary emerged victorious as winner in Zone D, with its Ray Charles receiving awards for "Most Wickets" (4.22 runs per wicket) and "Best Bowling Figures in an Innings" (6/O, 8/R, 3/M, 7/W). The other school that was recognized was the Thomas Saunders Secondary, winner in Zone B.

Although the Emmanuel High School Mesopotamia did not receive a team award, team-player Atticus Browne was outstanding during the Tournament. Browne received awards for "Most Runs" (307), "Highest Individual Score" (185 not out) and "Best All Rounder" (307 runs/ 16 wickets).

The final match of the Secondary Schools' Cricket Tournament was held at the Arnos Vale Sports Complex.

The final match of the United Insurance Secondary Schools' Cricket Tournament took place on Wednesday, 25<sup>th</sup> February, 2009, and resulted in the SVGS gaining victory by four (4) wickets over the Georgetown Secondary. Immediately following the Finals, there was a closing ceremony in which the SVGS and other outstanding teams and cricketers were recognized.

## Forward With Confidence

Celebrating yet another year of existence, Happy Days Pre-School continues to move forward with confidence.

In celebration of its 12<sup>th</sup> anniversary, the pre-school held a successful week of activities from Sunday, 1<sup>st</sup> March, 2009, to Saturday, 7<sup>th</sup> March, 2009. Activities included a church service, story-telling day, sports day and picnic at Mount Wynne Beach.

According to the director, Arlene Israel-Browne, the pre-school is a day-time home to 75 children whose ages range from 1 ½ to 5 years. When members of the Education Media Unit visited the pre-school in the heart of the celebration, Mrs. Israel Browne told them that the ultimate goal of the school is to see each child move "forward with confidence", the very motto of the school.

The director said that she feels most rewarded when past students who moved on from Happy Days return regularly, showing visible signs of achievement.

Of the 75 Pre-Schoolers that attend the Happy Days Pre-School, 29 will go off to Primary School this September

(2009). The Ministry of Education is currently collecting data to determine the exact number of children enrolled in child care facilities in St. Vincent and the Grenadines. This will help in the Ministry's estimation of the number of children entering Primary School in September, 2009.

Happy Days Pre-School is located in Level Garden, Kingstown, and is one of the child care facilities registered with the Ministry of Education. Mrs. Cecile Harry is the Education Officer in the area of Early Childhood Development.



## Who We Are...



### Hon. Girlynn Miguel

**Place of Birth:** Mesopotamia, SVG  
**Family:** Widow, 4 children  
**Job Status:** Minister/ Ministry of Education  
**First Job:** Non Graduate Teacher  
**Years of Service:** 40 yrs  
**Religion:** Christian/Roman Catholic  
**Interest/s:** Singing, Netball, Home Management  
**Pastime:** Reading, Art & Craft, Gardening  
**Favourite Book/Song:** *The Bible/Amazing Grace*



### Mrs. Laura Browne

**Place of Birth:** Newtown, Dominica  
**Family:** Married, 6 children  
**Job Status:** Permanent Secretary/ Ministry of Education  
**First Job:** Graduate Teacher  
**Years of Service:** 33 yrs  
**Religion:** Christian/Pentecostal  
**Interest/s:** Music, Reading, Baking, Youth Development, Serving Community  
**Pastime:** Reading, Baking, Knitting  
**Favourite Book:** *The Pigeon Project* by Irving Wallace



### Mrs. Susan Dougan

**Place of Birth:** Colonarie, SVG  
**Family:** Married, 3 children  
**Job Status:** Chief Education Officer/ Ministry of Education  
**First Job:** Non Graduate Teacher  
**Years of Service:** 34 yrs  
**Religion:** Christian/Anglican  
**Interest/s:** Horticulture, Interior Decorating  
**Pastime:** Gardening  
**Favourite Song:** *I'm Your Angel* by Celine Dion

## 'You're Appreciated'

"You are someone special & irreplaceable....Let us continue to build together".

The Ministry of Education gathered at Murray Heights Hotel for a luncheon in honour of the employees. During the gathering on Friday, 13th February, 2009, every employee in the Ministry was presented with a card of appreciation. The card's front cover read "With Sincere Appreciation" and printed inside were the words "You are special and irreplaceable...Let us continue to build together". The cards were signed by the Minister, the Permanent Secre-



tary and the Chief Education Officer.

There was a brief award segment, during which some employees were recognized for their outstanding work ethic. The recipients of the awards were Shanique Lewis/Accounts Division, Erica John/Administration, Marcus Caine/Assessment and Evaluation Unit, Warren Rogers/Assessment and Evaluation Unit and Kenneth King/Adult and Continuing Education.

The employees in the Ministry of Education had an enjoyable time together with food, drinks and awards.





## Climbing The Ladder Of Success

The Ministry of Education congratulates the following persons who gained promotion during the past year.

- ◆ Ms. Yvette Browne - Head Teacher, Gomea Methodist
- ◆ Ms. Carmie Francis - Deputy Principal, Barrouallie Secondary
- ◆ Ms. Olesia Frank , Administrative Officer/Ministry of Education
- ◆ Mrs. Aldia Gumbs-Dyer, Principal (Ag)/Buccament Secondary
- ◆ Mrs. Joy Matthews, Head Teacher/Belair Government
- ◆ Ms. Delia Ollivierre, Head Teacher/Biabou Methodist
- ◆ Mr. Sydney Pereira, Head Teacher/South Rivers Methodist
- ◆ Ms. Marcia Peters, Head Teacher/Lauders Primary
- ◆ Ms. Grocina Richards, Head Teacher/Tourama Government
- ◆ Ms. Yvette Spencer, Head Teacher/Union Methodist
- ◆ Mr. St. Elbert Walters, Head Teacher/Sandy Bay Government

## Educators Retire

After years of quality service in Education in SVG, the following persons have “taken bows” and have joined the esteemed league of retirees.

The Ministry of Education expresses its sincerest thanks for their efforts over the years and wishes them a healthy and happy retirement.

- ◆ Mr. Leroy Alexander, Lecturer/Division of Teacher Education of the SVG Community College
- ◆ Mrs. Margaret Bonadie, Senior Teacher/Kingstown Preparatory
- ◆ Ms. Vedette Bulze, Head Teacher/Barrouallie Government
- ◆ Mrs. Jean Charles , Head Teacher/Stubbs Government
- ◆ Mrs. Yvonne Charles, Senior Teacher/Stubbs Government
- ◆ Mrs. Patricia Duncan, Senior Teacher/Kingstown Preparatory
- ◆ Ms. Jenneth Findlay, Senior Teacher/Belmont Government
- ◆ Ms. Sylvia Findlay, Principal/Campden Park Secondary
- ◆ Ms. Gloria Jack, Education Officer/Career Guidance
- ◆ Mr. Ivo LaBorde, Senior Teacher/Petit Bordel Multi-Purpose Centre
- ◆ Mrs. Wyalene Peters, Graduate Teacher/Campden Park Secondary
- ◆ Mrs. Helen Prince, Principal/Intermediate High
- ◆ Ms. Ursula Sutherland, Senior Teacher/Lowmans Wd Anglican

*To be continued in the next issue ...*



# Schools'



Mustique Primary School  
Mustique  
January 23<sup>rd</sup> 2009

Dear Kentisha,

How are you? I hope you and your family are okay. I am bubbling with joy about this new game I have learnt. Of all the games I know this is my favourite. It is an indoor game. You would be excited to play it. It is called "Two Thumps Up."

This is how it is played. Firstly you have to pick four people and let them stand in a corner. Secondly, you put your head on a table or desk and close your eyes. Thirdly, he/ she puts their hands on the table with thumbs in an upward manner. Someone in the corner has to tap him/her on the two thumbs and then return to the corner. The person has to raise his or her head and guess who tapped the thumbs. If he/she guesses correctly, he/she joins the others in the corner and the person who did the tapping goes to the table/ desk. However if the guess is incorrect, the process is repeated until the guess is right.

I hope you like the game and I hope to see you soon in Bequia.

Your friend,  
Donique

**Donique Lewis**  
**Mustique Primary School**  
**1<sup>st</sup> Place, Literacy Enrichment Writing Competition**

## A Christmas to Remember

I had a wonderful Christmas last year. When I woke up, my sister and I opened our stockings and found lots of candy from Santa. We ate some of the candy while mummy prepared French toast for breakfast. Grandma and grandpa arrived just in time for breakfast. Everyone opened their Christmas crackers first. Everyone laughed when grandma got two purple hair clips in her cracker. After breakfast my sister and I changed into our glamorous Christmas outfits. When we had finished, everyone complimented on how beautiful we looked.

Everybody then opened their fabulous gifts. I mostly liked my new DVD player because our old one broke. Everybody simply loved their gifts. Mummy had to go to work so daddy looked after us. My sister and I watched a movie that we really wanted to watch. Later at night grandma, my sister and I went to Frangipani to have Christmas dinner. It was my first Christmas dinner, so I didn't want to ruin it.

We all ordered the special, which had cranberry sauce on the turkey, delicious stuffing and a few slices of ham. We also ordered the special sorrel drink, it was so tasty. We couldn't forget dessert, so we ordered a slice of marble cake and fruit salad. We went home after that and saw the wreath and Christmas tree were lit up. They looked beautiful, especially from a far distance. We played with our toys and watched a very interesting movie. We went to bed after. It was truly a Christmas to remember.

**Ella Mitchell Sutton**  
**Paradise Primary School**  
**2<sup>nd</sup> Place, Literacy Enrichment Writing Competition**

## A Christmas to Remember

On the eighteenth of December two thousand three, my mother and father were getting ready for Christmas. They told me that Christmas is a very important day and I asked them why? They said that it was the day that Jesus Christ was born. I didn't understand what they were talking about but I still knew that Christmas is a time for giving and getting lots of toys.

On the twenty fourth of December, I thought that Santa Claus was coming but he didn't come, so I went to bed. Christmas came and I was so excited. I checked underneath the Christmas tree and found lots of presents that were for me but most of all I got what I really wanted and it was a bike. I practiced riding it but I kept on falling, falling and falling. It was Christmas night and I had the most delicious dinner a four year old girl could dream of; with cupcakes, ham, fried chicken, breadfruit and codfish, apples and grape juice.

When Boxing Day came I got up before everyone else and I went to box my father in the face but he was not there so I went outside and he was in the garden. He said "Come and help me," so I went and ever since that Christmas, I have never forgotten. Whenever Christmas comes, I always remember that day with my mother and father because that was the last Christmas I spent with them so that is the one Christmas I will remember all my life.

**Semaj Gonsalves**  
**Diamond Government School**  
**3<sup>rd</sup> Place, Literacy Enrichment Writing Competition**





# Corner



## Yeshi and the thief

Once upon a time a girl name Yeshi was walking to school, when she saw a man stealing her friend's parents' tomatoes and potatoes. Yeshi went to hide but the thief saw her and told her if she ever tells anyone about what she saw, he would kill her. Yeshi was so frightened that she said okay and she went back home because she felt really sad that she had to keep it to herself as if she saw nothing at all.

Next day Yeshi went to school and couldn't write properly. Her teacher Miss John asked her what was wrong and Yeshi remembered what the man had said so she said nothing was wrong. Weeks passed by and Yeshi said nothing. One day Yeshi decided that it was time to tell the truth so she went by friend and told them what happened. Her friend's mother called the police and the police searched for the man and arrested him. Before he went with the police, the man told Yeshi that she was not the kind of girl he thought she were. The police told Yeshi thank you very much in helping them capture the man they had been searching for years. They also said that he would be in prison for 20 years.

Sixteen years later, the thief broke out of jail and went looking for Yeshi. By that time, Yeshi was already out of the country with her daughter that she had with her husband. Luckily the thief didn't know where they were so he hid somewhere no one could find him. Probably if he had found Yeshi, he may have killed her as he had told her when she was young.

*Shanelle Lampkin, Age 10  
South Rivers Methodist*

## Nature Girl

Her golden hair is as long as a branch  
She is as tall as the arch at her ranch  
She loves the melody of the bird's call  
As much as she loves the fruit stalls  
She hates the way she pollutes the land  
Just as much as she hates the littered sand  
She is worried about the earth as you and me  
Just listen and be careful and you will see!

*Deiriai Myers  
Grade Six, Windsor Primary*

## Hats off to Reading

Hats off to reading  
It helps me to get the job done  
If I learn to read  
I will be smart indeed.

Reading takes me around the world  
Helps to make a smart boy or girl  
Reading is good  
That's why everyone should.

Hats off to reading is here again  
And making my hat was a real pain  
But it is done  
And it's time for fun in the sun.

*Cruz Halbich  
Grade Three, Windsor Primary*

# What's Happening ???

## APRIL, 2009

- ◆ Child Abuse Prevention & Awareness Month
- ◆ Primary Schools' Social Outreach Day (Leeward)
- ◆ Inter-Schools' Championship Finals
- ◆ Secondary Schools' Volleyball Tournament
- ◆ Secondary Schools' Table Tennis Tournament
- ◆ ECGC Food & Nutrition Finals
- ◆ Finals NIS/MoE Literacy Enrichment Grade 5 Public Speaking

## MAY, 2009

- ◆ Common Entrance
- ◆ Early Childhood Radio Programmes
- ◆ National Child's Month Service and Activities
- ◆ Secondary Schools' Under 15 Cricket Tournament
- ◆ Start of CXC-CSEC & CAPE written exams

## JUNE, 2009

- ◆ Alliance Française 40th Anniversary Art Competition deadline
- ◆ Primary Schools' Football Tournament
- ◆ Primary Schools' Table Tennis Tournament
- ◆ Scotia Bank Kiddy Cricket Tournament
- ◆ Secondary Schools' Social Outreach Day (Leeward)
- ◆ World Population Day

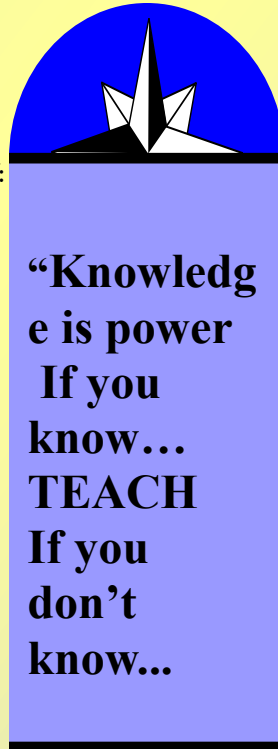
## JULY, 2009

- ◆ CAP Programme
- ◆ Ceremony to honour Retirees
- ◆ Junior Calypso Competition
- ◆ SVGTU/MOE Summer Workshops for Teachers
- ◆ Windward Island Games 2009

## OBITUARIES

The following individuals all functioned in the domain of Education. The Ministry of Education therefore takes this opportunity to express sincere condolences to the bereaved families of:

- ◆ David Glenn- Student/West St. George Secondary School
- ◆ Charles Hercules- Retired Chief Education Officer (Ag)
- ◆ Osonia Jones- Student/Bishop's College Kingstown
- ◆ Shanique King- Student/St. Joseph's Convent, Marriacqua
- ◆ Dionne Nicholls-Matthews- Teacher/Dr. J.P Eustace Memorial Secondary School



## HAPPY COOKING!!! (Fried Rice)

### Ingredients

- 1/2 onion finely chopped
- 1 green pepper finely chopped
- 2 eggs
- 1/2 tbsp chopped ginger
- 1/2 carrot finely chopped
- 2 Sausages
- 2 cups rice
- 3 tbsp vegetable oil
- 3 tbsp soy sauce
- Salt and pepper

### Method

- ◆ Cook rice about 15 minutes over low heat.
- ◆ Heat vegetable oil in flying pan over high heat.
- ◆ Add ginger, onion, green pepper, carrot, and cook about 5 minutes over high heat.
- ◆ Add beaten eggs and cooked rice, cook about 3 minutes over medium heat.
- ◆ Add salt, pepper and soy sauce

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Curriculum Unit/Ministry of Education  
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