

THE ACADEMY

Newsletter
June 2009

The Academy philosophy of education is that all students can learn with a flexible individualized educational programme. Our mission is to bring quality education to students with varied needs including Standard, Gifted, Gifted underachieving, Learning disabled (including ADHD and ASD), Slow, and Demotivated Learners.

SUMMER 2008

The summer term drew to a close with one student entering the swimming competition in the Special Olympics of Jamaica National games, claiming gold medals in both his events.



The highlight of the end of term was a family funday at the Knolford Park Tennis and Polo Ranch, hosted by the Harris family. The staff, students and their families enjoyed a day of swimming, football, tennis and horse-back riding. The more adventurous went out looking for the source of the river that runs through the property. The day was enjoyed tremendously by all who attended.



HURRICANE SEASON 2008

Unfortunately, Tropical Storm Gustav passed through Jamaica just eight days before the start of the school year, and our location became unavailable as a result. We downsized and immediately sought emergency temporary accommodation while waiting for a suitable location to become available.

TEMPORARY HOMES, September 2008 - April 2009

We spent seven weeks in Seymour lands and then five months on Long Lane with Victory Academy. At Victory we were able to benefit from each other, as we exchanged teachers and students for various classes.

A FINAL HOME, April 2009

During the Easter Holiday we moved into our new home at 2 Mannings Avenue, Kingston 8. The physical plant and amenities are superior to any we have experienced before with large purpose built classrooms, a full-sized play-field, outdoor play equipment, a paved multi-purpose court, a large hall and a cafeteria. Renovations and repairs are underway for September. We are happy with this new location and can say that we have finally found a home.



COMPETITIONS 2009

We entered our first prep school level swim competition at the Mayberry Swim meet in February, where we scored points on our first appearance!

Once more, a student participated in the swimming competition at the Special Olympics of Jamaica National Games, in May. He again scored gold in his two events.

The students are now looking forward to the Christmas Term 2009 and its football competitions.

OUR ACADEMIC SUCCESSES

As usual our students continue to surpass their performances in previous school settings. We highlight two cases this year. Each arrived with failing averages, and were assessed at the end of their first and second year with us.

CASE 1

A highly gifted, extreme under-achiever.

SUBJECT	yr 1	yr 2
Mathematics	71	88
English	59	72
Sciences	38	82
Social Studies	40	74
Spanish	42	58
AVERAGE	50	75

CASE 2

A student with ADHD.

SUBJECT	yr 1	yr 2
Mathematics	76	72
English	70	62
Sciences	50	71
Social Studies	62	72
Spanish	64	73
AVERAGE	64	70

LOOKING FORWARD

Now that we have a home we have begun the registration of prospective students for September 2009. We will also be joined by some overseas teachers in the new school year. They will help to expand the existing programme, with their expertise and training.

We trust that with all the improvements made we will continue to achieve our goal: Individual Learning for Individual Success.

Lavinia McClure

Principal

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