

Education Alive!

Jan 2014



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Welcome Back to School!

The Aftermath: Responding to the Christmas Eve flash floods

Natural disasters can be very traumatic for children and young people, and the devastation to their familiar surroundings/environments can be long lasting and distressing. Responding appropriately to the needs of children and their families in the aftermath of the recent floods has therefore become a priority of the Ministry of Education.

With respect to the recent flood event, Chief Education Officer, Lou-Anne Gilchrist, says: "Our common aim is to minimize the harmful effects of the floods on the students in our care". The CEO encourages school counsellors and educators to pay special attention to the issues that have arisen and possible intervention strategies. This would help to soften the impact of the disaster on the students and their colleagues who were adversely affected.



Lou-Anne Gilchrist
Chief Education Officer



What can Counsellors/Educators do to help?

1. *Identify students who are high risk and help plan interventions. High risk students are those who:*

- Were exposed to the actual event
- Were displaced from home(s)
- Have been injured during the event
- Have lost loved ones
- Have had a history of previous trauma

2. *Encourage students to talk about disaster related events.*

Response efforts should emphasize effective coping strategies, fostering supportive relationships and helping the children understand the disaster event.

3. *Give support to each other (principals, counsellors, teachers and ancillary staff).* For example, counsellors can provide the other professionals with information on the kinds of signs and symptoms related to students' stress reactions, as well as guidance on how to handle class discussions, etc.

4. *Encourage colleagues to pay attention to their own needs and feelings.*

5. *Make provision for individual counselling, small group counselling and family counselling where possible.*

6. *Ensure that the lines of communication are open and students know that they are free to make self referrals.*

Say NO with TECHGO



The use of Information Technology to harm or harass other people in a deliberate, repeated and hostile manner has become a growing concern worldwide. In this regard, a Cyberbullying Awareness activity dubbed 'Say NO with TECH-GO' was recently organized by the Ministry of Education.

Several third and fourth form students of Information Technology (IT) and Electronic Document Preparation Management (EDPM) engaged in creating electronic documents, namely flyers and book marks. At a presentation ceremony, Education Officer for IT, Chanyatt Ramsamooj, highlighted the purpose of the activity.

"Cyberbullying can have a serious impact on the lives of students who fall victims. The competition will highlight the negative effects of cyberbullying and some ways in which the problem can be best managed. We hope that this competition will help to heighten the awareness among Vincentians at all levels of the community."

Chanyatt Ramsamooj - Education Officer for IT

Meanwhile, Howard Campbell, representing McMillan Education, emphasized the company's main focus and spoke about its involvement in the Cyberbullying activity.

"As a company, McMillan Education actually pushes the frontier of learning and discovery by providing the best content and most innovative content for students, teacher and researchers. These groups of people are at the centre of what we do and we share their passions for transforming lives across the world."

Our involvement in this first staging of the cyberbullying awareness competition, is an indication of our support of the formal education process, but more so for that of community based social transformation."

Howard Campbell
McMillan Education representative



Attimus Charles of Dr. J.P. Eustace Memorial Secondary School was awarded **1st place** for his work and will receive a 16 gig Apple iPad compliments McMillan Education.



Elroy (Jr) Samuel, 3rd place winner also from the St. Vincent Grammar School will receive a Samsung Chat B3350 cell phone.



Kelano O'Neil of St. Vincent Grammar School took the **2nd place** and will receive a Samsung Galaxy Pocket Neo cell phone.



Winners of the cyberbullying Awareness Competition along with, Mr. Howard Campbell (Representative/Macmillan Education) and Mrs. Chanyatt Ramsamooj (Education Officer/I.T at the Curriculum Development Unit)



Students who presented at the cyberbullying Awareness Competition 2014

Onwards and Upwards with ICT

Over thirty (30) educators are well on their way to becoming ICT certified.

The educators, drawn from various primary and secondary schools as well as the Ministry of Education, are enrolled in the Commonwealth Certificate for Teacher ICT Integration (CCTI) program. On Friday January 24, the teachers received certificates for successfully completed core modules. The certificates were presented by Education Officer (IT) and local coordinator of the programme, Mrs. Channyatt Ramsamooj.

The programme requirements indicate that the educators must complete eight (8) modules in total: four (4) core modules and (4) elective modules. Most of them will be completing the four (4) core modules by April, this year.

Over time, the educators are expected to significantly develop their skills and knowledge of Information and Communication Technology (ICT), so as to meet the demands of the 21st century classroom.



The Digital Hour

We are now living in the digital age also known as the information age, the computer age and the new media age. Consequently, the Education Media Unit has created a digital archive of our schools online. The unit is therefore seeking to document details of individual schools and would be grateful for the following information:

1. School Crest
2. Full Name of School
3. Address (location)
4. Names of Principal and Deputy
5. Email Address (es) used by School
6. Telephone Number (s)
7. Brief description and history of School
8. School motto
9. Lyrics of School song
10. School song in audio and/or video
11. Video content (Sports, Singing, etc)
12. School Calendar
13. Two Photo(s) each of the: School (building), Staff, Students in uniforms, etc.

In addition to the above information, please feel free to send us (edumediaunit@gmail.com) information about school activities/events as they happen. Photos and/or videos will also be helpful. Further more, if your school needs a crest, or you wish to make changes to your current one, our Graphic Designer, can assist in the creation of your school crest.

Spotlight

The *Education Alive* newsletter, a monthly publication by the Education Media Unit, will feature a different school every month, starting January 2014. Let us start with Dr. J.P Eustace Memorial Secondary School.

Dr. J. P. Eustace Memorial Secondary School History of the School

The Dr. J. P. Eustace Memorial Secondary School was founded in April 1952 by John Parmenas Eustace. Until September 2005 the school was called the Emmanuel High School-Kingstown and was under the private ownership of the Eustace family. It is a co-educational institution which is now under the full control of the Government and caters to students from 11+ to 18 years. Students are required to undertake the regular five year programme leading to the CXC and GCE O'Level Examinations.

After moving to several locations, the school is currently located at Edinboro, Kingstown. Students are accommodated in an efficacious building consisting of twenty classrooms, music room, computer lab, library and other option rooms.



School General Information

Name of School: Dr. J. P. Eustace Memorial Secondary

School

Address: Lower Edinboro

Contact: Mr. Alwyn Joseph (Principal)

Mrs. Suzette Cupid-Ferdinand (Deputy Principal)

Email address(es): jpemssschool@gmail.com

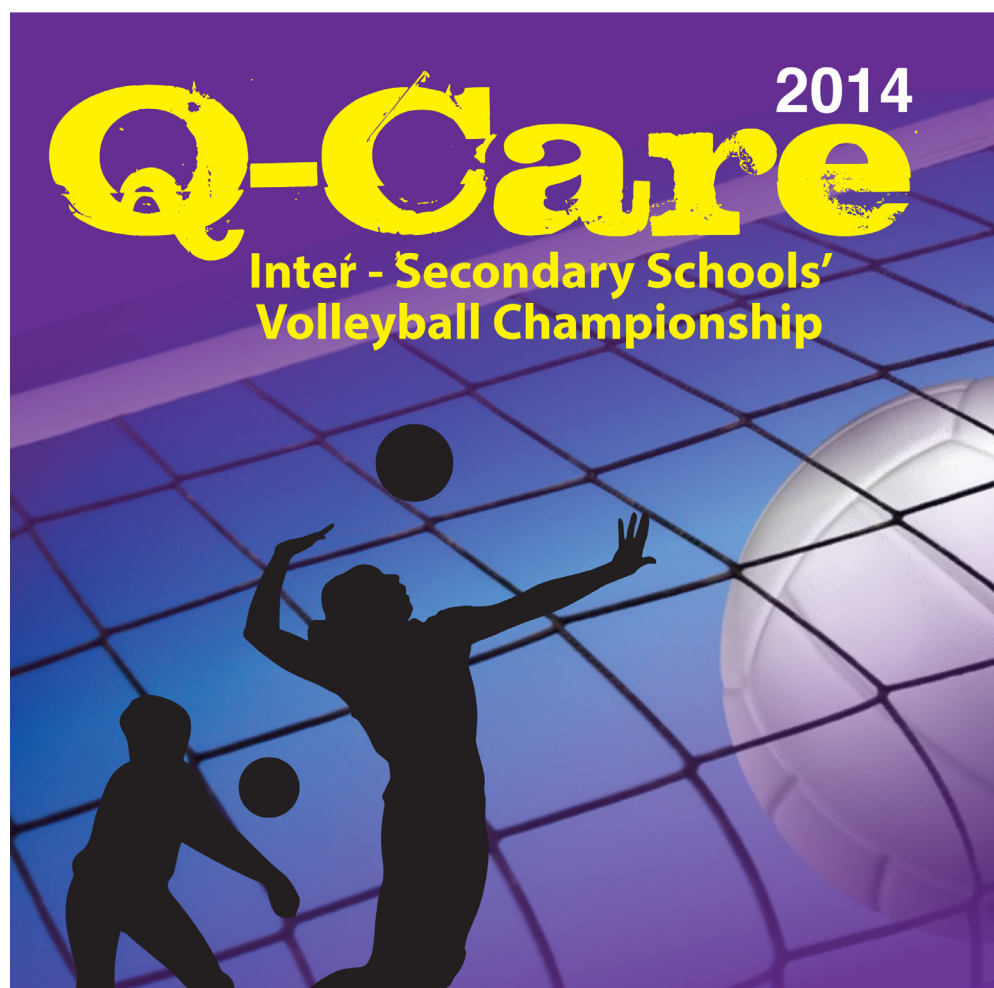
drjpem2.education@mail.gov.vc

Telephone Numbers: 784-457-2495 (Main Office)

784-451-2971 (Counselor's Office)

School's Motto: The Dr. J. P. Eustace Memorial Secondary School is committed to the provision of quality education to students that will enable them to develop academic success, and to be socially responsible and enquiring citizens of the nation.





Defending Champions

Female: St. Joseph's Convent Kingstown

Male: George Stephens Sr Secondary

24th January, 2014 - 28th February, 2014

Inter Secondary Schools Volleyball fixture

ZONE A FEMALES

Convent Kingstown
George Stephen Secondary
GHS
IHS

ZONE B FEMALES

Georgetown Secondary school
Bethel High
Thomas Saunders Secondary

ZONE A MALES

Petit Bordel Secondary
George Stephen Secondary
Bequia Community High
IHS

ZONE B MALES

Georgetown Secondary school
Bethel High
Thomas Saunders Secondary
Dr. JP Eustace Memorial

All teams are required to be at the venue atleast 15 minutes in advance.

Stimulation Today for Success Tomorrow

Continuous efforts are being made to enhance the quality of Early Childhood services in St. Vincent and the Grenadines. To this end, the Early Childhood curriculum is currently being updated to reflect a more balanced approach to Early Childhood teaching and learning.

Developing a stimulating Early Childhood programme, using the *High Scope Curriculum* as a guide, was the focus of a workshop held recently for Early Childhood practitioners. The High Scope approach is one which involves research-validated strategies for young learners. It integrates all aspects of child and youth development and enhances learners' growth in the foundations of academics, as well as in social, emotional, physical and creative areas.

The all-day workshop on *Relating Stimulation to the High Scope Curriculum* comprised some thirty-four (34) participants. They were engaged in discussions and compiled activities that would help in the stimulation of young children, both cognitively and physically. Research indicates that children who participate in well-designed early stimulation programmes perform better in school, are more socially and emotionally competent and experience much higher verbal and intellectual development than other children. Stimulation of the young child, in order that participatory learning takes place, is critical to the development of more active and alert society members who have the capacity for economic and social success.

The workshop was held on Thursday January 23rd, 2014 at the Curriculum Unit's conference room; and Mrs. Jacqueline Robinson-Massiah and Mrs. Roxian Liverpool-Williams were the facilitators.



Mrs. Gwynette Cambridge
(Senior Education Officer/Early Childhood Education)
Welcome and Opening Remarks



Standing: Ms. Jacqueline Massiah (facilitator)



Standing: Mrs. Roxianne Liverpool-Williams (facilitator)

Meet the Team

S.V. G Education Media Unit



Marla Nanton
The Voice of the Unit



Tamara Barrow-Williams
The Equipment Specialist



C. RoseMarie Lewis
The Face behind the Designs



Shaun Millington
The IT Guy

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