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## Incarnation



*Sandy Bay Primary School - Winners of the 2014 Christmas Music Festival*

The Sandy Bay Primary School was awarded the challenge trophy when the curtains came down on the 2014 edition of Christmas Music Festival.

For the 3rd consecutive year, the Sandy Bay Primary School has taken home the challenge trophy, based on the overall quality of their performance throughout the festival. The school received the award for excellence in Music; an award named in honour of Festus Toney - a nation builder and stalwart in the domains of education and music.

Zonal awards were also distributed and the winning schools in this category are:



Sandy Bay Primary School in the Georgetown Zone





Kingstown Prep School in the Kingstown Zone



Bequia Anglican Primary School in the Bequia Zone



Belair Government School in the Calliaqua Zone



South Rivers Methodist School in the Union Zone

The most outstanding instrumental performance was a steel pan duet delivered by the South Rivers Methodist School. The award for most outstanding chorale speech went to the New Prospect Primary School.



New Prospect Primary in the Marriacqua Zone

Sandy Bay Primary School gave the best rendition of the Test Piece and also got the award for best original carol. The best dance production came from the Lowmans Leeward Anglican School.



Lowmans Leeward Anglican School in the South Leeward Zone

Westwood Methodist School in the North Leeward Zone



Sandy Bay Primary School receiving challenge trophy from Jeol Toney

Notable mention awards were presented to St. Mary's RC School, School for Children with Special Needs Kingstown and the Clare Valley Government School.



St. Mary's R. C. School



School for Children with Special Needs Kingstown



Clare Valley Government School

Patricia Baptiste  
Sandy Bay Government School  
Teacher, receiving her award.Ruth Woods  
Tourama Government  
School Teacher  
receiving her award.

Special awards were also given to Patricia Baptiste, a teacher of the Sandy Bay Government School for her outstanding work as choir director and to Ruth Woods of the Tourama Government School for long standing service and commitment to the performing arts.

Christmas Music Festival is a production of the Music Department in the Ministry of Education. The festival started in the 90s and is held annually to provide opportunities for growth in the various performing art-forms.

The grand finale of the Christmas Festival took place on Wednesday December 10, at the Peace Memorial Hall in Kingstown. The festival started in the 90s and is a production of the Music Department in the Ministry of Education.

The other schools that were selected to perform in the Grand Finale were:

1. Calliaqua Anglican Primary School
2. Kingstown Anglican School
3. Richland Park Government School
4. Sugar Mill Academy School
5. Tourama Government School

*Every December, the Ministry of Education stages its Christmas Music Festival. This year, the event was produced under the theme Incarnation. Incarnation is a Christian doctrine, which suggests that God became man in the form of Jesus Christ. In essence, Christmas embodies the idea of incarnation and the festival celebrates such wonders of Christmas!*



## SVGCC Laptops Delivered



*Distribution of Laptops to SVGCC (Division of Technical & Vocational Education)*

First year students of St. Vincent and the Grenadines Community College - Division of Arts, Sciences and General Studies, Teacher Education, and Technical and Vocational Education have received their laptops under the One Laptop per Student project. Details of the distribution follow:

Division of Arts, Sciences and General Studies - 512  
Division of Technical and Vocational Education - 400  
Division of Teacher Education - 77



*Student signing contract before receiving laptop and carrying bag*

Each student also received a laptop-carrying bag and the Operating System 8.0 user book. The distribution of the items took place on 20th and 21st November. Students who registered late for classes will be assigned laptops on 19th December at their campuses.

The Ministry of Education Project Officer, Mrs. Chan-nyatt Ramsamooj, has indicated that the process went

smoothly and thanks all involved for their contribution to the project. She says: "Proper use of the laptops by the students should enhance their skills in information literacy, Internet research and presentation... the laptops have come at the right time for the college students, as they are preparing for their advanced level proficiency exams". Ramsamooj has urged the students to use the tools effectively, in order to enhance their learning outcomes.



*Parents and student collecting the One Laptop per Student package*

The One Laptop per Student initiative is aimed at improving students' and teachers' competencies in adequately using the technological tools. The laptops are intended, not to replace, but to supplement the traditional teaching and learning methods.

Under the project, students in secondary schools also received devices, prior to the distribution at the college level.

## Students Awarded

The government of St. Vincent and the Grenadines continues to provide incentives geared towards improving student performance. One such initiative is the presentation of bursaries to students exiting the secondary and community college levels.

• 2 GCE A'Levels or CAPE passes, plus Communication Studies/Caribbean Studies or GCE General Paper

Payments commenced on Friday 7th November and continued to Friday 21st November.



*Students at SVGCC, Villa Campus*

The Ministry of Education hosted a special ceremony at the Villa campus of the St. Vincent and the Grenadines Community College to present bursaries to eligible students. Prime Minister, Dr. Ralph Gonsalves, presented the bursaries of EC \$500 to students who met the criteria in the Caribbean Secondary Education Certificate (CSEC), the Caribbean Advanced Proficiency Exam (CAPE) and the Cambridge Education Advanced Level exam.



*SVGCC students receiving their awards*

Students must have obtained:

• 5 CSEC passes or more, including English Language and Mathematics



*SVGCC Students receiving their EC \$500*





## Preschools Benefit From Donation

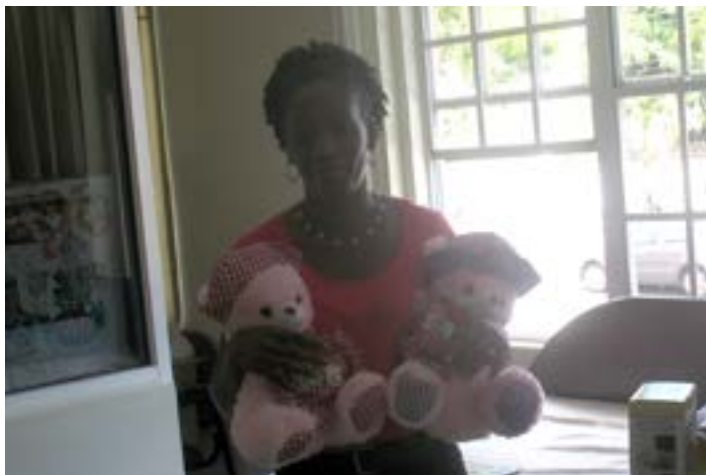
Seven (7) preschools, now have in their possession, supplies compliments UNICEF and the government of Canada.

Due to the adverse effects of the 2014 Christmas Eve floods, the aforementioned donors have provided a variety of items to aid affected children in the resettlement process.



*Church of God preschool, Spring Village - one of the beneficiaries of the donation*

Together, UNICEF and the Canadian government, provided relief support valued at EC \$196,026.00 to affected schools in St. Vincent and the Grenadines.



## White Boards To Enhance Classrooms

A recent donation of white boards is expected to enhance the overall classroom environment at two (2) schools.

On Wednesday 3rd December, twelve (12) white boards were officially handed over to the head teachers of the Clare Valley and Langley Park Government Schools.

Bernardo Norvic, CEO of St. Vincent Brewery (SVB) Ltd and International Director of the Brewery's parent company, made the donation through SVB.



*Handing over ceremony*

Representing Mr. Norvic at the handing over ceremony, Regional Commercial Manager of SVB - Shafia London-Williams said that the health risks associated with the use of chalkboards helped to prompt their decision to donate whiteboards. She said: "As a company, safety and health are priority areas; no financial obligation is greater than the safety of our people". SVB also took into consideration the Ministry of Education's challenge to equip all schools with whiteboards, as they are quite costly. The 12 boards cost over \$US 15,000.



*From L-R: Godfrey James - head teacher/Clare Valley Gov't School, Elva Springer - head teacher/Langley Park Gov't School, Shafia London-Williams of St. Vincent Brewery Ltd and Senior Education Officers - Keith Glasgow and Joycelyn Blake-Browne*

Senior Education Officer (Primary Schools), Joycelyn Blake-Browne, offered thanks to SVB on behalf of the Ministry of Education: "The Ministry of Education appreciates the contribution of the business sector in partnerships where our schools are the recipients of support to enhance their learning environments. Quality education is the hallmark of effective schools and so the Ministry, welcomes the donation of these whiteboards which would support teaching/learning activities".

Head teachers of the schools, Elva Springer (Langley Park Gov't) and Godfrey James (Clare Valley Gov't) also expressed their gratitude for the donation and both said that the items are likely to improve the quality of education delivered at their schools.

## 2014 Schools' Netball Championships

The Arnos Vale Sporting Complex was lit up when the 2014 Inter-Secondary Schools' Tournament and the Primary Schools' Netball Festival culminated with some exciting games, followed by an awards ceremony on Friday 21st November.



*Spectators at the 2014 Netball finals*

The Ministry of Education and the SVG Netball Association are credited for the organization of the championships.

According to First Vice-President of the SVG Netball Association, Mrs. Natasha Stapleton, the Primary Schools' Festival was first introduced in an effort "to make the sport exciting for the young children and to ensure that the fundamentals are developed at an

early age". Schools from all across the nation participated but only 8 schools could advance to the grand finale. Those schools were:

Langley Park Government School  
Cane End Government School  
Questelles Government School  
Layou Government School  
Barrouallie Government School  
Sandy Bay Government School  
Richland Park Government School  
Buccament Government School



*Primary Schools preliminaries round*

### Final Results of the Primary Schools' Netball Festival

1st - Buccament Government School  
2nd - Sandy Bay Government School  
3rd - Richland Park Government School  
Consolation Prize - Barrouallie Government School

Director of Sports in the Ministry of Tourism, Sports and Culture was also present at the finals and addressed the gathering. Hillocks said that the Secondary Schools' Tournament was keenly contested and congratulated all the participating schools. He commended them for their hard work.







Junior finals - Central Leeward Secondary School vs. Bethel High School



Junior 1st Place - Central Leeward Secondary School



Senior finals - Emmanuel High School Mesopotamia vs. Bethel High School



Senior 1st Place - GTM Bethel High School

### Final Results of the Secondary Schools' Netball Championship

#### Junior:

- 1st - Central Leeward Secondary School
- 2nd - GTM Bethel High School
- 3rd - Georgetown Secondary School

#### Senior:

- 1st - GTM Bethel High School
- 2nd - Fast Cash Emmanuel High School Mesopotamia
- 3rd - Central Leeward Secondary School

Shooter with the most goals (junior division) -  
Leanna Henry, Bethel High School

Shooter with the most goals (senior division) -  
Khadija Williams, St. Joseph's Convent Marriagua.

Most valuable player of the finals (junior) -  
Aaliyah Anderson, Central Leeward Secondary School.

Most valuable player of the finals (senior) -  
Nerissa Delplesche, Bethel High School.



## Accreditation News



The American University of St. Vincent accepting their certificate of registration from the Permanent Secretary of the Ministry of Education.

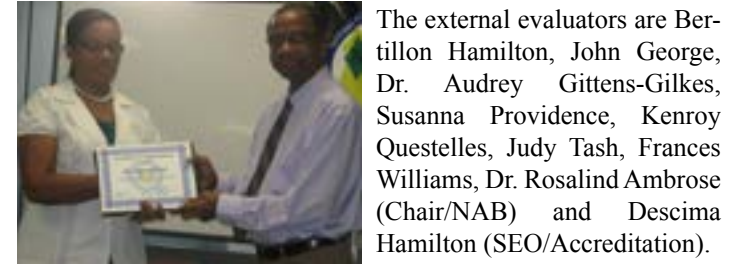
The American University of St. Vincent (AUS) has been issued a certificate of registration, after meeting the required standards.

With registration, the AUS has completed the first stage en route to becoming a fully accredited institution in St. Vincent and the Grenadines. The university must now complete the self-study process, as well as undergo the final site visit phase, in order to fully qualify for accreditation.



Members of the National Accreditation Board (NAB) have expressed their appreciation for the work of the external evaluators in the entire registration/accredi-

tation process. Their role is central. For example, the evaluators are the ones who conduct the site visits, which help to determine important decisions regarding accreditation. Together, the external evaluators span a variety of professional backgrounds and this complements the work of the NAB in a significant way.



The external evaluators are Bertillon Hamilton, John George, Dr. Audrey Gittens-Gilkes, Susanna Providence, Kenroy Questelles, Judy Tash, Frances Williams, Dr. Rosalind Ambrose (Chair/NAB) and Descima Hamilton (SEO/Accreditation).





## Return to Happiness Celebration Day

The Ministry of Education hosted a celebration day for those students who participated in the Return to Happiness (RTH) programme, following the Christmas Eve disaster in 2013.



The RTH programme focuses on reducing children's post-disaster anxieties and re-establishing their sense of joy, security and confidence.

The celebration day was aimed at bringing the children together to celebrate the progress they have made since their unfortunate encounters. The activity took place on Saturday 6th December at the Victoria Park in Kingstown.



## Meet the Team

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*The Voice of the Unit*



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*The Face behind the Designs*



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