

READING DAY AT THE CURLIN JOHNSON BASIC SCHOOL



Meet Donte Britton, this is a little four year old boy who lives in one of the ravished communities off Mountain View Road.

Donte has not been out to School for the week as his mother fears for his life because of the cross fire of gunshots that are traded amongst communities each day. So what makes May 21st 2010 any different from the rest of the other days? Donte's headmistress begs his mother to let him come to school that day – she has a special surprise for him and his entire class. The surprise was the Rotary Club of St. Andrew!

The Rotary Club of St. Andrew in its continued projects with literacy for basic school children had a reading day/lunch treat for these children. Tanya Powell and Karen Fitz Ritson spent one and a half hours with the children and read four stories with them (including classics such as Chicken Licken) taught them new words, taught them phoenix and interacted with them on colours and shapes.

This was well received and children responded enthusiastically and were very articulate and engaging



At the end of the exercise when the children were asked what new words they learnt Donte exclaimed BRAINWAVE which he had heard in the story book “No Room for Panda”. Donte won a prize – a children’s book of bible stories.

The children hungered for more stories, more prizes and most importantly more love and affection.

The morning ended with the children happily going off to their lunch break – Hot Dogs provided by Grace Food Division.

The Rotary Club of St Andrew presented eight story books and six reading charts (donated by Fitz Ritson and Associates) for their library.

The morning ended on a high with a very grateful Mrs. Fitz Simmons (their headmistress of 25 years) and a renewed commitment of Rotarians Karen and Tanya, that their work had just begun to work with these very bright young children in nurturing them as they are OUR FUTURE.