

Education Alive



Finding Your Niche

Students were prompted to consider careers that match their interests and abilities, when the Ministry of Education held its 2008 National Career Fair under the theme "Finding Your Niche".

to meet with local, regional and international organizations, whose representatives shared materials, information and expertise.

(Government Ministries).

The National Career Fair was successful in increasing access and dissemination of pertinent career information, in establishing mutually beneficial relationships among all stakeholders, and in exposing students to a broad range of career options.

The Fair was designed to sensitize persons about local, regional and international career options and to help students prepare for the full implementation of CSME.

The Career Fair took place from 10th to 12th December, 2008 and was coordinated by SEO/Secondary schools, Mr. Carlton 'CP' Hall. It was held at the C.W Prescod Primary School and the Peace Memorial Hall. The event was sponsored by LIME.

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A potential Plant Pathologist ?

The main purpose of the Career Fair was to give interested students, as well as potential employees and members of the general public, the opportunity



Students listen attentively to lecture

The Fair featured displays, informational sessions, workshops and virtual fair access.

Participating Agencies included tertiary educational institutions, the Private Sector (Commercial Banks and other private companies) and the Public Sector



A budding Cameraman



Demonstration by SVG Police Force

Christmas Music Festival 2008

The curtains came down, with a big applause, for another of the Ministry of Education's annual Christmas Music Festival. Wednesday, 10th December 2008; marked the successful end of the nation-wide talent exhibition.



Dance piece by Questelles Government School

Performing ensembles were drawn from primary schools in seven (7) zones: Kingstown, North and South Leeward, Calliaqua, Union, Marriqua and Georgetown.

Most performances were witnessed in selected churches- a church in each zone. However, the South Leeward zone's exhibition was held at the Questelles Learning Center and at the Peace Memorial Hall in

the Kingstown zone.

The exhibition featured music in its entirety and was structured in such a way that each school delivered three (3) items.

The first item was a presentation of the test piece titled *What Can We Give to the King*- a melodically simple, but beautiful non-traditional piece. Given that it is neither widely sung nor widely known, it was specifically selected to teach the youngsters something new, something to add to their repertoire.

The schools were also expected to perform a second carol of their choice; and for the third item, they had the options of delivering choral speech, dance, pantomime, instrumental or dramatization.

The performances were all assessed by Music Teacher, Jemelia Pope, and written individual assessments were prepared for distribution to each school. Certificates of participation were handed out to all schools.

Education Officer/Music Joffre Venner said: "Essentially, a festival of this kind is generally

geared at students expressing themselves freely in different aspects of the performing arts, particularly in music".

From its inception in 2001, the Music Festival has been functioning not only as a forum for self expression; but it has also provided opportunities for musical growth and has helped to expand the students' knowledge of our music, as well as the music of other cultures.

The Ministry of Education remains committed to advocating the advantages of music as a subject requiring application and discipline, and continues to ensure that the musical activities in which students engage contribute to their social and emotional development.

The Ministry of Education will continue to organize the annual Christmas Music Festival.



Students of the Calliaqua Anglican School performing set piece

Foreign Languages Workshops

Primary and Secondary school teachers of French and Spanish have undergone training in areas relevant to the teaching and learning of foreign languages.

Between October and December, 2008, a series of eight (8) workshops was held for Heads of Department and instructors of foreign languages. Facilitator, Mrs. Margaret Leacock, examined the CXC and CSEC syllabi, discussed the integration of CCSLC into our national curriculum,

among other things. Discussions regarding classroom management and methodology related to the instruction of foreign languages were also among the highlights of the workshops.

Education Officer with responsibility for Foreign Languages, Mrs. Flavia Howard, coordinated the workshops. In reflection, Mrs. Howard said that the participants found the workshops enlightening.



Participants at the workshops

She also expressed that the information gathered would

assist the teachers greatly in their delivery of classroom concepts and the whole teaching-learning experience.

The training workshops were funded by the 9th EDF, European Union Project and the Government of St. Vincent and the Grenadines. It was part of a project which included the procurement of support materials for schools where foreign languages are offered.

Training In Physical Education

After completing a six week developmental training programme at the G.C Foster College in Jamaica, nine (9) Secondary School Physical Education (P.E) and Sports teachers are now better equipped to impart their knowledge to their students.

The teachers are:

- ◆ Dyke Cato
- ◆ Orlando Charles
- ◆ Godfrey Harry
- ◆ Roger Henry
- ◆ Vernetta Mc Dowald
- ◆ Rolston Morgan
- ◆ Ralph Stowe
- ◆ Westfield Williams
- ◆ Alrick Wright

The training session was conducted during the period June 30th to August 9th, 2008. The teachers participated in intensive theoretical and practical sessions

in four (4) sporting disciplines: football, netball, basketball and track and field. Participants expressed that the training was very educational and rewarding. They also emphasized that the new strategies learnt have made them more confident in the practical areas of the subject.

The teachers had the opportunity to examine pertinent areas related to Sports and Physical Education, for example anatomy, massage and manipulation, and sports management.

Among the many benefits of the training, the P.E/Sports teachers are now more competent in lesson preparation, as well as in ensuring that P.E remains a subject that is student- oriented.

The training programme was designed as a professional development grant with the goal of providing short term training

for teachers to enhance their professional development. The grant was a sub-component of the O.E.C.S Educational Development Project (O.E.D.P) and was funded jointly by the Government of St. Vincent and the Grenadines and the World Bank.

The Ministry of Education invested a total cost of US\$54,000 in the training programme.



Team SVG in Netball action

Climbing The Ladder of Success



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

- ◆ Mrs. Beverly-Ann Jacobs as Principal of the St. Clair Dacon Secondary School
- ◆ Mr. Kenneth Holder as Deputy Principal of the Petit Bordel Secondary School
- ◆ Mr. John Renton as Principal of the Thomas Saunders Secondary School
- ◆ Mr. Dale Ryan as Deputy Principal of the St. Clair Dacon Secondary School
- ◆ Mr. Carlton Hall as Senior Education Officer (SEO) for Secondary Schools

Retired Educators

After years of quality service towards 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.

- ◆ Mrs. Marsha Douglas: Head Teacher/ Dorsetshire Hill Government
- ◆ Dr. Alson Jack: Dean of the Division of Teacher Education of the SVG Community College
- ◆ Mr. Glasley Lewis: Principal/ Thomas Saunders Secondary
- ◆ Mrs. Virginia Liverpool: Head teacher/ Sion Hill Government
- ◆ Mr. Kelvin Malcolm: Dean of the Division of Arts, Science and General Studies
- ◆ Mrs. Rhona Sardine: Vice Dean of The Division of Teacher Education of the SVG Com-
- ◆ Mr. Marcus Caine: SEO/ Assessment and Evaluation
- ◆ Mrs. Gail Davis: Vice Dean/Division of Technical and Vocational Studies
- ◆ Mr. Henry Davy: Head Teacher/Richland Park Government

To be continued in the next issue ...

What's Happening???

Schools' Corner

JANUARY, 2009

- ◆ Reading Extravaganza: Hats Off To Reading
- ◆ Writing Competition
- ◆ Junior Calypso Symposium
- ◆ Secondary Schools Netball Tournament
- ◆ Secondary Schools Under 20 Cricket Tournament

FEBRUARY, 2009

- ◆ Primary Schools Inter-House Athletics Championships
- ◆ Secondary Schools Inter-House Athletics Championships
- ◆ Primary Schools Netball Tournament
- ◆ Primary Schools Modern Language Cultural Presentations
- ◆ Secondary Schools Modern Languages Reading Aloud Competition

MARCH, 2009

- ◆ Primary Schools Under 13 Cricket Competition
- ◆ Primary Schools Zonal Athletics
- ◆ Secondary Schools Under 15 Cricket Competition
- ◆ Secondary Schools Basketball Tournament
- ◆ Primary Schools Public Speaking Competition Finals
- ◆ KARIB CABLE Primary Schools Word-UP Competition
- ◆ Primary Schools Junior Calypso Preliminaries
- ◆ Secondary Junior Calypso and Soca Monarch Preliminaries
- ◆ National Achievement Award Ceremony

The Colours

Yellow as the sun
That's always fun
Pink as the rose
Why blow your nose?
Green as the tree
Why say me?
Blue as the sky
Don't be shy
Red as fire
Don't retire
Black as night
There's no light
Grey as the storm
Don't be alarmed
Red is love
The Lord sent a dove
Brown as the earth
Why be hurt?
Red as the heart
That beats so fast
White as the lamb
That died for you and me..

*By: Brittany Woods, Age 9
Lodge Village Gov't School*

The Boy and the Cat

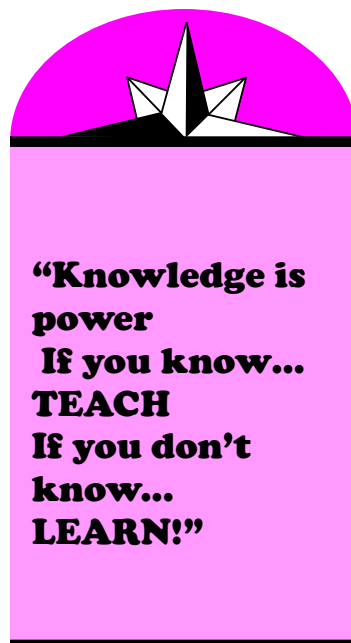
Once there was a little boy who liked to play with cats. One day he saw a cat. He picked it up and carried it home. He bathed, fed and gave it water. He called it Mark..

*Ojayzan Thomas, Age 7
Lodge Village Gov't School*

O B I T U A R I E S

The Ministry of Education acknowledges the sterling contribution made by the following persons in the domain of Education in St. Vincent and the Grenadines. The Ministry takes this opportunity to say thanks and to express sincere condolences to the family and relatives of the following:

- ◆ Mr. Andrew Campbell
- ◆ Mrs. Elmina Durrant-Lynch
- ◆ Mrs. Agnes Isaacs
- ◆ Mrs. Elfreda James-Foster
- ◆ Mr. Errol Hull
- ◆ Mr. Fitz-Allan Woodley



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