



# ED NEWS / BI-MONTHLY TIDBITS

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**MISSION STATEMENT:** To provide all persons in The Bahamas an opportunity to receive an education that will equip them with the necessary knowledge, skills, beliefs and attitudes required for work and life in a democratic society guided by Christian values.

## MAY HIGHLIGHTS

### Minister Lloyd Touts Pre-Primary Initiative



Minister of Education Jeffrey Lloyd touted the Ministry's Universal Pre-Primary Education Initiative during his recent 2021/2022 Budget contribution. Reiterating the goal of attaining universal pre-primary education by 2025 for all children between the ages of three to five years, he noted that the country is making substantial progress toward that goal. Presently 1,800 children are enrolled in government pre-schools and more than 3,400 are enrolled in 98 private pre-schools nationwide.

### Child Abuse Poetry Competition 2021

The Suspected Child Abuse and Neglect (SCAN) Unit recently held its 12th Annual Poetry Competition for 6th grade students under the theme "Broken Crayons still Colour". The competition saw 172 participants from 27 schools throughout The Bahamas. The winners of the competition were San Salvador natives of United Estates Primary, Reno Kelly and Deshawn Smith, who walked away with first and second place respectively. Close behind in third place was Italia Demeritte of the Beacon School in Grand Bahama.



### Uriah McPhee Primary Students Featured in Art Exhibition



A recent art exhibition dubbed, "Preserving Our Coral Reefs" featured artworks by Uriah McPhee Primary School students. The exhibition commenced with the cutting of the ceremonial ribbon, which was executed by Mrs. Patricia Minnis, Office of the Spouse of the Prime Minister. Third grader Trevon Taylor delightedly explained the process of constructing his coral reef art piece. The school's principal, Mrs. Pamela Armaly, noted that the students' creativity was explored throughout the pandemic. "We had to find unfamiliar ways to achieve our school's objectives," she said. Minister of Education Jeffrey Lloyd and other

cabinet ministers were in attendance. The art exhibition was sponsored by the D'Aguiar Art Foundation.



### GG's Office Presents Tablets to Doris Johnson Senior High

Doris Johnson Senior High School received a generous donation of 109 electronic tablets presented by the Office of the Governor-General on behalf of an anonymous donor. Permanent Secretary Jack Thompson presented the gifts to the school's principal, Mrs. Laurel Lundy on Friday, May 21st, 2021. Minister of Education Jeffrey Lloyd, Permanent Secretary Lorraine Armbrister, and Deputy Director of Education, Julian Anderson and other education officials were present for the ceremony which took place at the school's Prince Charles Drive campus. Minister Lloyd in delivering remarks stated that the governor-general's participation in this donation comes as no surprise, noting that His Excellency Sir Cornelius A. Smith has a history of investment in education, particularly as he is the former Minister of Education. Principal Lundy conveyed appreciation for the benevolent donation, and she thanked the Ministry of Education for leading the charge in ensuring that no child is left behind.

**"Increasing The Graduation Rate From 50% to 85% by 2030"**