

# Education Alive!

Dec 2013



## Christmas Music Festival 2013

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

For the 2nd year, the Sandy Bay Primary School took home the winning 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.

The most outstanding instrumental performance was delivered by Arike Browne of the Clare Valley Government School. The award for most outstanding chorale speech also went to the Clare Valley Government School.

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.

Christmas Music Festival is a production of the Music Department in the Ministry of Education. The festival started in 1990 and is held annually. According to Joffre Venner, head of the music department, "In most cases, the quality of performances that were seen throughout the festival have been greatly improved and we have seen fruits of the music workshops and training programmes. All schools that participated made extra efforts to present something unique and we applaud their hard work and commitment."



Sandy Bay Primary School



**Fourteen (14) schools were selected for the Grand Finale of Christmas Music Festival 2013. These schools presented the most outstanding items in the preliminaries of the Christmas Festival.**

The schools selected for the finals are:

1. Bequia Anglican Primary School
2. Biabou Methodist School
3. Clare Valley Government School
4. C.W Prescod Primary School
5. Georgetown Government School
6. Kingstown Anglican School
7. Lowmans Leeward Anglican School
8. New Prospect Primary School
9. Richland Park Government School
10. Sandy Bay Anglican School
11. School For Children With Special Needs, Georgetown
12. St. Mary's R.C School
13. Stubbs Government School
14. Tourama Government School

These finalists performed in an Exhibition Concert, which took place on Wednesday December 11, at the Peace Memorial Hall, at 1:30 p.m.

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

- **New Prospect Primary** in the Marriagua Zone
- **Stubbs Government School** in the Calliaqua Zone
- **St. Mary's Roman Catholic School** in the Kingstown Zone
- **Biabou Methodist School** in the Union Zone
- **Clare Valley Government School** in the South Leeward Zone
- **Rose Hall Government School** in the North Leeward Zone
- **Bequia Anglican Primary School** in the Bequia Zone
- **Sandy Bay Primary School** in the Georgetown Zone



**SONG** School for Children with Special needs  
(Georgetown) "Today a Child is born"



**CHORAL SPEECH**  
Bequia Anglican Primary



Stubbs Government School



Kingstown Anglican School



Richland Park Government



Georgetown Government School



Biabou Methodist School



Sandy Bay Government School



St. Mary's R.C



Clare Valley Government School



Tourama Government School



Stubbs Government School



Clare Valley Government School



New Prospect Primary School



Lowmans Leeward Anglican School



Sandy Bay Government School



Cross section of Audience



Trophies for Zonal Winner and Special Awards



## Where Every Child Matters

*An initiative aimed at making our schools more “child friendly” has been launched in St. Vincent and the Grenadines.*

The Child Friendly Schools initiative (CFS) addresses quality education at the basic level and embraces the idea of doing everything at school in the best interest of the child. This initiative was officially launched with a ceremony on Thursday, November 28 at the Lodge Village Government School. The ceremony began at 1:30 p.m.

Speaking at the launch, Elizabeth Walker (CFS focal point in SVG) said: “The Ministry of Education is fully committed to the implementation of the principles of Child Friendly Schools in St. Vincent and the Grenadines. These principles promote quality education, as they address the holistic development of children and lead to the realization of their fullest potential, in caring and supportive environments.”



*Mrs. Elizabeth Walker (CFS focal point in SVG)  
Senior Education Officer for Primary Schools  
The Ministry of Education*



*Khin Sandi Lwin  
(UNICEF's representative for the Eastern Caribbean area)*

The CFS model was developed by UNICEF and Khin Sandi Lwin (UNICEF's representative for the Eastern Caribbean area) attended the launching ceremony. Lwin told the gathering that the CFS initiative is a global movement, which was first conceptualized in India almost two (2) decades ago. According to Lwin, one of the elements unique to the Caribbean is the focus on the school being a protective environment where the teachers care. This caters especially for the children who come from homes that are dysfunctional or abusive.



An initiative of the Ministry of Education  
in collaboration with UNICEF



With technical and financial support from UNICEF, the Ministry of Education is now leading the process in making our schools more “child friendly”. Families and communities are also important in the success of CFS in SVG.

# Good Touch Bad Touch

*A number of parents and Early Childhood practitioners have benefitted from a parenting workshop on “Good Touch Bad Touch”.*

The workshop focused on what constitutes good and bad touches, as well as good and bad secrets. It offered support to the “Break the Silence Campaign”, one geared at heightening awareness of the many Child Abuse issues that confront children on a daily basis.

The objectives of the workshop were:

- To promote awareness about the long term impact of Child Abuse
- To provide current information about the protection of small children
- To enhance parenting skills in the field of positive child rearing

“Good Touch Bad Touch” was conceptualized by the Early Childhood Department in the Ministry of Education and was sponsored by the Organization of Eastern Caribbean States Secretariat (OECSS), with technical support from UNICEF. It took place on Thursday, November 28 at the VINSAVE Conference Room.



# Stand-Up (to bullying)

Third Form IT students and Fourth Form EDPM students are asked to use their computer skills to produce a bookmark and a flyer for TECH-GO.



## Prize List

- First place: 16G Apple iPad
- Second place: Samsung Galaxy Pocket Neo
- Third place: Samsung Chat B3350 Phone
- Seven qualifying students: 1 x flash drive each



# Wishing you a Merry Christmas !

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