



A BETTER FUTURE THROUGH UNIVERSAL BASIC EDUCATION

School starts for teachers and students



Minister James Marape

2011 Welcome Message for teachers and students from the Minister for Education, Honourable Mr. James Marape, MP

It is with great pleasure and anticipation of an exciting 2011 that I welcome all teachers, students, education officers, and parents to the new academic year.

I hope that you have been revitalised after the holiday season, and prepared for the excitement and challenges ahead, with a renewed spirit of commitment and collaboration which will ensure that the national education sector enjoys greater success in 2011.

The 2010 school year, although challenging finished on a strong note, and this was due to the cohesive participation of all

stakeholders, including the national and provincial governments, churches, private citizens, donor partners and non-government organisations.

Let us thank God who has blessed PNG with vast resources to enable our people to become learned, skilled and equipped in self-reliance to contribute equally in the process of local and national development, as well as to participate significantly in global issues.

GOVERNMENT POLICY

In Education, the focus of the Government is to improve access to relevant quality education and training. As stated in the Medium Term Development Strategy Plan the Government will support the implementation of reform aimed at achieving universal primary education. Under the goal of universal primary education all children will be able to complete nine years of basic education and are

skilled to contribute towards economic activities in their communities.

The implementation of the plan began in 2010 where elementary prep to elementary grade 2 was fee free.

We will try as much as possible through the support of other stakeholders to ensure that up to 85% of all school aged children will have access to basic education by the end of the 2019.

This year the National Alliance Government allocated K1.3 billion for the National Education system. This shows the Government's commitment to improving people's lives by funding priority areas of the *Medium Term Development Plan for 2011 to 2015*.

SUPPORT

The Government has also allocated K172 million for education subsidies in 2011.

Out of these subsidies a total of K68.8 million will be used to fully subsidise elementary education in 2011. This expenditure is in line with the government's policy in providing fee free education for the elementary sector.

I want to remind parents that even though elementary education will be fully subsidized, parents and guardians will still be expected to pay for school uniforms and contribute towards the cost of school infrastructure developments and maintenance under the direction and leadership of respective provincial education boards and boards of management.

ACHIEVEMENTS

Education is an active proponent of the Government's policy for building the economy and improving people's lives through strong economic leadership and management.

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Cheats will be punished; Dr. Pagelio

In the last couple of weeks, the media have been reporting allegations of cheating in the 2010 grade 12 national examinations by certain head teachers, teachers involved in marking the examinations and parents.

This press statement is basically to give some background information about the administration of the examinations and the actions the Department is taking to respond to the allegations.

A total of 440 Markers were selected by the Measurement Services Branch to mark the 2010 Grade 12 Examinations Answer Scripts for over 13,000 students in the following 9 Subjects: Language and Literature, Physics, Mathematics A, Economics, Mathematics B, Geography, Biology, History and Chemistry.



Dr. Pagelio

The Markers detected synonymous answers in a number of answer scripts in Biology and Chemistry in three schools (Schools A, B and C) and Physics in one school (School D) and stopped marking alleging that all students in those schools cheated in these subjects.

Marking later done in the same week allowed to be completed for data entry and statistical analysis to be carried out to confirm the allegations.

After the data entry, item analysis did not indicate a significant difference to say that every student in each of the school had the same exact responses to each question.

A small group of students may

have cheated as their answers tend to be similar but sketchy. Due to time constraints for selections and certification, all results were processed as normal.

The results if ever inflated will only affect either, Biology, chemistry or Physics. A high grade in just one of these subjects is not possible for University entry as equally good results in other subjects including Language and Literature and Mathematics are prerequisites.

In the mean time the Department of Education is carrying out an investigation to establish the sources of examination security breakdown which may have resulted in the unanimity of answers in the examinations in the three subjects above. Officers and Teachers found to be involved may be disciplined and charged depending on the findings of the investigation.

Teachers must resume as scheduled

The Acting Secretary for Education, Dr Joseph Pagelio has reminded the teachers in all institutions under the national education system that they must resume duty on Monday 31st January, 2011 and that classes will start for students on Monday 7th February, 2011.

The Acting Secretary has also informed all the teachers that they are required by law to complete a Resumption of Duty Summary Sheet (RoDSS) on the first day they resume duty at the school. This activity is important because it will confirm that the teacher has been posted to that school by the National Education Board (NEB) or Provincial Education Board (PEB) and has actually taken up the duty on the position appointed against.

Similarly, filling in of the RoDSS will determine continuity of the

teacher's salary payments for the year. Therefore, it is important the form must be completed accurately.

Dr. Pagelio stressed it is important that the Principal, Head Teacher, Manager or the Senior Teacher who is available on the first day of the school must check to ensure all entries on the RoDSS are completed properly and correctly by all teachers and are signed. The RoDSS must then be forwarded to the Provincial Education Office for teachers in provincial institutions and to the respective Assistant Secretaries at Fincorp Haus for teachers in the national institutions for the forms to be submitted to Payroll and Related Services Branch within the time-frame.

He warned that for those teachers whose RoDSS are not received at Waigani on 28/02/2011, they will receive their last pay on Pay No. 5,

Payday 11/03/2011.

He also said that for those teachers whose Resumption of Duty Summary Sheets are not received at Waigani by the 28/02/2011 will be suspended from the payroll automatically on Pay No. 6 or Payday 25/03/2011.

Dr. Pagelio urged all responsible officers involved in the resumption exercise to ensure all the necessary forms are completed, checked thoroughly and lodged to the respective offices on the dates stated for the school year to start smoothly without interruptions.

He also encouraged the responsible officers in the provinces to obtain detailed information pertaining to 2011 teachers resumption from the Secretary's Circular No. 42/2010 forwarded to the provinces in September, 2010.

TSC caretaker chairman's Message to Teachers

Happy belated New Year to all the teachers throughout Papua New Guinea. You have had an enjoyable festive season and are at your schools as of Monday 31st of January 2011.

The care taker chairman – Teaching Services Commission Jerry Kuhena said the Teaching Service Commission expects to have a staff on strength of approximately 46,000 plus teachers this year.

This is a result of our continuing rationalization efforts as instructed by the government.

He said the teachers will be expected to teach more than 1.5 million students from Elementary, Primary, High and Secondary Schools, Vocational Training Centre, Technical and Business Colleges, PNG National Polytechnic Institute, Calan Institute, Special Resource Centres, Teachers colleges and PNG Education Institute and new community college.

Mr. Kuhena said that all teachers are expected to be dedicated, disciplined and true in educating our children, the future of our country.

He further added by welcoming all the teachers to the 2011 academic year and that each and everyone of them give quality education to

the students.

Teachers are also paid to teach these children and I ask them all to be diligent in carrying out their obligation and responsibilities as teachers to these children and the state.

Teachers in all institutions under the education system resumed duty on Monday 31st January, 2011, he said.

Mr. Kuhena said all teachers are required by law to complete a Resumption Of Duty Summary Sheet (RODSS) on the first day of the school year.

The teachers must first report to the Principal, Headmaster or Manager of the institution to confirm that they are actually posted to that school by the National Education Board or Provincial Education Board.

He said teachers must then complete the RODSS as this form is very important to determine continuity of the teacher's salary payment for the year.

The form must be completed properly and correctly for position numbers, employment number, employee name and date resumed duties are coded.

The care taker chairman said any

errors caused in completing the RODSS will affect teachers' salary.

Mr. Kuhena said the Principal, Head Master, Manager or Senior Teacher who is available on the first day of the school must check to ensure all entries on the RODSS are completed properly and correctly by all teachers and forwarded to provincial education office for teachers in provincial institutions and to respective Assistant Secretaries at Fincorp Haus for teachers in National Institutions.

He also stated that the teachers pay increase for 2011 to 213 is being considered for approval by the salaries conditions Monitoring Committee (SCMC) which upon endorsement will be submitted for approval by Cabinet and he urge all the teachers to keep patient as the government takes careful consideration of the expected increase.

Mr. Kuhena thanked all the teachers for their dedication and all their efforts in the Teaching Service throughout 2010.

He requested all teachers to throw away bad practices and bad thoughts with a changed attitude so that they can experience another successful year.

30 schools in Western Highlands to receive books worth millions

MILLIONS of kina worth of text books will now be delivered to more than 30 schools in Western Highlands, thanks to the Mandan Coffee and Tea plantation.

The text books include encyclopedias, dictionaries, basic readers and national geographic magazines.

The books would be distributed to all schools near the plantation like Kindeng, Mandan and Avi.

The books were brought in from the US and would be delivered to schools which lacked access to books.

The Mandan Tea and Coffee plantation trading as Highlands Arabicas Ltd, through their contacts in US, have helped with the books that could have cost the Education Department more.

Highlands Arabica Ltd shareholder Aarlle Hull said the idea for the

book drive was to provide good education for students.

She said she and her husband Larry had managed to bring in a 40-foot container of books into the country which were donated by people from overseas through the US.

She said more than 75,000 books had been brought in and they had also managed to meet the transport cost of more than K30, 000.

Dr. Pagelio announces term dates

Acting Secretary for Education Dr. Joseph Pagelio has announced the 2011 term and holiday dates for the National Education System.

Dr. Pagelio said that in 2011, Term 1 for all teachers start on Monday, January 31st. During that week heads of institutions sort out enrolments with governing bodies and teachers prepare for the commencement of classes from Monday, February 7th.

He said, Term 1 ends on Thursday, April 21st and Friday April 22nd is Good Friday public holiday. Students and teachers will have one week break, which includes public holidays Easter Saturday, Easter Sunday and Easter Monday on April 23rd, 24th and 25th respectively.

Term 2 will commence for all teachers and students on Monday, May 2nd and end on Friday, July

8th. Teachers will have a week's holiday while the students will have two weeks, Dr Pagelio said.

Dr Pagelio added that Teachers participating in the National Population Census will have the option of organizing NIST week during the year.

He said that during this term there are two public holidays mainly Queen's Birthday on Monday, June 13th and National Remembrance Day on Saturday, July 23rd.

Term 3 commences for all teachers and students on Monday, July 25th and ends on Friday, September 23rd.

Term 3 holiday is one week from Monday, September 26 to Friday, September 30. The only public holiday is Independence Day which is on Friday, September 16th the Acting Secretary said.

He said that Term 4 for all teachers and students begins on Monday,

October 3rd and ends on Friday, December 9th.

Holiday for both teachers and students starts on Monday, December 12. In 2012, teachers commence Term 1 on Monday, January 27th and students on Monday, February 3rd, 2012.

Other important dates that schools need to plan meaningful activities to observe them include National Book Week from August 1 – 5, National Literacy Week from September 5 – 9 and National Education Week from October 3 – 7, Dr Pagelio said.

The Acting Secretary said that schools, teachers, parents and the general public need to take note of the important school calendar dates so that they can prepare for the start of the 2011 school year and also plan in ahead to observe other important events.

Technical Colleges HECAS fee student component

This is a reminder by the Acting Secretary for Education, Dr. Joseph Pagelio to all new students intake for 2011 to Technical, Business and Polytechnic institutions under the national education system to contact the institutions concerned to find out more about their component of the fees for the 2011 academic year.

He encouraged all students to obtain accurate information from the respective institutions directly before they travel to the colleges.

He clarified that under the HECAS guidelines, students who have been awarded HECAS to attend Technical, Business and Polytechnic Colleges must pay 75% of their component of

the fees.

The Acting Secretary urged all parents of the students, who have been accepted at the various colleges to contact the following colleges' phone numbers as soon as possible for relevant information before the start of the

academic year on Monday 7th February, 2011.

Dr. Pagelio has appealed to all the Lecturers and Instructors to resume duty on Monday 31st January, 2011 while their students will start classes on Monday 7th February, 2011.

COLLEGES	PHONE
PNG National Polytechnic - Lae	472 2555
Port Moresby Technical College	321 4311
Port Moresby Business College	325 2233
Goroka Technical College	532 1039 or 532 2436
Mt. Hagen Technical College	542 1133 or 542 2839
Madang Technical College	422 3508 or 422 2877
Kokopo Business College	982 8556 or 982 9695



2011 Welcome Message to teachers and students from the Acting Secretary for Education, Dr. Joseph Pagelio

I would like to take this opportunity to welcome back our teachers and students to the 2011 school year. As we prepare to begin the 2011 school year, I would like to encourage all of us to set realistic goals and aims which we can achieve at the end of 2011.

To our teachers, I hope you have had a refreshing holiday and are physically and mentally prepared to take on the challenges for this year. I also challenge you to continue to provide the best you can to our students. To the students, I challenge you all to continue to strive for the best in your studies. You must also continue to respect yourself, your family, your peers, your teachers and the people in your community.

The school year begins on January 31st for almost 45,000 teachers and on February 7th for approximately 1.5 million students in more than 10,000 schools and institutions.

RESUMPTION OF TEACHERS

Teachers must ensure they are in their schools by January 31st and ready to start teaching when the students resume classes on February 7.

Teachers must fill in the Resumption of Duty Summary Sheet (RoDSS) and ensure that they quote their correct position numbers, employment number, correct spelling of names and the resumption date before they are returned to the payroll.

Head Teachers, Principals and Managers are to ensure that they sign the forms after the teachers complete them and forward these forms to their respective Provincial Education Offices.

These information are very important because if it is not followed properly it will affect teachers' salaries. All teachers whose RoDSS are not received at Waigani by February 28 will receive their last pay on Pay No.5 on March 11. All teachers whose Resumption of Duty Summary Sheets are not received at Waigani by Feb 28 will be automatically suspended from payroll on Pay No. 6 or Payday on March 25.

Officers from the Headquarters will visit institutions to ensure teachers have resumed and students have started school as programmed.

THE NATIONAL EDUCATION SYSTEM

The National Education System in Papua New Guinea promotes and protects the principles of growth and development as stated in the Na-

tional Constitution as well as our national culture and identity. The Department of Education is committed to contributing to the National Strategic Vision 2050 by working towards its strategies to develop the human resources of this country.

We have continued to expand access to education and also continued to implement the National Education Plan 2005–2014. We started implementing the Universal Basic Education Plan 2010-2019 in 2010. The implementation of the UBE plan began with fee free education for all children from Elementary Prep to Elementary 2. The phasing out of school fees will continue at a phase that is realistic, affordable and sustainable for the Government of Papua New Guinea.

In the meantime, I challenge parents, guardians and citizens of Papua New Guinea to continue to support their children by paying for their children's school fees and other necessities to ensure that they get quality education.

In 1993, before the education reform, total enrolment was only 500,000. Since then enrolments have grown two to three times faster than population growth and have more than doubled.

Ten years ago there were 823,158 students in the National Education System; today

education caters for more than 1.5 million students, taught by more than 45,000 teachers in more than 10,000 schools and other institutions.

GRADUATES

Let me also take this opportunity to congratulate all our graduates who have the chance to further your education. Whatever level of education you are moving on to, I encourage you to be a strong competitor and to always do your best. Remember that your parents, siblings, the community and the rest of the country are looking up to you to contribute to the development of your communities, your province and your country.

To those that did not get selected to further their education, I want to tell you that it is not the end of the world. There are a lot of options and opportunities available for you.

This is a very crucial time for our country because of the LNG Project. We will need a lot of tradesmen to meet the demands of the multi billion Kina PNG LNG Project skills requirements.

We will need mechanics, carpenters, welders etc. I am encouraging you to make use of our Technical and Vocational Institutions as well as our community colleges to develop your skills.

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More remote schools have access to TV classes

ENHANCING quality in teaching through television in Port Moresby has extended its classroom programme coverage to six remote schools.

Provinces to benefit from this initiative include Central, Northern, Western, Enga, Manus and Madang.

The Education Department, through the Media Centre, will install satellite dishes to give excess to students in remote parts of PNG for the classroom programmes that come on air between 9.20am and 3pm on EMTV daily free of charge.

Media Centre Manager Hatsie Mirou said the schools were selected last year and there were

five schools from Gulf, Chimbu, West Sepik, West New Britain and Southern Highlands already installed last year from 2009 selections.

Mirou said this not only benefited the students but also their teachers and the community.

"We encourage their teachers and the staff to have doors open to the community to view programs on air so that everybody benefits from the program.

"This idea was also to give them something to look forward to and make it their own by safeguarding it.

"This has also given students the urge to go to school daily so that

they don't miss out on the class," she said.

Mirou said that it had been tough but it was her dream to bring to schools in the remote schools the programmes needed to enhance and further students understanding of the subject studied and also keep them focused in school.

This year, they planned to concentrate on algebra in math's and apparatus in science as recent studies had shown the lack of knowledge by teachers.

"Most of the teachers suffer from these two subjects because of our reform system in place of studies in general teaching and not specialized teaching," she said.

Dr. Pagelio Welcomes Teachers and students

...Continued from previous page (5)...

There is also the chance to further your learning at the Provincial Open College campuses and through Flexible Open Distance Education. At FODE you study at your own pace and time but the advantage is that you have the opportunity to sit the national examinations in grade 10 and 12 just like students in the system schools and progress into university and other tertiary institutions.

Also available are private schools registered under the National Training Council that are offering various courses and opportunities to matriculate where you can enroll yourself in.

2011 EDUCATION THEME

The theme for the 2011 Education year is **"Achieving Quality Education through Public, Private and Church Partnerships"**.

This theme focuses on the importance of

strengthening existing partnerships between all stakeholders including the National, Provincial, District and Local Level Governments, the private sector and the churches in order to provide the best quality education and training to our students and teachers.

The Department of Education values all the important assistance it receives from stakeholders in its efforts to develop the human resources of the country and welcomes new partnership arrangements that will contribute to the overall quality of education.

Our partners in education are extremely important and I thank them for their commitment, vision and contribution to developing education throughout the years and look forward to your continued support in 2011. It is your combined efforts that are helping to build our nation.

I would like to express my special appreciation to the National Government, provin-

cial and local level governments, our churches, NGOs, donor agencies, parents, teachers and students for the valued partnership.

I call for ties to be strengthened with our provincial and local level governments who are closer to the communities than Waigani and trust that with their hard work we can work together to bring our curriculum materials, teachers and services right to the remotest areas of this country.

CONCLUSION

To conclude, I once again welcome all students and teachers to the 2011 school year. I encourage the students to spend your time in school studying, reading, listening and attending classes.

To the teachers, I challenge you all to commit yourself to your profession. With God's guidance, let us all work together to build a prosperous and peaceful nation through education.

I wish you all the best for 2011.

K108 million contract for UOG dormitories signed

THE Papua New Guinea government yesterday co-signed a contract worth about K108 million engaging Guangdong Foreign Construction Limited to construct more dormitories at the University of Goroka.

The signing took place at Government House and was witnessed by Public Services Minister Moses Maladina, Chinese Ambassador to Papua New Guinea Qui Bohua, as well as other stakeholders including representatives from National Planning and Treasury.

Signatories to the contract were acting Governor-General Jeffery Nape, UoG Vice-Chancellor Gairo Unagi, Guangdong vice-general manager Zhao Guanghua and project branch manager Lu Xiaoshe.

The project will see the construction of three seven-storey buildings that will house around 3,000 students.

Work is expected to commence as early as April.

The project was made possible through the agreement with the PNG and Chinese governments which will see the Export-Import Bank of China loan a K108 million (294 million yen) to the PNG government for the project, which the PNG government will pay back over time.

UoG chancellor Benaias Sabumei thanked the government saying their consent to the project showed their commitment to improving education in the country and encouraged other universities to engage in similar projects.

The signing yesterday marked the first for this year and also the first by any university to sign at Government House.

...from page 1...

The objective of the Government is to improve access, retention, relevant quality education and training and management.

In 2010, the Education Ministry made achievements at all levels of education, including increased access, curriculum reform rehabilitation of infrastructure, teacher qualification and an increased volume of materials distributed to schools.

The Ministry also continued to support programs under other agencies that support the government's plan to have a more efficient, effective, transparent and affordable public sector.

TARGETS

This year the focus of Education will be in basic education, secondary and technical vocational education and training, curriculum implementation and education infrastructure rehabilitation.

In 2011 we will make incremental improvements on the targets set in 2010, including the priority areas of basic education, vocational, technical and secondary education, with emphasis on skills, self reliance and positive attitudes. This is through the expansion and improvement of standards in basic education and secondary education.

RESPONSIBILITIES

Parents and guardians, I take this time to remind you that you play a crucial role in the education of your children. This responsibility is not limited to merely paying school fees, providing uniforms, stationery, etc. There is another more integral role that a parent plays in the system of education – the kind that is taken during non-school hours, and requires direct one-on-one intervention between parents and children.

I challenge all parents to relinquish your sole dependency on the education system and government as the

sole educator of our children, and take back the responsibility and ownership of playing your first and primary role - as the children's first Educators in the home.

Further, the reinforcement of moral values and principles in both school and at home, will induce a positive change in mindsets and ensure a more prosperous, safe, healthy and happy nation.

I appeal to all school authorities to allow students to enroll and attend classes even if they have not paid any fees while their parents and guardians sort out their school fees. Children should not be deprived of their right to education.

Provincial education authorities must continue to support their schools by providing effectively and efficiently for school operations, maintenance and development as well as teachers' salaries and entitlements. Provincial administrations must make available sufficient funds every year to enable teachers to travel to their new postings and resume duties on time.

I challenge the members of school boards and governing councils to continue to support their teachers and manage and develop their schools efficiently and honestly. Communities must support teachers, school boards and parents to protect their schools from criminal activities and ensure the school environment is clean and the facilities are in good condition prior to the commencement of classes.

CONCLUSION

To conclude, I would like to encourage all stakeholders to continue to work together to provide relevant quality education and training for our children and young people. Together we can make a difference, and realise success for our children and their future.

I wish you all a successful academic year!

Permitted schools certified

The Department of Education has presented a total of 16 certificates to permitted schools in Papua New Guinea.

The Department of Education Acting Chairman of the Registration Committee, Michael Menri who spoke on behalf of the Acting Secretary for Education Dr Joseph Pagelio at the presentation ceremony held at the Fincorp Haus in Waigani, said.

"This is the first of its kind to issue certificates formerly. This use to be done through mail sent to schools.

He thanked the hardworking coordinator, Mathew Kalabai who is the officer responsible for permitted schools in PNG.

"As a Chairman we approved the number of schools to teach the quality of education in integral human resource development," said Menri.

Menri said there is a policy in place to run permitted schools in Papua New Guinea.

He said that we will sit together and make more policies.

There are some schools still waiting for their certificates for almost 6-7 years because they didn't meet the guidelines and as a result have waited for so long.

"I congratulate all the members of the 16 permitted schools who have made your commitment to come here to receive your certificates" Menri said.

Menri added that NDOE officers will visit some of your school's and establish some proper data base for teachers throughout the country.

He said "we want to capture all schools in both urban and remote areas, and create a data base."

"Right now we don't have a proper data base but the policy guidelines in place will assist the schools," Menri said.

It is you who are helping us in building human resources in the country.

The government will not give enough so go with your certificates and seek funds from the donor agencies, he said.

He said that you are all hard working teachers and "I thank you all for tremendous commitment put towards achieving a better standard and quality of education in PNG."

The Chairman of the Waigani Christian Primary School, Allan Jim said that they have been waiting for a long time and he thanked the Acting Secretary for Education Dr

Joseph Pagelio for making this a very successful day.

It is a milestone achievement for those who can not make it through the formal system and we are providing the alternate for them for quality of education for better future, Jim said.

If the government is providing the first choice, we are providing the second option so let many schools like this to be built in PNG, Jim said.

Jagolo Sogone, the FODE Coordinator for Eastern Highlands Province also said during the presentation of the permitted schools certificates that, "One party alone cannot achieve the Education Goals of our country but it needs the other partner's assistance to achieve up to at least 90-100 percent."

Those schools who received their certificates were, Mesauka FODE Registered Study Center (RSC), Tabubil Christian School, Kiunga Christian, St. Anne Elementary School – Gerehu, Boroko Christian Education Network, Twinky Winky International School, Institute of Christian Academy Boroko, Tambul Accelerated Christian Academy, Zion Zeal Christian School, AOG-Kimbe Christian Academy, , Nonu Primary School and Waigani Christian Primary School.

Schools must be cleaned before school starts

The Acting Secretary for Education, Dr. Joseph Pagelio recently called on all schools around the country to clean up their schools, before the 2011 school year starts on January 31st for teachers and February 7th for students.

In the past it has been noted that the first instructive week (ie; 7th – 11th February, 2011) has not been effective, as school administrations and managements used this

important week to clean their school grounds.

Therefore, school Caretakers, Principals, Head Teachers, Members of the Boards of Management and Governing Councils, teachers, parents and citizens were requested to organise themselves cooperatively, to clean school grounds and infrastructures like classrooms, libraries, computer labs and offices.

It is important that students return back to school and to a classroom and school ground that is clean and ready for a full day's lesson on Monday 7th February 2011.

Our children's education is of paramount importance; hence schools around the country must take this notice seriously and start cleaning their school grounds now, the Acting Secretary said.

Random Pics



DOE female staff during the 2010 World Aids Day commemorations.



Dr. Pagelio launching a UN AIDS—equality for women, girls & HIV agenda paper.



READY FOR ANOTHER SCHOOL YEAR: Grade 4 students at the Sacred Heart Catholic Primary School get ready for another long year in school



Former Secretary, Peter Baki and his team during a MOU / MOA signing in 2001.

NOTICES

- School started for all schools, Vocational Centres on February 7th.
- Head teachers, principals must ensure that all teachers commence a full days teaching.
- Term 1 for all schools started from February 7th and ends on April 21st which is 11 weeks of school.
- Term 1 holidays start on Friday 22nd April which is also Good Friday.
- All schools administration and management must send special enrolment and staffing reports to provide an update of student and teacher numbers and needs for current year 2011 to the Manager Basic Education and NCD/GES
- The first National Education Board meeting for 2011, Meeting #171 which was scheduled for February 16th—17th has been deferred to a later date.
- Teachers wishing to appeal against the ratings given the new 2012 reports by the rating conference must do so by the end of February.
- The Divisions of CCLS, HROD, and TSC to update MPR with Provincial Divisions of Education
- Reminder from the ICT branch at Fincorp Haus that every Friday is Flash Drives/Memory Sticks Cleansing day.
- If you have flash drives that may be affected by viruses, bring them up to ICT or select a representative to do just that.
- Days to observe in February are the International Mothers Language Day which is aimed at the illiteracy in women and mothers around the world.

Digicel makes Banking easier for teachers

TEACHERS in disadvantaged and remote settings can now get the latest update on their savings and transactions through their Digicel mobile phones.

The partnership was announced last week between Teachers Savings and Loan Society and Digicel where the SMS account check 'jst 4 U!' was launched.

Digicel chief executive officer John Mangos said the service would be easy to use.

It allows registered TISA members to access their balance interest and transaction information on their nominated TISA accounts at the touch of a few keys on their

phones at any time.

To use the service, members can simply send an SMS to short code 1668 (TISA's SMS number) to request one of the different SMS check service they would like to use.

TISA chairman William Varmari said the service would reduce the cost of transport for members to the nearest branch.

It allows members to have access to their savings 24 hours a day, seven days a week, and is time-saving.

Mangos said: "We are delighted to be able to partner with TISA to provide another innovative and customer-focused service which

will have a positive impact on the lives of our valued customers.

"This convenient service will allow TISA members right across the country, including the many teachers in the rural areas, to track their savings, transactions and interest, giving them more control of their hard earned savings."

Prepaid customers will be charged 35 toea and post-paid customers will be charged 23 toea per SMS request.

The SMS account check "jst 4 U!" service was officially launched by Bank of Papua New Guinea Governor Loi Bakani.

K90, 000 for NIP SLIP

While school children are enjoying holidays the New Ireland Provincial Government is putting money totaling K90, 000 to upgrade learning in many Elementary and Primary schools through the School Learning Improvement Program—SLIP—in preparation for the start of classes in February.

Government cheques of K5, 000 were being distributed over Christmas and New year to underwrite the SLIP program adopted by many schools that aims to accelerate the learning capacity of children.

Sir Julius Chan handed two cheques of K5, 000 for the Himau Elementary School for the SLIP program and contribute to a new teachers' house.

Sir Julius returned to Kavieng to attend to pressing issues and sent his Liaison Officers on to the West Coast do distribute K70, 000 worth of cheques for other schools, church and community groups.

Sir Julius said again this demonstrates the Governments commitment to promote quality education in New Ireland that run parallel with the Free and Subsidized Education policy.

The Provincial Government supported the initiative taken by individual schools to adopt the SLIP program in 2010 and increased the level of funding with K90, 000 to cover more schools throughout the province.

School Learning Improvement Plan (SLIP), as a result of this, many Elementary, Primary and Secondary schools in the country are engaged in the concept of SLIP.

As is being witnessed, SLIP is the vehicle that is driving all schools' change agendas.

The compilation of statistics clearly shows the SLIP's progress over the three (4) year period since its inception in 2006.



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