



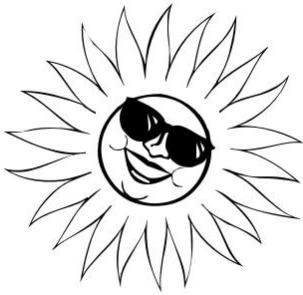
# Mar-Jam Preparatory School

ISSUE #15

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## INSIDE THIS

### ISSUE:

- \*New Registration
- \*Re-registration
- \*School Fee
- \*Events & Dates
- \*Our Graduates
- \*Applause, Applause
- \*Playground Renovation
- \*Reading during the Summer
- \*The Priority of Discipline & Obedience



## NEWSLETTER



JUNE 2007

**Parents & Guardians:** In approximately eleven days we will be ending the 2006 -2007 school year. Where has the year gone? Throughout this school year I have witnessed the students, your children, grow academically and socially. I am so proud of their achievements. I have enjoyed watching teachers, staff, and parents working together to ensure student success!

During the summer, please encourage your children to continue learning by taking them to the library and reading. Practice math facts as you drive in the car. Ask your children thought provoking questions. If you take them to the movies ask them to summarize what the story was about and talk about the important elements of the plot. There are many opportunities for children to continue their learning during the summer and retain skills learned during the school year.

I want to take this opportunity to thank everyone who has given their time to ensure that Mar-Jam Preparatory School continued to strive for excellence:

- a) the parents, who, with direction from classroom teachers, assisted their children with meeting the academic goals established for them by themselves, parents and our school
- b) Mrs. Kathy Buchanan and her team of PTA Executive Board members, who worked very hard, fundraising in order to assist our Music Department with equipment for the upcoming school year
- c) Pastor Wesley Boynes, who has assisted us tremendously with our Guidance and Counselling Programme.
- d) the hard-working academic and maintenance staff, who created for our students and families the productive, warm and inviting school environment that exists at Mar-Jam.

I look forward to working with all of you again next school year! Have a wonderful and safe summer! See you in September!

I

Belinda Lue

Thanks!

**DIRECTORS:**

Mrs. Annette James  
*Clinical Specialist*

Miss Heather Maragh  
*Administrator*

**BOARD MEMBERS:**

Rev. Wesley Boynes - *Chairman*  
Mrs. Kathy Buchanan  
Miss Peta Goldsmith  
Mr. Greg Chong

**ADMINISTRATIVE STAFF**

Mrs. Belinda Lue  
*Principal*

Miss Ethlyn Green  
*Admin. Asst./Bursar*

**TEACHING STAFF:**

Miss Leita Baldie  
Miss Dania Black  
Mrs. Carleen Bygrave-Byfield  
Mrs. Terry-Ann Christie  
Miss Lattamar Coombs  
Mrs. Kesreen Dillon  
Miss Tasha Gordon  
Miss Shirley Hamilton  
Mr. Dwayne Jackson  
Mrs. Sharonda Henry-Jackson  
Mrs. Rosalee Kerr-Ferguson  
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Mrs. Rosemarie McDonald  
Mrs. Michelle McKenzie-Hylton  
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Mrs. Carollyn Patch  
Mrs. Gillian Rose-Bailey  
Mr. John Spencer  
Mrs. Joan Taylor  
Miss Sandra Taylor  
Mrs. Karla Ward-Campbell  
Mrs. Vernie Wisdom  
Mrs. Zelpha Rowe- *Spanish*  
Mr. Glenville Graham - *Art & Craft*

**ANCILLARY STAFF:**

Miss Coleen Thompson  
Mr. George James  
Mr. Louis Williams

**ENROLMENTS 2007 - 2008**

Families interested in enrolling their children for the 2007-2008 school year are being encouraged to collect and complete the registration forms.

**REGISTRATION REQUIREMENTS:**

- Birth certificate
- 1 recent passport size picture
- Immunization card
- Registration fee. (\$ 500)
- Completed registration forms
- Copy of Student's most recent report card
- Completed recommendation form

**No registration will be accepted without all of the registration requirements being met.**



**RE-REGISTRATION**  
**FOR THE**  
**2007 - 2008 SCHOOL**  
**YEAR**

All students currently enrolled at Mar-Jam Preparatory School must re-register for the 2007 - 2008 academic year.

Re-registration guarantees you a place in our enrollment for September. A fairly accurate enrollment count prevents overcrowding, helps us plan our budget for the next year, order sufficient resource materials, and hire and/or redistribute teachers as necessary.

The non-refundable re-registration fee for current students is \$100.00 for the first child and \$50.00 for each additional child.

Re-registration ends June 29, 2007.

**SCHOOL FEE**

**The school fees for the new academic school year beginning September 4, 2007 is \$35,000 per term.**

**School fee vouchers will be sent out with the progress reports.**



**\*N.B. All Students will be required to complete a medical for the new school year 2007/08.**

**Medical forms will be sent out with the progress reports.**



**PLAYGROUND**  
**RENOVATION**  
**PROJECT**

The deadline for the returns from the block drive for the playground renovation is June 29. All returns should be taken to the office.

The name of the student who has sold the most blocks will be announced at the Upper-School Prize-Giving Ceremony.

Two beautiful gift baskets are being raffled to aid in the playground renovation project. Please support us. Tickets are available for only \$50.

**EVENTS & DATES TO REMEMBER**

Class Parties : July 3

Prize - Giving: July 4

K1 - P1 @ 10 a.m. - 12 noon  
P2 - P6 & Unit @ 2 p.m.

This event will be held at the Anglican Church Hall on Milford Road, Ocho Rios.

All students should be neatly dressed in their uniform (khaki & white) and be on time with a parent or guardian.

Valedictory Ceremony: July 5

This event will be held at the Almond Tree Restaurant and Hotel. The ceremony begins at 4 p.m.

***All graduates and Prep 5 students- must be present by 3:30 p.m.***

School Closes: July 6

Collection of Reports: July 25



Orientation: September 4  
(New Students)

Orientation: September 5  
(Returning Students)

K2 - P1 @ 9a.m.  
P2 - P6 @ 12 noon



All parents/guardians must attend orientation.



**TO OUR GRADUATES**

It is an emotional time of the year saying so long to our sixth graders. However, it is a natural process, and we wish everyone the best. We have prepared you well for high school. You have the tools you need to be successful, use them wisely. Please stay in touch and remember to share your future successes with us.

Congratulations:

- David Auden
- Jovanlee Brown
- Leo Carram
- Justin Carrington
- Joshua Clarke
- Brianna DeCarish
- Michaelann Denton
- Dilliano Dillon
- Jade Dobson
- David Fox
- Hitish Giani
- Sashalee Goldson
- Andreanna Grant
- Danielle Green
- Anna-lisa Guthrie
- Elizabeth Jolley
- Melissa Lindsay
- Antonio Mesquita
- Eric Summers-Oertel
- Schamona Pounall
- Naseen Ramsay
- Ashli Randall
- Sumeet Rawtani
- Jodell Sutherland-Seivwright

**CONGRATULATIONS TO ALL OUR GRADE SIX STUDENTS FOR DOING WELL IN THE GSAT EXAMS**



**APPLAUSE, APPLAUSE**

Mar-Jam School was recently awarded the trophy for the **MOST OUTSTANDING SCHOOL IN SPEECH** for the parish in the JCDC Festival Competitions.

Miss Hamilton was also awarded the trophy for the **MOST OUTSTANDING TEACHER IN SPEECH** for the parish in the competition.



**READING DURING THE SUMMER HOLIDAYS**

Your child(ren) will be more ready for school success next year if reading is a regular part of their summer. Little ones love to climb onto the lap of a caring adult to be read to. Even older students benefit from being read to. One thing we know for sure.....*the more you read, the better you get.* Talk to a local librarian or to your child's teacher if you need ideas on how to make summer reading fun.



As you make plans for your summer, please remember that Summer School is a fantastic opportunity for students to cement the learning that has just occurred over the last 10 months as well as help reduce the loss of retention that happens over summer.

## THE PRIORITY OF DISCIPLINE AND OBEDIENCE

Over the past two school terms, I have been visiting all of the classes at Mar-Jam School as a guidance counsellor. The experience has been a really rewarding one for me, during which time I have learnt a lot more about how to effectively manage the strategic development of children.

Let me assure you that the children of Marjam are among the most ambitious and brightest of individuals that I have ever met in my entire life. Their zest for life and for learning has really motivated me to contribute even more towards the development of Marjam as an educational institution of the highest order.

However, one major concern which came out of my interactions with a large portion of the children, is that, many of them are not trained to obey promptly. This does not mean that they are bad kids. It is just a specific lack of development which often times, result in the wasting of precious teaching time in the classrooms and of course the significant increase of stress upon our hard-working teachers. It is a parental oversight or negligence which must be dealt with at home.

In an individual home situation, it might not be so stressful to a parent who is accustomed to arguing with one or two children for fifteen minutes before finally getting them to comply with a parental directive but you can just imagine what is happening when a teacher who in

one class session, has to deal with ten children who has not been trained to obey in a prompt manner.

In my experience over the last two school terms, approximately twenty minutes are lost in each one hour period, just to get children to comply with commands given in the classrooms. This cuts into teaching and learning time and the problem is evident in all of the classes with the exception of P6.

Parents, I think that we need to do better because our precious children deserve better. God expects our children to obey. Saint Paul the Apostle wrote in his letter to the Ephesians 6:1 ***Children, obey your parents in the Lord, for this is right. 2 "Honor your father and mother"-which is the first commandment with a promise— 3 "that it may go well with you and that you may enjoy long life on the earth."***

We need to teach them how to obey and when it is appropriate to ask questions. Learning to obey is a habit which can be taught and can one day save their lives. I hope that this article will motivate all parents to conduct a review of how well their children obey.

Let me end by relating to you an account which was given to me by my mother before she served me with one of those unforgettable hidings on my backside: I was seven at the time and I'll never forget it.

*A missionary in a certain country who had taught his son to obey promptly came outside of the house where they were staying at. His son was outside playing in the yard*

*under a tree. In coming outside, the missionary suddenly commanded his son to come to him at once. The son immediately dropped his toys and ran to his dad. When he arrived, his father told him to look back at the tree. A poisonous snake was hanging down from the branches and was aiming to get at the boy who was not aware. If he had not obey promptly, he would have been bitten and would have probably died.*

It's up to you parents. Have a great summer break and I am looking forward to the return of your children for the new school year. Congratulations to those who did well at the GSAT and are moving on to the high-school experience. I will miss you guys.

Pastor Wesley Boynes.  
Chairman/ Marjam Prep.



**FAIRNESS!**

How many times have we heard the words, "That's not fair!" Fairness is an age-old value as well as a Pillar of Character in Character Counts! We strive to be fair in our dealings with others and teach this value to our children by our actions. They see us and our behavior and imitate the same in their interactions with others. We don't say, "Okay, today I'm going to teach you fairness." It is a value that is instilled through everyday exchanges as we work, play, and communicate with each other.

Children have a great sense of fairness. They learn quickly about even exchanges, but may not always see other factors that come into play. A child may ask why she can't do the same thing as an older sibling. It doesn't seem fair to her that she has to stay home when their older brother or sister gets to go to a movie or has some other privilege. He also may not understand why he has to do more work/chores than his younger siblings. It is important to point out to our children that fairness takes into consideration

other factors besides even exchanges. Such things as age, ability level, and maturity play a big part in FAIRNESS and what is fair for one person or situation may not be what is fair in another situation or for another person. This lesson of fairness is a little more difficult to get our arms around!



**HINT, HINT!!**

Summer is coming, school will be out. Take a rest. Why not try a "road trip". Not a car trip. A road trip is a journey, heading down an unfamiliar road, preferably

one far away from your parish, to learn about new communities. No time schedules, no agendas, no CD

player or DVDs, no need to entertain every waking minute – just looking out the window.

For me road trips are just traveling the open road having the companionship and conversation with those I care about the most – my family. I hope you too find the wonder and pleasure in life's simple things – take a road trip this summer. Enjoy!

