

Education Matters Today



Work, Work, Work, Work, Work!

Tuesday 23rd May was all about another type of work for Ivan Dawson Primary School students. Teachers and parents sat back and watched as the careers of aspiring fishermen, fire-fighters, doctors, law-enforcing officers, educators, pilots and even astronauts took flight as Career Day 2017 was celebrated at the school. And like our Caribbean sister Rihanna, there was also a hopeful singer/dancer in our midst.



It was definitely a time for the students to showcase their dreams of becoming someone special who can contribute positively to society. And that they did! They paraded their exquisite costumes to the tune of popular tracks selected by DJ Jedwards.

M'kiyah Turnbull impressed the audience with dance moves and acrobatics worthy of any judge's

10.0 score.

The unifying message from the students was that they wanted to please their customers or help the world to become a better place through helping others.

The Grade 6 students got an opportunity to get real work experience in a variety of fields. They learnt valuable skills in schools, the hospital, courts, government offices, the airport and restaurants across Tortola and Beef Island.

Grade 5 students got a similar experience working alongside their parents or family members. They too learnt useful skills at banks, marinas, restaurants and other establishments on Tortola.

Proud parents couldn't resist posing pictures of their children, beaming with excitement, via Facebook throughout the day.

continued on page 11

Volume 2, Issue 5

June 16, 2017

Education Based On:

- Creativity
- Identity
- Individuality
- Respect
- Kindness
- Fairness
- Structure
- Lifelong Learning

Inside this issue:

<i>CGB Rock Revetment</i>	2
<i>Feeling Blue?</i>	3
<i>Nurses Care</i>	3
<i>Edmodo Empowers Grade 5</i>	4
<i>WhatsApp @ IDPS?</i>	4
<i>Music is Life!</i>	5
<i>Does Therapy Work?</i>	6
<i>Learning Hub Online</i>	8
<i>CPEA by CXC</i>	8
<i>IDPS Rain Garden</i>	9
<i>Congrats Grads</i>	11
<i>Saying Goodbye</i>	12

School Drills for Education Minister

Grade 4 visited the Minister for Education and Culture, Hon. Myron Walwyn, and put him to the test.

The students practiced their interviewing skills, grilling him in a House of Assembly fashion. He acknowledged that they asked him some really tough questions with some interesting follow-ups.



Cayden Maximea presents a gift to Hon. Myron Walwyn on behalf of Grade 4.

Hon. Walwyn, on his Facebook page, remarked that the students are "extremely intelligent" and that he expects great things from each of them.

He also took the time to recognize and appreciate the hard work of Mrs. Shaniqua Vanterpool, our Grade 4 teacher.

continued on page 2

Heaven-Sent Revetment in CGB

The Ivan Dawson Primary School was called upon to participate in the ceremony to launch the Cane Garden Bay Revetment Project on April 11.

Nia Nathaniel, a Grade 6 student of IDPS, spread a message of gratitude and hope to the listening audience and the Virgin Islands, as she eloquently presented the poem, "Heaven-Sent Revetment," written by Mr. John.

Hon. Melvin Turnbull, Hon. Mark Vanterpool and Dr. the Hon. Kedrick Pickering also highlighted the importance of Cane Garden Bay in the context of tourism and the VI economy.

This project, which is intended to protect the Cane Garden Bay roadway, beach from destructive wave action, will cost approximately \$561,000. It is expected to be completed by September 2017 and is a part of the European Un-



ion's Global Climate Change Alliance (GCCA) project on Climate Change Adaptation (CCA) and Sustainable Land Management (SLM) in the Eastern Caribbean (iLand Resilience).



The following is the poem presented by Nia at the launch of the project:

Heaven-Sent Revetment

You continuously visit the Cane Garden Bay shore
Never having enough; always wanting more
Usually as gentle as a soothing lap
But sometimes as crashing waves and a destructive slap.

You see global warming and our seas are on the rise
Claiming our lands and resources as their prize
Storm surge from stronger hurricanes may be our demise
Our actions, then, we must prioritize.

Picture this – marine life, roads, houses, people and beaches must co-exist
But for far too long a certain problem was allowed to persist
We thought of solutions to this coastal difficulty
Today we're gathered for this important ceremony

Our government must protect its people, our land
With the European Union lending a helping hand
With pride we undertake the CBG revetment
To protect our Bay for our livelihood and enjoyment

This is indeed money well spent
This CGB revetment project is truly heaven sent!
May God continue to bless these beautiful Virgin Islands.

School Drills for Education Minister *(cont'd from page 1)*

Hon. Walwyn indicated that Mrs. Vanterpool was genuine and is the 'real deal!' He finished by thanking the students for their gift, which was presented to him on their behalf by Cayden Maximea.

The elated Grade 4 class walked away with gifts of their own from Hon. Myron Walwyn. However, the greatest gift they received on that sunny Monday afternoon was the experience of interacting with their honourable Education Minister in a meaningful and mutually genuine manner.



Hon. Myron Walwyn also showered the Grade 4 students with gifts of his own.

Mrs. Vanterpool wanted the students to get a real-life experience of how the Minister and the Ministry of Education and Culture work, since they had been learning about the Ministries of Government through the Social Studies and Civics curriculum.

We extend sincere thanks to Hon. Myron Walwyn and Ms. Xavyrna Samuels for making this experience for our students possible. We also appreciate his sincere enthusiasm in meeting with the students from the instant it was requested.

Are You Feeling Blue?

Annually, April is designated as Child Abuse Prevention & Autism Awareness Month focused on breaking the silence, calling on the community, families and individuals to speak up and speak out.

Our staff and students proudly participated in the Drive Blue/Wear Blue Campaign organized by the Social Development Department on Friday 28th April 2017, painting Cane Garden Bay blue and standing in solidarity with those who are affected directly or indirectly by child abuse.



In the spirit of giving and recognizing others who are less fortunate, staff members and students also brought canned food items as a donation to the Family Support Network (FSN). This act of giving is intended foster a sense of empathy for others who may be experiencing challenges at this time.

The proceeds of the drive were handed

over to the Family Support Network and will go toward assisting families in the Virgin Islands in dire need.

We recognize that responsible children have a better chance of becoming responsible adults, so we continue to educate our students at the Ivan Dawson Primary School not just for school, but for life.



Nurses - Committed to Care

Apart from their other qualities or responsibilities, what makes nurses extra special is their call and commitment to care.

Nurse Leonice Francis and Nurse Nerissa Donovan visited the Ivan Dawson Primary School during Nursing Week 2017 to spread the passion and love of their vocation.

The students were able to identify that nurses work along with doctors at various health facilities to make people feel better when they are ill or injured.

The nurses educated the students about what it takes to be a nurse in today's society. The students learnt that nurses not only take care of a person's physical, medical and social wellbeing, but they also address their patients' spiritual wellbeing.



They preached prevention over cure, including eating healthy, engaging in physical activity and getting sufficient amounts of rest daily. Most of all, the caring nurses encouraged the students to pray every morning as soon as they awake.

The students left the powerful and interactive session appreciating the fact that nurses take a holistic and caring approach when delivering their services, and that males, too, can become nurses.

We thank Nurse Francis and Nurse Donovan for coming out and sharing their knowledge and passion with us. We also appreciate them for being such caring and sharing nurses. God bless them!

Edmodo Empowers Grade 5



Teaching, learning and life itself will never be the same in Grade 5 since the introduction of Edmodo, an interactive online portal with many features that enhances the learning experience.

In fact, it could be technology infusion at its finest! Ms. Zubida O'Neal discovered this gem of a tool and has been using it to issue instructions, home work and other assignments, which are a part of the continuous assessment programme implemented by the Ministry of Education.

Edmodo allows the users to communicate in real time via its chat and messaging forums. Additionally, students can access videos uploaded by the teacher. For educators, it just gets better. Another of the great features is the grading and monitoring tools, through which the instructor and students can keep tabs on their academic progress.

Recently, the students took online quizzes for the first time. Amid all the excitement and renewed enthusiasm for taking exams, Ms. O'Neal jubilantly reported an increase in student performance, particularly for some of the struggling boys.

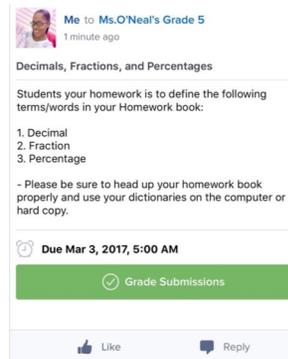
Let's hear what some of the Grade 5 students have to say about Edmodo. Lorne David stated with a smile, "I really love that I can take quizzes on the computer instead of writing on paper!" He immediately reported that he scored 100% on one

of the quizzes he recently took and did really well in another. Shaquan Joseph loves the fact that he can communicate with his classmates on Edmodo.

"It has definitely made life easier in Grade 5!" declared a jubilant Ms. O'Neal as she went on to speak about the exciting things she has been doing with Edmodo. She spoke about students taking polls and data being represented in different forms of graphs instantaneously.

Parents are kept in the loop too, receiving notifications on just about everything that affects the students, and by all accounts, the don't seem to mind too much.

Edmodo effectively transforms a classroom of individuals into a community of learners.



(Left) An assignment posted for students by Ms. O'Neal.
(Right) Lorne David enthusiastically taking an online test.



WhatsApp @ IDPS?

RTW Gives Back



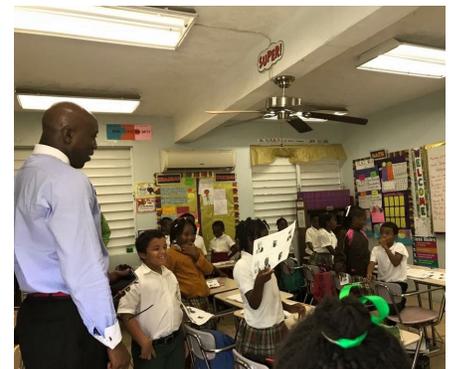
RTW donated several cases of Granola Bars to the teachers and students. This surely complements our push for healthy eating!

The Call to Serve!



Mr. Tittle and Mr. Frazer drops by to lead the general assembly.

Minister Visits IDPS



Hon. Myron Walwyn visits IDPS and interacts with teachers and students.

Music is Life!

Over the years, students at the Ivan Dawson Primary School have been exposed to a myriad of musical experiences, both at school events and within the wider community and Territory.

A recent donation in loving memory of Joan B. DiCola, a former frequent guest to the CGB shores, has been set aside for the further development of music education at the school.

Thus far, the school has invested in percussion instruments that will assist in the delivery of the music curriculum. Other musical equipment will be acquired to support the teaching of music and presentations at assemblies and events.

All of these acquisitions are a part of an overall development plan for our proposed music room and implementation of the Ministry's new music curriculum.

We continue to look for ways to develop the talents of our students and enhance the teaching and learning processes. We always accept and appreciate kind donations such as Joan's, as these go a long way in assisting the school in delivering on its mandate to provide a

quality education, not just for school, but for life.

Other initiatives in the music department include the continuation to the Bells Choir and the implementation of recorder instrument instruction in the Upper-Primary grades—Grades 4 to 6.

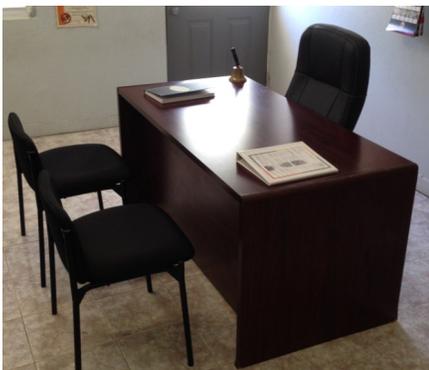


WhatsApp @ IDPS?

Please, Have a Seat!

Money Talks

IMPS Visits IDPS



IDPS receives a donation of two office chairs through requests of Mrs. H. Selwood, our Liaison Officer.



Grade 2 students learn about money (bills and coins)



Isabella Morris Primary School students visit IDPS

Does Therapy Work?

THE THERAPY WORKS BVI, LTD.



School Outreach Newsletter

Signs at School:

Would this child benefit from Physical Therapy?

Children develop and improve their gross motor skills significantly during their early school years, between three and ten years of age. Gross motor skills are involved in movement and coordination of the arms, legs, and other large body parts and movements. They participate in actions such as running, crawling, swimming, etc. A lot of gross motor development occurs at school while playing at recess or doing activities in physical education class. School offers the opportunity to recognize if a child needs extra assistance from a physical therapist in expanding or improving their gross motor skills.

Here are some tips for teachers that will help determine if a child would benefit from physical therapy:

The child prefers to **sit** and play instead of run or participate in gross motor activities during recess or physical education class.

1. The child has an **atypical gait pattern** (for example, they walk on their toes or they are "knock-kneed")
2. The child **prefers to w-sit** (with their knees bent, feet by their bottom, and bottom on the floor) instead of crossed-legged on the floor.
3. The child **frequently trips**, falls, or bumps into objects.
4. When walking up and down the stairs, the child does **not alternate their feet**, instead placing both feet on each step.
5. The child is **unable to catch** or throw a playground ball.
6. The child **runs significantly slower** than his peers or has difficulty running for more than one minute.

The child **complains of pain** or tightness in their ankles, knees, hips, or back.

If you see any of these characteristics in children at school, they may benefit from a **physical therapy evaluation**. Without fully developed motor skills, a child is going to have difficulties keeping up with their peers during regular activities. It will also affect their ability to participate in games and sports. Also, it is important to note that many children will exhibit the above behaviors and may or may not require physical therapy (PT) intervention therefore it is important to consult with a PT first.

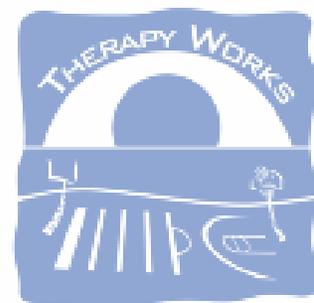


If you have any questions or would like to schedule a consultation, feel free to contact our staff at Therapy Works.

info@therapyworksvi.com

Tortola: (284) 494-4678

VG: (284) 495-5678



Does Therapy Work?



How can Physical Therapy help your child?

Understanding how a child's motor performance develops, and how it is related to the child's cognitive development (construction of thought processes, including remembering, problem solving, and decision-making), is the basis of pediatric physical therapy. The benefits of physical therapy may include:

- Increase and maintain muscle strength and endurance
- Restore and increase joint range of motion
- Increase coordination
- Decrease pain
- Decrease muscle spasm and spasticity
- Decrease swelling and inflammation of joints
- Promote healing of soft tissue lesions
- Prevent contracture and deformity of limbs
- Promote mobility through walking or use of wheeled-mobility
- Increase ability in daily activities such as self-care and play
- Educate patients and family

Would this child benefit from Occupational Therapy?

Occupational Therapy treatment is designed to support a child and their family when they experience difficulties in the following areas:

Fine Motor Skills (smaller movements that occur in the wrists, hands, fingers, and the feet and toes)

- difficulty with manipulating toys and puzzles
 - difficulties with pencil grasp
 - difficulties using feeding utensils at an age appropriate time
 - poor handwriting, letter/number formation
 - difficulties using scissors
 - difficulties with clothing fasteners: zippers, buttons, shoelaces
 - not developing a hand dominance at an age appropriate time
 - difficulties with coloring, drawing, tracing, prewriting shapes
- avoids task and games that require fine motor skills

Movement, Strength, and Balance Development (Gross Motor Skills)

- appears clumsy or uncoordinated
 - difficulty going up and down stairs at an age-appropriate time
 - difficulty with the concept of right and left
 - poor ball skills
 - low/too high muscle tone
 - poor balance
 - fearful of feet leaving the ground
- difficulty coordinating both sides of the body

Sensory Processing

- overly sensitive or heightened reactivity to sound, touch, or movement
 - under-responsive to certain sensations (e.g., high pain tolerance, doesn't notice cuts/bruises)
 - constantly moving, jumping, crashing, bumping
 - easily distracted by visual or auditory stimuli
 - emotionally reactive
 - difficulty coping with change
- inability to calm self when upset

Social Interaction Skills

- difficulty interacting socially and engaging with family and peers
- difficulty adapting to new environments
- delayed language skills
- overly focused on one subject (e.g., space, universe, dinosaurs, trains)
- not coping in the school environment

Learning Challenges

- unable to concentrate and focus at school
- easily distracted
- difficulty following instructions and completing work
- tires easily with school work
- poor impulse control
- hyperactivity or low energy
- not keeping up with workload at school
- difficulty learning new material
- makes letter or number reversals after age seven

Learning Hub Online

Circumstances change, challenges arise and accidents do happen. Imagine being sick and unable to attend school for an extended period of time. Imagine a system that allows you to keep up with your classmates and teachers while away from the classroom for whatever reason.

Now imagine that such a system is literally at your finger tips 24/7. It is! You have just imagined the Learning Hub Online, an eLearning and online test preparation system, which has been implemented by the Ministry of Education and Culture during this term to improve student learning outcome.

Through the Learning Hub Online, Grade 4 to 12 students have access to all of the reading materials for the core subjects at the primary level (Mathematics, English, Social Studies and Science) and all subjects at the secondary level, including CAPE subjects, CSEC subjects, Tourism, Financial Services and Virgin Islands Studies and Civics.



Additionally, the Learning Hub features the following components:

- ★ E-books;
- ★ Tutorial support;
- ★ Live teacher responses;
- ★ Interactive videos and games;
- ★ Mentorship;
- ★ Teacher-led study group forums;
- ★ Student-led study group forums;
- ★ Mock exams; and
- ★ Tech Support.

Parents are encouraged to register their children through their schools at a reasonable cost of \$60 per year to ensure access to this incredible tool.

Contact your principal. **Register today!**



Coming Soon—CPEA by CXC

During the Easter break, principals and teachers gathered to learn about the Caribbean Primary Exit Assessment (CPEA) and its effective implementation.

Starting in the 2017-2018 academic year, Grade 5 students and teachers will venture together through the first year of the two-year CPEA programme offered by the Ministry of Education and Culture through the Caribbean Examinations Council (CXC).

According to the Ministry, this CPEA programme will eventually replace the existing Grade 6 Key Stage Assessment, allowing it to compare the level of achievement of Virgin Islands Grade 6 students with their Caribbean counterparts.

CPEA focuses on the assessment of literacies or skills embedded within the local Virgin Islands curriculum, which



are also required by every student exiting the primary school system throughout the Caribbean.

Therefore, the integration of different subject areas through authentic and real-life projects is an integral component of the programme. Students are also expected to engage in different forms of writing, including book reports, expository writing and story writing.

Students will have multiple opportunities over the two years to meet the outlined CXC standards necessary for the completion of the course.

Assistant Registrars Alsian Brown-Perry and Jodine Williams from the Syllabus and Curriculum division based at the CXC Western Zone Office in Jamaica conducted the training sessions from 3rd to 5th April.

More Rain Gardens in the Forecast?

The local non-profit the Association of Reef Keepers (ARK) has four specific programmes, all with one mission: to ensuring the preservation and sustainability of the Territory's marine resources.

One of the programmes, 'Ridge to Reef' is land-based but has the purpose of working with communities to come up with small projects that will reduce flooding, erosion and sedimentation that can have a negative impact on coastal waters and near-shore coral reefs.

The Ivan Dawson Primary School Rain Garden is ARK's first official Ridge to Reef project since the organisation was restructured a couple of years ago.

Rain gardens have a very simple concept of absorbing pooling water in an area after heavy rainfall, such as off a parking area or driveway, but plants selected will also tolerate periods of drought and direct sunlight. They also have the ability to filter out pollutants

in stormwater as well provide habitat for butterflies and birds. They also bring an aesthetic appeal to a property.

The Ivan Dawson Rain Garden Project was fully funded through a generous donation from Quito & Kim Rymer. Technical support was also provided by the Horsley Witten Group for the design and selection of plants.



Benefits

- > Absorbs excess water during rain storms
- > Filters pollutants
- > Helps protect coastal waters and near-shore coral reefs
- > Provides habitat for birds and insects such as butterflies
- > Attractive feature
- > Requires little maintenance



OPENING CEREMONY
June 6th, 10am



Excavation work started on Saturday 3rd June and the garden began to take shape into Sunday. Whit Monday saw most of the volunteers come out and prove that many hands do make light work indeed!

At the opening ceremony, Mrs. Connie George, Hon. Melvin Turnbull, Mr. Quito Rymer and Dr. Shannon Gore all spoke about the importance of such a feature to the Ivan Dawson Primary School in reducing flooding and called on the students to take ownership of the rain garden and be responsible stewards.

We sincerely thank Quito and Kim Rymer, Shannon Gore and her team and all other volunteers who sacrificed their time and assisted in creating the beautiful rain garden we all are extremely proud of.



Just Cruising Nice Service! School Hopping

Grade 6 students continued their adventures as domestic tourists in the Virgin Islands when they boarded the Norwegian cruise ship on Wednesday 26th April.



Grade 3 students warmed up and learnt a variety terms and skills used in playing volleyball. Within minutes they were speaking about and demonstrating the underhand serve, bump and dig.



Kindergarten students visited Isabella Morris Primary, Leonora Delville Primary, Ebenezer Thomas Primary, Enid Scatliffe Pre-Primary and Enis Adams Primary School to learn more about schools on Tortola.

They met and interacted with the principals, teachers and students at each of the school, noting similarities and difference along the way.



Active Learning @ IDPS

Grade 2 Medics



Grade 2 students operate on their contractions, pulling them apart and stitching them back together again.

Amerindians



Grade 3 students demonstrated their ability to mimic the Amerindians in a hunting ritual. Social Studies rules!

A Movement Lesson

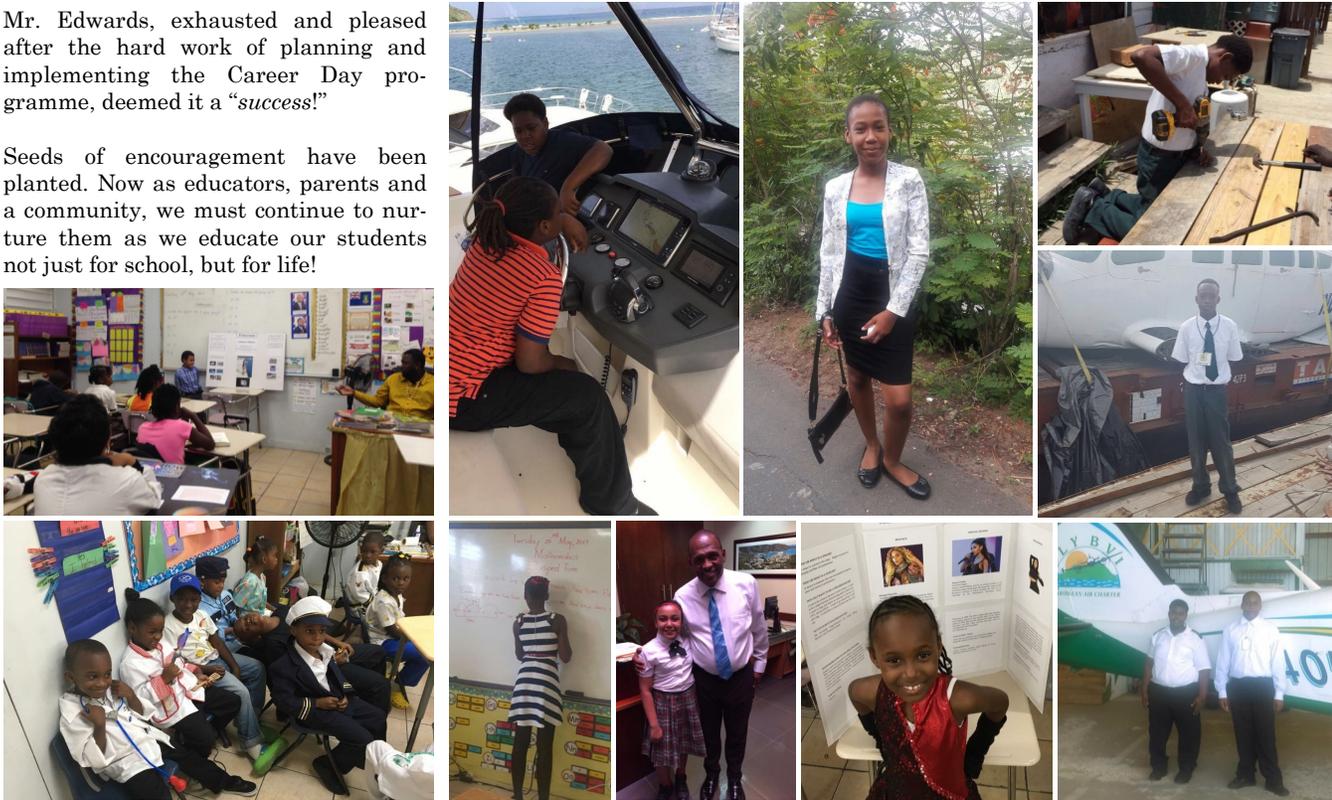


Grade 4 students learn about the Civil Rights Movement as they enjoy a video as a part of an interactive reading lesson.

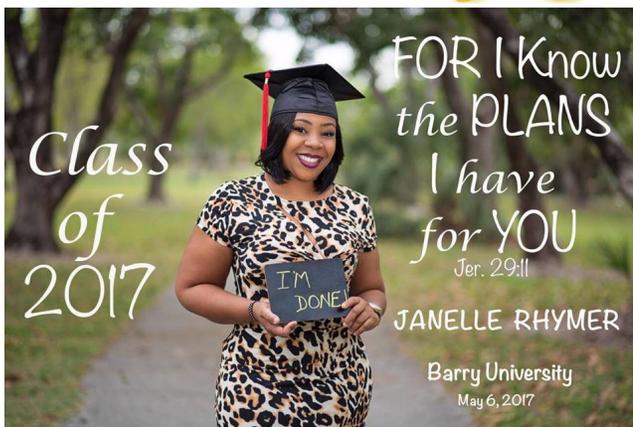
Work, Work, Work, Work, Work!

Mr. Edwards, exhausted and pleased after the hard work of planning and implementing the Career Day programme, deemed it a “success!”

Seeds of encouragement have been planted. Now as educators, parents and a community, we must continue to nurture them as we educate our students not just for school, but for life!



Congratulations



The Ivan Dawson Primary School PTA wishes to congratulate Ms. Janelle Rhymer, a former student and teacher of IDPS, for successfully completing her Masters Degree in Science at Barry University.

We also congratulate Ms. Christina Chereymond, a parent and past student, for her achievement of an Associate’s Degree in General Studies—Science at H. Lavity Stoutt Community College.

We wish them both all the best in their future endeavours.

Ivan Dawson Primary School

Cane Garden Bay
Tortola VG1130
Virgin Islands

Phone: 1-284-468-2580
Fax: 1-284-468-2581
E-mail: idpspta@hotmail.com



<https://www.facebook.com/ivandawsonprimary>



Vision

Our vision is to provide a happy, caring and stimulating environment where children will recognize their fullest potential, so that they can make their best contribution to society.

Mission

The Ivan Dawson Primary School's mission is to foster globally competitive students and future leaders by facilitating twenty-first century learning and the development of the whole child.

Motto

Not just for school, but for life!

Saying Goodbye

Saying good bye to a friend is always a difficult thing to do, especially for young primary-school children. Grade 5 students had to face the music of such a task during this term when they wished Nakalia Smith best wishes for her future.

Nakalia had been a student at IDPS for the past few years, but her family's relocation to the United Kingdom forced her to say good bye to her friends, classmates and school mates much too soon.

The Grade 5 students hosted a surprise going-away party for Nakalia before she walked out of the door and school gate for the last time as an IDPS student.

We wish her and her family all the best in the U.K.



Meet Our Team of Educators



We have a hard-working and dedicated team of educators at the Ivan Dawson Primary School.

- Principal.....Mr. Theodore John
- Kindergarten.....Ms. Carren Mactavious
- Grade 1.....Ms. Averoca Smith
- Grade 2.....Mrs. Daveen Leonard-Nibbs
- Grade 3.....Mrs. Suan Millington
- Grade 4.....Mrs. Shaniqua Vanterpool
- Grade 5.....Ms. Zubida O'Neal
- Grade 6.....Mrs. Pamela Hawke
- Music.....Dr. Verna Perkins
- Physical Education.....Mrs. Tyalia Nibbs-Henley
- Spanish.....Mrs. Rosa Alberto
- Guidance.....Mr. Jacob Edwards
- Custodian.....Ms. Mary Chambers
- Zone Leader (Intervention).....Ms. Danika Stoutt

Upcoming Events...

End-of-Term Exams.....12th June
Key Stage Testing.....16th June
Queen's Birthday Parade.....17th June
Grade 6 Results.....19th June
VI Primary Exit Ceremony.....27th June

IDPS Prize-Giving Ceremony.....28th June
Dress-Up Day/Party.....29th June
Report Collection/Close of School.....29th June
Territory Day (Holiday).....30th June
Primary Cheerleading Competition.....1st July