

SA NEWSLETTER

A MERCY CENTER OF EXCELLENCE & INNOVATION



A NATION PROUD AND FREE

SEPTEMBER
2024 edition

BELIZE AT
43

VOL. II



**CHAMPIONING
MERCY VALUES**



COMPELLED BY
MERCY



PRINCIPLED
LEADERSHIP



INSPIRED BY
FAITH

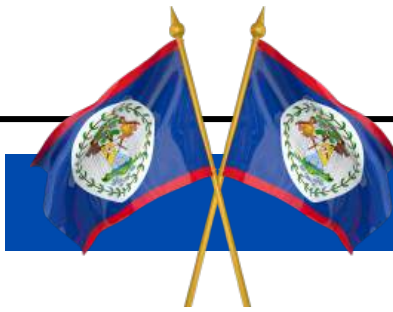


EDUCATIONAL
COURAGE



A VOICE FOR DIGNITY
AND RESPECT

BELIZEAN PRIDE



A MONTH OF INDEPENDENCE

CARNIVAL

Carnival is one of the country's most vibrant and anticipated cultural events. It is held annually in Belize City as part of the broader September Celebrations. This lively event is known for its colorful, high-energy atmosphere. It features street parades with dancers in elaborate costumes, live music, and revelry.



BATTLE OF ST. GEORGE'S CAYE

The Battle of St. George's Caye was a crucial day that took place from September 3 to 10, 1798, near St. George's Caye. It is remembered as a significant historical event where British settlers, known as Baymen successfully defended the territory from an invading Spanish fleet known as the Spaniards. Every year St. George's Caye has a ceremony dedicated to the men that fought for the island and for Belize's territorial integrity. They also recognize all the people that reside on the island and the people that have passed on.



INDEPENDENCE DAY

Belize's Independence Day is celebrated on September 21st, marking the day in 1981 when the country gained full sovereignty from British colonial rule. Independence Day is one of the most important national holidays, and it is celebrated with festivities, including parades, cultural displays, and flag-raising ceremonies throughout the country. The day reflects the pride and unity of the Belizean people, celebrating their journey toward independence and their continued commitment to building a prosperous and peaceful nation.



Written by: Leah Codd



Dr. Salome Tillett

22 Years of Championing Mercy Values and Educational Innovation

Dr. Salome Tillett's remarkable story is a source of inspiration for many. Her journey, which began with the most modest of origins in Libertad Village, Corozal District, as the daughter of Juana Isabel, a teacher, and Raymond, a cane farmer and BSI factory worker, was marked from the beginning by her determination, leadership, loyalty to her beliefs, and her initiative.

"As the child of a factory worker, I could take the company bus to my high school in Corozal Town," Dr. Tillett recalls. "But my friend couldn't since her relatives did not work at the factory. Because of this, I refused to ride the bus, and instead, we walked about one mile and a half from our village to its junction with the Northern Highway and hitch-hiked, sometimes in cane trucks. This meant leaving home very early every morning, but I would not let her walk alone."

That commitment and determination would be a common thread throughout the rest of her years. Despite her family's financial constraints, a determined young Salome found a way to pursue her education by seeking support from her uncle to fund her high school fees.



**Dr. Salome Tillett, Principal
Champion of Mercy Values
Saint Catherine Academy**

"Without my parents' knowledge, I asked my Tio Landy (Orlando Castillo Sr.) if he would pay my fees because Mom could not afford it," she said. "And he agreed to do so. When I told my mom that I could go to high school because it would not be an expense to her, she gave me a proper scolding for seeking help without her consent, but she agreed."

Salome excelled in her high school years, enrolling at the age of ten and graduating at just fourteen years old. During that time, she had to survive with hand-me-downs from her older sisters, which involved stuffing big shoes with paper to make them fit, since among nine children, she was the third in line for attendance at high school.

To this day, Dr. Tillett credits her Mom for nurturing in her and her siblings a passion for learning and a determination to succeed. Her mom did this through their many Friday night home school sessions which included practicing multiplication tables, spelling, poetry recitals, studying geography, and memorizing quotes from the Students' Companion.

In addition to her strong resolve, from her early years, Dr. Tillett had an unwavering love for reading—a love that compelled her to go as far as reading by flashlight under the blankets when the lights were turned off. She was particularly drawn to spy novels (she wanted to be a spy one day) and the school librarian's encouragement only fueled her passion.



“It was always hard to put down a book. In fact, I was addicted to Nancy Drew and the Hardy Boys series as a teenager. I recall the librarian telling me ‘I hope you get paid to read books,’” said Dr. Tillett. That early fascination with books cultivated a sense of creativity and resourcefulness in her. With time, as she delved deeper into literature, she developed a profound appreciation for storytelling and the power of language. This passion ultimately led her to pursue a Bachelor of Arts in English Education, which prepared her for teaching English Language and Literature. This ultimately provided her with a platform to share her love for literature and communication while simultaneously nurturing the imaginative minds of her students.

From Trailblazing Teacher to Transformative Principal

At the age of 33, Dr. Tillett made history as the second lay principal of Saint Catherine Academy (SCA).

“I got the appointment letter from Sister Sarita Vásquez, and I was overcome with fear and self-doubt, so I immediately prayed asking God to guide me and help me to perform this job in a way that honored Him and the Sisters of Mercy, who were placing their confidence in me,” she said.

A few days into her first leadership year (2002), several Sisters of Mercy, including Sisters Sarita, Francine, Mercy, and Rose, came over to the school and gave her their blessing.

“They sang a mercy song of affirmation with their hands raised in blessing to Maria Coyo the vice principal and I. It felt like a transfer of the Mercy mantle to our shoulders. It was a beautiful and poignant moment that moved me to tears and strengthened my resolve to serve the school and them to the best of my abilities.”

Since then, Dr. Tillett has initiated and championed a leadership style characterized by an innovative blend of humility and strength. She leads by example and strives to foster a culture of collaboration and empowerment in the faculty and students. Throughout the years of her career, she was mentored by senior principals such as Chris Aird, Frank Garbutt, and Brenda Armstrong as well as by the caring and supportive Sisters of Mercy.



Principal Tillett soars above and beyond to guide and inspire the entire school community



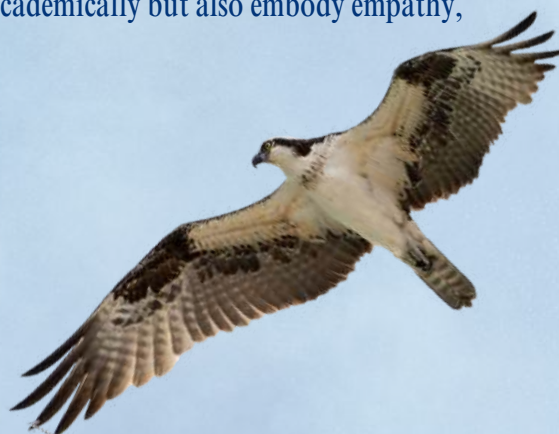
Championing Mercy Values

Dr. Tillett's tenure as principal has been defined by her steadfast commitment to nurturing a sense of purpose and compassion within the SCA community and a bold conviction that quality education is the right of all the nation's children.

"Up to 2002, The Sisters of Mercy were always visible and still in service at SCA," said Dr. Tillett. "The school community consistently saw the sisters of Mercy around, whether it was Sister Christine in the library, Sister Josella sharing prayers and selling gooseberry jams from Santa Familia Monastery, Sister Mercy visiting to encourage the girls, or as teachers and retreat leaders like Sister Mercita, Sister Andretta, Sister Rose, Sister Leonor, and Sister Carolee."

"As the number of Sisters dwindled on the campus," she said. "It became more important to give students a sense of the bigger purpose of an SCA education and their responsibility as heirs of the charisma of Catherine McAuley and Mercy."

Embracing the rich legacy of the Sisters of Mercy, Dr. Tillett has worked tirelessly to instill the core values of mercy education, ensuring that students not only excel academically but also embody empathy, integrity, and a deep sense of social responsibility.



Her vision for SCA goes far beyond academic success, as it also focuses on the holistic development of confident, patriotic, and gospel-driven young women grounded in compassion and service to others and who feel responsible for making the world a better place.

Dr. Tillett's leadership has not been limited to SCA. Because of her commitment to the children of Belize, she is known as a strong advocate for systemic improvement in Belize's education system. As a respected leader in her field she has served in numerous leadership capacities, including as the Chairperson for the Belize Association of Principals of Secondary Schools, a founding member of the Belize Catholic Association of Principals of Secondary Schools, and the Grant Aided Managing Authority of Schools, Board member of the Roman Catholic Bishop's Commission, member of the National Council for Education, the National Covid- 19 Committee, the National Competency-Based Curriculum Committee, and the Belize Board for Teacher Education. She represented Belize internationally on the CXC Council and the Mercy Secondary Education Council.

Finally, she also serves her community of Crooked Tree Village on the Village Council, in the Annual Cashew Festival, and at the Crooked Tree Museum for Creole History.

Educational Innovation and Excellence



In 2005, Dr. Tillett sought Sister Carolee Chanona's permission to explore the possible construction of a new building for SCA. Sister Chanona's response was overwhelmingly positive.

"Her letter also expressed her hope that I have the persistence and perseverance to see the dream through to completion, said Dr. Tillett. "It wasn't until 2017, twelve years later, when we finally inaugurated the SCA Multipurpose Mercy Center, that I understood the wisdom of her words. To date, we remain the only secondary school in the Caribbean to have boldly and successfully floated bonds to invest in the expansion of infrastructure."

Over the years, Dr. Tillett has also spearheaded initiatives to integrate technology into SCA's learning environment, recognizing the importance of preparing students for the demands of the future. This was perhaps most evident during the challenging period that was the COVID-19 pandemic, which saw a full transition to online learning. This transition is what led Dr. Tillett to pioneer the use of the Flipped Classroom teaching model in the Belizean classroom.

Through these initiatives and many others like them—including the implementation of High Expectations Teaching for All and the establishment of a Professional Learning Community—Dr. Tillett has been instrumental in transforming SCA into a beacon of educational progress. Her commitment to creating a dynamic and enriching academic environment has raised the bar for educational standards at SCA and positioned the institution as a trailblazer in the region.



A VOICE FOR
DIGNITY AND
RESPECT

Looking to the Future



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In June 2024, Dr. Tillett achieved a significant milestone in her professional career by earning her Doctorate in Education from Rockhurst University. This accomplishment further solidified her dedication to advancing her knowledge and expertise in education, paving the way for continued innovation and excellence at Saint Catherine Academy.

Dr. Salome Tillett's dedication and visionary leadership over the past two decades have continuously propelled St. Catherine Academy as it soars to new heights each school year. Her unwavering commitment to championing mercy values and fostering educational innovation inspires not just the school community but the broader educational landscape as well. Her legacy of excellence and compassion is a testament to the transformative power of education and leadership. And even more than that, her remarkable journey—which serves as a testament to the potential for positive change and growth within the field of education—has undoubtedly left an indelible mark on the hearts and minds of all those she has touched.

She is married to Allen Tillett and has two sons, Adrian and Aaron, and two grandchildren Ajna and Adam.

SCA Prefects shine at the National Service Day and 13th Annual Wreath Ceremony for

Rt. Hon. George Cadle Price



*As we unfurl your colours true,
The white, the scarlet and royal blue,
We pledge allegiance and with pride:
salute you, on your heavenward ride.
We pledge to make you always fly
in this, our bit of land and sky.
May the unity for which you stand,
infuse each heart, and join each hand-
making us one against all foes
As under God, our nation grows.
And so we say: Fly High!
Fly Proud!
Fly Free!
Always our standard be."*



**Tribute to the
Belizean Flag: By
Corinth Morter Lewis
Read by Head
Prefect Jeslin Moran**



Our representatives read excerpts from speeches shared by Rt. Hon. Price in the months leading up to Independence. The SCA Prefects' active involvement in the National Service Day and Wreath Ceremony exemplified their strong sense of civic responsibility and leadership. Their participation not only demonstrated their respect for the late Rt. Hon. George Cadle Price but also showcased their willingness to contribute to the community.

WATCH VIDEO



At the end of the ceremony, the SCA Prefects stood proudly alongside other distinguished guests, paying tribute to the enduring legacy of Rt. Hon. George Cadle Price. Their presence and active participation were a testament to their exemplary character and their embodiment of the values upheld by the late leader.

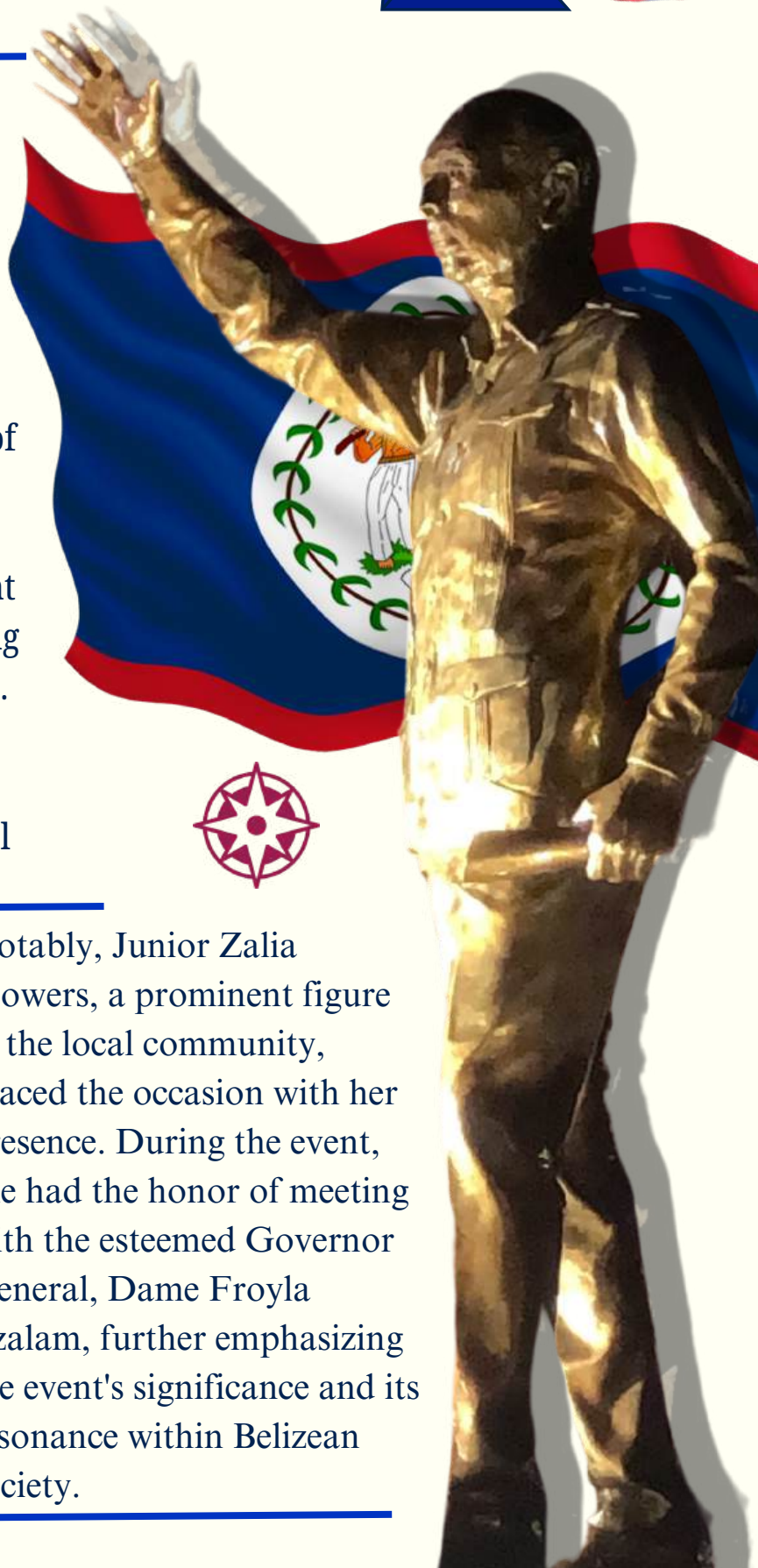


*SCA Representatives with some of the female members of the Diplomatic Core:
Panama, Cuba, Taiwan and United Kingdom*

STATUE OF THE RT. HON. GEORGE CADLE PRICE

The Father Of Our Nation

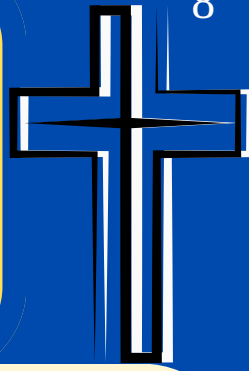
In a historic event that captured the essence of Belize's rich heritage, a sixteen-foot bronze statue of the Right Honorable George Cadle Price was unveiled in downtown Belize City. This remarkable statue stands as the tallest full-body statue ever erected in the country, serving as a powerful symbol of the enduring legacy of the Father of the Nation. The unveiling took place on the eve of National Service Day, a significant occasion that commemorates the passing of the revered leader thirteen years ago. The event was marked by a sense of national pride and unity as citizens gathered to pay tribute to the influential statesman.



Notably, Junior Zalia Flowers, a prominent figure in the local community, graced the occasion with her presence. During the event, she had the honor of meeting with the esteemed Governor General, Dame Froyla Tzalam, further emphasizing the event's significance and its resonance within Belizean society.



NATIONAL DAY OF PRAYER



On Sunday, September 15, 2024, an event was held to celebrate Belize's National Day of Prayer. The President of the SCA Student Council gave an introduction and remarks to kick off the mass. Prefects, peer helpers, teachers, and student council members were among the many people in attendance. Additionally, Members of the Senate, the Governor-General, Members of the House of Representatives, and even our Prime Minister were among the numerous influential persons present. Our principal, Dr. Salome Tillett, also participated in the lovely mass. After the mass, the Prime Minister made a speech expressing gratitude to everyone and acknowledging our nation's talent. Additionally, the Prime Minister met our shadow council secretary, Ofelia Hernandez, who described the encounter as "surreal." Our shadow council marketing manager, Isabelle Rivers, described it as "a divine experience."



21st Parade



Saint Catherine Academy proudly completed another successful 21st of September High School Uniform Parade!!

Saint Catherine Academy was the third school to march, following Edward P. Yorke in first place and Wesley College in second place. The parade was led by SCA's Student Council, which showcased Mercy's core values and critical concerns, reflecting what we believe in at SCA. SCA's volleyball team followed, celebrating an impressive streak of 29 consecutive wins with the hopeful promise of 30 to come.



Next, the SCA "Unplugged" Steel Pan band performed on a float, playing lively music for our cheerleaders as they paraded.



Written by: Kimaya Charley & Zayari Pacheco



Parade

Our peer helpers, consisting of juniors and seniors, followed closely behind. First and second-form students marched proudly with their respective classes, excited to be a part of their first uniform parade, while the prefects brought up the rear of the second form.



The parade featured the majors of third—and fourth-form students. The celebration concluded with our SCA "Blue Team," dressed in OCEANA/SCA/Sea of Life blue rash guards, showing their commitment to caring for, advocating for, and protecting the Earth.



Our girls represented us with pride, adorned containing numerous pins and sashes each Mercy Girl strive to earn, the girls stand tall and proud eager to celebrate Belize@43!

SCA'S UNPLUGGED STEEL BAND!!

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PANYAAD '24



Written by: Zalia Flowers

On September 14th, 2024, SCA's steel band, under the fantastic direction of our music director, Hiroko Franklin, participated in "PanYaad." Our talented girls, Karishma Locke, Akeelah Tillet, Roxel Encalada, Kaley Gabet, Leah Zaldivar, Aliana Salazar, and Maleah Bladen, performed a variety of songs, including "Come Home" and "I Know Who I Am." Our Mercy Girls shone individually and collaborated with the Pantempers Steel Band for a duet featuring "Ministry of Road" and "Old and Grey." At SCA, our students excel not only academically but also musically!



MERCY STUDENT LEADERSHIP CONFERENCE 2024

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As a Mercy school, it is not only our responsibility to uphold and promote our Mercy traditions, but it is also important to collaborate with other Mercy schools, sharing in these traditions. This Mercy Conference was a great opportunity for these young women to explore different regions of the world and represent their school on an international level. This helps them to grow in leadership by challenging them to speak in new environments and to see unique faces from all around the world.



During the summer, a group of exceptional student leaders and Mrs. Castillo attended the Mercy Student Leadership Conference in Detroit, Michigan. The young women gained valuable insight into the Mercy Core Values and how to embody these values in their lives. Feedback from the attendees highlighted how the conference helped them become better leaders through mercy and make improved choices while contributing to their community. These student leaders have returned from the conference feeling inspired and empowered to make a meaningful impact on our SCA community. We are excited to see how they will apply their new insights to inspire others to become future leaders in mercy at our school.

WRITTEN BY : AMYRAH WRIGHT AND LIBNI TABORA



BELIZE CREATIVE YOUTH



SUMMIT 2024



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The Belize Creative Youth Ideas Summit aims to allow youths to share their ideas on specific topics. This year, 'Culture and Innovation' was chosen as the theme. With technology developing rapidly, the theme encouraged youths to think of ways to contribute to building cultural understanding, creating financial opportunities, and helping with sustainability through collaboration and innovation.



SCA 2024-2026

Peer Helpers



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Peer helpers are more than just supportive listeners; they are also friends, advocates, and leaders. They contribute to the continuous growth of our school's positive and welcoming atmosphere. These exceptional students are prepared to form connections, build support systems, resolve conflicts, and utilize a variety of skills that our adaptable peer helpers have to offer. Our school counselor, Ms. Myeisha Jones, is the moderator and role model for the peer helpers, along with Mrs. Felecia Dawson and Ms. Jasibi Urbrina. This year's peer helpers have been selected because their unique characteristics highlight the essential qualities that a peer helper should possess.

Junior Peer Helpers

Kariyel Jones	Opelia Hernandez
Lakeeyah McDonald	Isabelle Rivers
Mia Pallard	Anissa Stewart
Amyrah Wright	Lisa Dawson
Jael Henry	Amanda Reyes
Lissany Castilla	Aliza Daniz
Genesis Mendoza	Shania Banner
Rebecca Stethem	Aarushi Harjani
Anastasia Cacho	Xyla Wagner
Jahfira Lockwood	Alysa Maskall
Audriel Sanchez	Azarria Gaynair
Akasha Malina	Brinyce Richardson
Alliyana Franklin	
Mahlia Wade	
Kelaya Malina	
Jada Bernard	

Written by: Laurel Rebateau & Brinyce Richardson

"BEYOND IMAGINATION" ART EXTRAVAGANZA



After much hard work and preparation the "Beyond Imagination" Art Extravaganza was held from September 24th to the 27th.

This art exhibition featured the work of approximately 75 students and aimed to promote art to the youth and the entire community of Belize. The displayed artworks utilized various mediums, including watercolor, acrylic paintings, pencil, and oil pastels. The exhibition sought to emphasize that art can be more than just a hobby or profession and to foster connections among people with a shared interest and passion in the arts.

As students of Ms. Fiona, we were elated to see our artwork showcased. We invested many years in preparing for this art exhibition, and we are excited to share our creations with the people of Belize.



MURAL



EDUCATIONAL
COURAGE

COMPETITION

BY: ZAZIL MARIN

On September 26, 2024, the Leo Bradley Library in Belize City celebrated its 23rd annual Book Fair/Open Day. The library hosted various activities, including book presentations, storytelling, library tours, interactive games, and book sales, all aimed at inspiring young people to develop a love for reading and explore new works of literature.

Additionally, the library organized competitions for different school levels, such as a coloring competition for preschoolers, story writing and reading competitions for primary school students, and a mural competition for high school students.

Saint Catherine Academy was also represented by two senior students, Kristy Bowen and Alyssa Escalante, who competed in the mural competition. The girls did an outstanding job and claimed first place with their beautiful and creative artwork.



Freshmen's Program

By: Kalaya Molina and Aarushi Harjani



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Theme: Sweet Start

Like a box of candies, high school offers a wide range of flavors, some sweet, some surprising, and all uniquely wonderful. This program kicked off the school year with enthusiasm and creativity. We made this sweet start a memorable chapter in our high school journey!



Welcome class of 2028!!



SCA's Sweet Start

FRESHMEN'S PROGRAM



The SCA's Sweet Start event was a delightful way to welcome the first-year class of 2028 into the school community. The event had a vibrant atmosphere and offered sweet treats such as nachos, donuts, candy cups, and more, providing students with fun and delicious snacks. Additionally, there was a face painting station which added to the festive spirit, allowing students to express their creativity and excitement. One of the highlights of the event was watching each class perform on stage, showcasing not only their talent but also the unity and enthusiasm of the student body. Overall, the event was a heartwarming and engaging way to create lasting memories for the new students.



MERCY
WATCH VIDEO



CLASS OF



EDUCATIONAL COURAGE

Written by: Rhyllie Chee and Mia Pollard



MERCY CORE CAMPUS MINISTRY



Who are they?

Mercy Core is the heart of discipleship and servant leadership at Saint Catherine Academy. We seek a genuine and personal encounter with Christ by intentionally living our Catholic Faith and carrying out the Corporal and Spiritual Works of Mercy through worship, evangelize, charity, and fellowship



INSPIRED BY FAITH

What is **Mercy**?



Jesus Christ is the face of the Father's mercy. By his **words**, his **actions**, and his **entire person**, Jesus reveals the mercy of God.

"The time has come for the Church to take up the **joyful call** to mercy once more. It is time to **return to the basics** and to bear the weaknesses and struggles of our brothers and sisters."

POPE FRANCIS

"**Mercy** is a wellspring of joy, serenity, and peace. Our salvation depends on it."

POPE FRANCIS



MERCY IS...

- the word that reveals the very **mystery** of the Most Holy Trinity
- the **ultimate and supreme act** by which God comes to meet us

- the **fundamental law** that dwells in the heart of every person
- the **bridge** that connects God and man, opening our hearts to the hope of being loved forever despite our sinfulness

The works of mercy are charitable **actions** by which we come to the aid of our **neighbour** in his spiritual and bodily necessities.



Archdiocese of Toronto
www.archtoronto.org
archtoronto

Corporal Works of Mercy

1. Feed the hungry
2. Give drink to the thirsty
3. Clothe the naked
4. Shelter the homeless (Welcome the stranger)
5. Visit the sick
6. Ransom the captive (Visit the imprisoned)
7. Bury the dead

Spiritual Works of Mercy

1. Instruct the ignorant
2. Counsel the doubtful
3. Admonish sinners
4. Bear wrongs patiently
5. Forgive offences willingly
6. Comfort the afflicted
7. Pray for the living and the dead

Join Mercy Core if:

- You'd like to serve
- You'd like to commit
- You'd like to be transformed

Therefore, go and make disciples of all nations.

Managed by: Ms. Ashley Gillet



PRINCIPLED
LEADERSHIP

MERCY DAY ACTIVITIES



Saint Catherine Academy took initiative to spread awareness for two of the Mercy critical concerns, non-violence and Earth, to its Mercy girls. Amongst the Mercy day festivities, were our enlightening guest speakers Mr. Rafael Manzanero and Dr. Nelma Jones-Mortis who made a positive impact our students, educating us on pressing issues of our country. Their speeches made a substantial impact on our SCA community, as each class proceeded to construct action plans to tackle matters they wish to advocate for.

1CL



The class of 1CL, with an undeniable sense of determination, wishes to bring a fresh look to the "Calvary" area near classes 1CL and 1LF. They plan to do so by giving the area a thorough cleaning, painting, and planting flowers by the steps in front of their classroom.



1LF

Proudly showcasing their painting skills is 1LF, as they plan to paint a mural on SCA's fence, advocating against domestic violence, as well as for the health of our Earth.



1SV

Displaying an astounding level of compassion, the class of 1SV plans to make donations to Liberty Children's Home along with blankets for the homeless.



2GL

The class of 2GL plan to make their mark by initiating "Pawsitive Impact: Belize City Animal Care Campaign" where they plan to spread awareness of the mistreatment of animals through the use of social media.

2CE

The class of 2MC plan to have survivor of domestic violence give a speech of their experience on the topic of domestic violence at their class assembly, wear domestic violence pins during the month of October (made from purple ribbon and safety pins), create awareness posters to put around the school (physical and online) and speak on the topic over the PA system once a week during October giving tips and advice.

We all await the success of our Mercy Girls as they work to spread awareness on a plethora of diverse concerns.

BY GINA TEICHROEB AND ALINA GARCIA



MERCY DAY ACTIVITIES

On Mercy Day, each class was assigned to create an Action Plan based on how they can help serve the community by spreading awareness about Non-Violence and/or the Environment. This is what each 3rd and 4th Form Classes has plan:



PRINCIPLED
LEADERSHIP



3AS—The 3AS class created a Presentation on Climate Change, explaining their goals and giving tips on how we can care for our Earth.



3B - The Class of 3B will be donating clothes to Liberty Children's Home in Ladyville, helping the kids by providing them with comfortable outfits to wear.

3BC - The Class of 3BC were planning to create a short video explaining 10 reasons why people shouldn't pollute. The class is split into 10 groups which each of them were assigned with 1 reason.



3SC1 - The Class of 3SC1 will be writing a letter to an Area Representative/City Council to give suggestions on strategies to address flood prone areas in the city.



3SC2 - The Class of 3SC2 were planning to create digital posters for spreading awareness about Non-Violence and Keeping the Environment clean.



4AS— The Class of 4AS were planning to collaborate with at least 10 restaurants and 10 stores to promote eco-friendliness. They plan to encourage restaurants to use only biodegradable and eco-friendly straws, while the stores will eliminate plastic bags in favor of reusable biodegradable bags.

4B - The Class of 4B were planning to create posters for spreading awareness about Non-Violence, showing the huge impacts towards society.



4BC - The Class of 4BC were planning to educate themselves through discussions, guest speakers, and research on peaceful activism. They will then draft a class peace pledge, create a Peace Wall for daily acts of kindness, and organize a Non-Violence Awareness Day at school.



4SC1 - The Class of 4SC1 were planning to make Mercy Care Packages in groups of 5, donating it to Haven's House in Belize.



4SC2 - The Class of 4SC2 were planning to create a video on about flora and fauna, talking about Belize's Wildlife, Manatees, and the Mangroves .



MERCY DAY 2024

GUEST SPEAKERS



Dr. Nelma Jones-Mortis



Dr. Nelma Jones-Mortis is a prominent figure in Belize, known for her contributions in education, research, activism, and politics. With over 30 years of experience, she has influenced educational policies and practices, focusing on improving standards and accessibility. As an activist, she champions social justice, gender equality, and community empowerment. Recently, Dr. Nelma Jones-Mortis entered politics as a mayoral candidate for Belize City, advocating for transparency, community engagement, and sustainable development. Her work aims to create a more equitable and informed society.



Rafael Manzanero

Mr. Rafael Manzanero is a distinguished environmental conservationist from Belize, serving as the Executive Director of Friends for Conservation and Development (FCD). Under his leadership, FCD has become a key player in environmental protection and conservation in Belize. His efforts extend beyond national borders, contributing to regional conservation initiatives. Despite limited resources, his dedication has earned him the prestigious Order of the British Empire (OBE). Mr. Manzanero's work is a beacon of inspiration for conservationists worldwide.



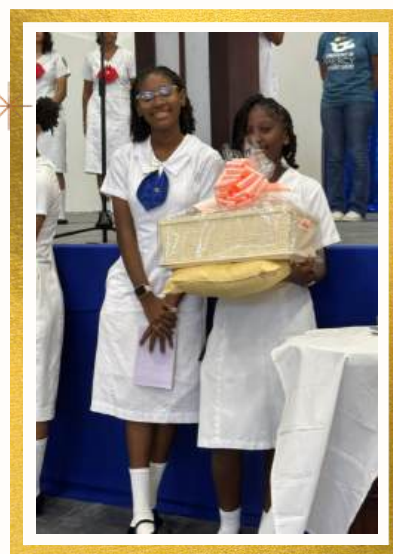
Rafael Manzanero



PRESENTATION OF GIFTS TO THE SISTERS OF MERCY

BY: ALANNA NUNEZ & VIOLETH MOLINA

As part of our Mercy Day activities, our school community gathered to celebrate the Sisters of Mercy's unwavering dedication and service by presenting them with heartfelt gifts. As Mercy Girls, we are inspired by the selflessness and compassion demonstrated by these incredible women, and we show these gifts to express our deep appreciation for them meaningfully. The Sisters accepted each token of appreciation with warm smiles and sincere gratitude, reminding us of the value of giving back. We created a stronger bond in gratitude and shared commitment to service, inspiring us to continue the Sister's legacy of love and compassion.





CVM
CHURCH

CENTRO VISIÓN MISIONERO

A different but *convenient* point!

Epicerter is a monthly celebration that CVM hosts for youths. It is filled with worship, prayer, teachings of the gospel and games. In hope to help others with learning more about God and developing a desire for a relationship.

GOALS

- To help teenagers in promoting healthy friendships, biblical principles, and a sense of company when on the journey of discovering your purpose.
- To let the purpose of Epicerter reflect the church's new collaboration called Youth Club that is supported by CVM and a non-profit organization called Care Point to help kids from Port Loyola.
- To allows students to help and give back to their communities through different activities held such as back-to-school fairs, fun programs for the youth, and Bible studies.



ABOUT US



24 North Front Street,
Belize City



7:15 pm - 9pm



Saturday



@cvmchurch



Audriel Sanchez & Aliza Doniz

H
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Congratulations

Honor Roll

At the beginning of a new school year students of Saint Catherine Academy are recognized with honors for their outstanding past academic gpa.

- Francis Warde red Honours:

Cumulative GPA of 3.25-3.49

- Austin Carol Blue Honours:

Cumulative GPA of 3.50-3.79

- Catherine McAuley gold Honours:

Cumulative GPA of 3.80-3.99

- Platinum and gold special distinction award:

Cumulative GPA of 4.0



The ceremony took place on September 27, 2024. Former homeroom teachers presented awards to the students for earning first place in their class and excelling in various subjects. The students were also recognized for their impeccable attendance and perfect conduct at school. To mark their achievements, they received a certificate and an honor sticker.



25

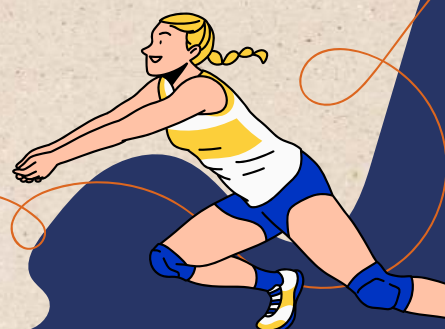
OPENING OF VOLLEYBALL SEASON



On Tuesday, September 24th, the 2024 high school volleyball season commenced. SCA's team initiated the season with a victory in the first game against BHS.



Our team has a winning streak of 29 consecutive years as central volleyball champions and 14 straight years as national champions.



'U17 NICARAGUA



SCA STAR SQUAD

- ★ Jaycee Usher
- ★ Amayah Lino
- ★ Faia Reshetina
- ★ Nathalie Popper
- ★ A'Shae Parks
- ★ Emaun Marin
- ★ Akili Jones
- ★ Sara Safa



On September 24th, Team Belize traveled to Managua, Nicaragua, for the inaugural AFECVOL U17 Central American Girls' Volleyball Championship. The team featured 14 youth players, including Jaycee Usher, Rhea Tsai, Amayah Lino, Faia Reshetina, Nathalie Popper, A'Shae Parks, Emaun Marin, Akili Jones, Jamielee Espejo, Sara Safa, Dasialynn Thurton, Miley Armstrong, Hannah Auil, and Abigail Sharp, with 8 of them being current students or alumnae of Saint Catherine Academy. Team Belize secured the bronze medal after defeating Guatemala, Honduras, and finally El Salvador but fell to Costa Rica and Nicaragua. The team shone individually, with SCA's Akili Jones earning the titles of **Best Server**, **Best Scorer**, and **Second-Best Attacker**. Dasialynn Thurton was awarded Best Libero and Best Defender, and SCA's Emaun Marin received the **Best Attacker** award. Despite their youth and inexperience, the team represented Belize proudly.

SUICIDE AWARENESS

MONTH

BY AALIYAH WADE AND BRIANA CUELLAR



A VOICE FOR
DIGNITY AND
RESPECT



SUICIDE PREVENTION

More than 720,000 people die by suicide every year. There are an estimated 20 suicide attempts for each suicide.

Suicide can occur at any stage of life and in all regions of the world. In 2021, suicide was the third leading cause of death among 15–29-year-olds globally, and 73% of all suicides happened in low- and middle-income countries. Almost 20% of global suicides were due to pesticide poisoning.

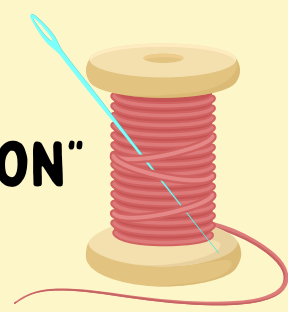
THERE IS HELP AVAILABLE


- **Talk to someone if you're ever feeling suicidal. School counselor, a friend, a teacher, even a stranger!**
- **Call or text the 988 Suicide & Crisis Lifeline at 988 (para ayuda en español, llame al 988). The Lifeline provides 24-hour, confidential support to anyone in suicidal crisis or emotional distress. Call 911 in life-threatening situations.**
- **Death is never the answer because you have the future ahead of you!**

Isaiah 41:10 says, "Do not fear, for I am with you; do not be dismayed, for I am your God; I will strengthen you and help you; I will uphold you with the right hand of my righteousness."



"STITCHING STORIES: A QUILT OF LITERARY IMAGINATION"



Class 2GL used the book
“Homeless Bird” to
create quilts symbolizing
events in the story. 



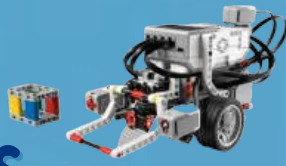


ROBOTICS [AT] SCA



By Jaslynn Liu and Anjali Hedage

CLUB ACTIVITIES



WHAT IS THE ROBOTICS CLUB ABOUT?

EDUCATIONAL
COURAGE

The Robotics Club meetings are always fun, and there is never a dull moment. The activities encourage all members to use their creativity, and all the necessary materials are provided. Some of the group activities include learning block code, creating programs using block code to be used on robots and constructing different models of robots. At the end of each club meeting, each group that creates a program for their robot presents their creative project.

The robotics club aims to help build students creativity and knowledge on robots and find new ingenious ways to use them.

“In the robotics club, we demonstrate SCA'S traditional mercy values in a new and innovative technological way.” - Club President Kristy Bowen

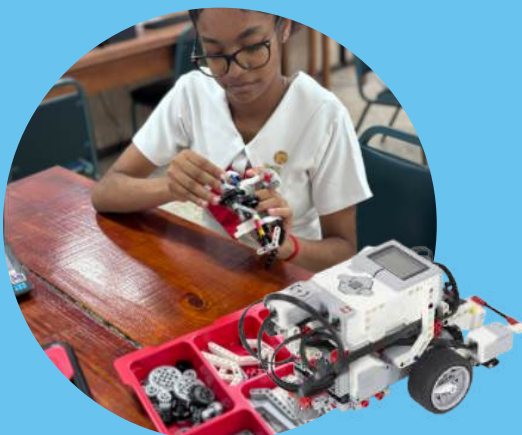
DO ROBOTS INTRIGUE YOU?

Don't be shy sign up for the robotics club. Learn valuable skills and explore your innovative side.

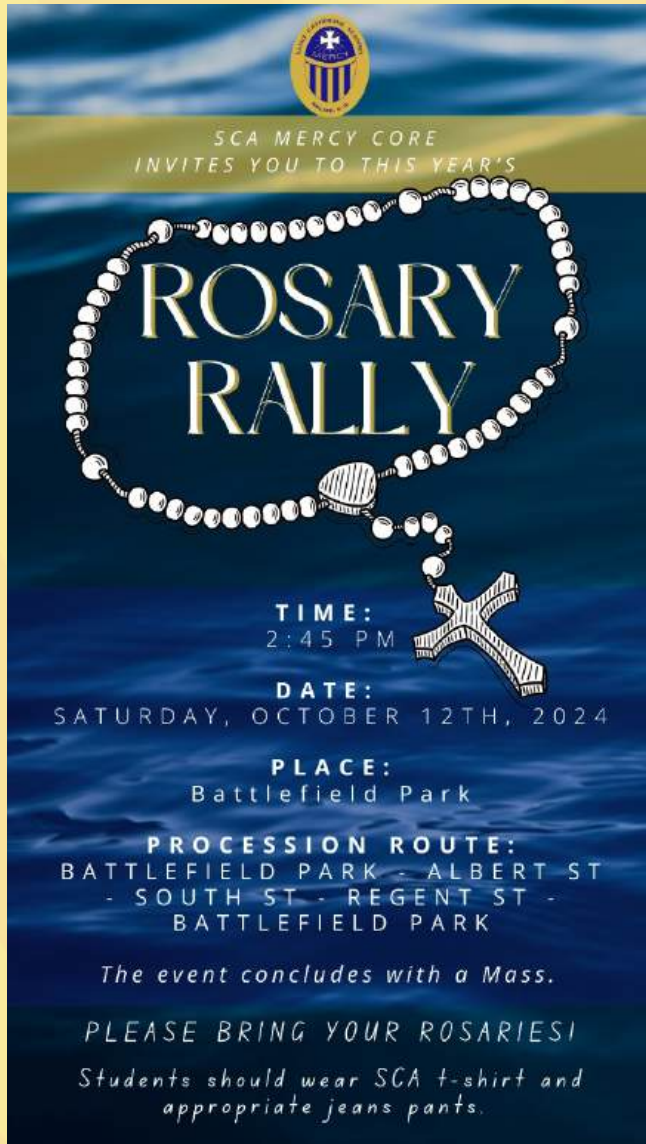
- Message club secretary Naylah Nunez on teams for additional information or queries:

CREATIVNESS
INNOVATING **SKILL BUILDING**
ENGINEERING

CLUB MEETINGS ARE
HELD ON
WEDNESDAYS!!



NEXT @ SCA



SCA MERCY CORE
INVITES YOU TO THIS YEAR'S

ROSARY RALLY

TIME:
2:45 PM

DATE:
SATURDAY, OCTOBER 12TH, 2024

PLACE:
Battlefield Park

PROCESSION ROUTE:
BATTLEFIELD PARK - ALBERT ST
- SOUTH ST - REGENT ST -
BATTLEFIELD PARK

The event concludes with a Mass.

PLEASE BRING YOUR ROSARIES!
*Students should wear SCA t-shirt and
appropriate jeans pants.*

College Fair 2024



OCEANA
Wavemaker Annual
General Meeting

SAVE THE DATE

OCTOBER 5, 2024
AT 10:00 A.M.
ST. CATHERINE'S
ACADEMY MERCY
CENTER, BELIZE CITY

REGISTER NOW!



Indigenous Peoples Day Belize



**Saint Catherine
Academy**

COLLEGE FAIR

**OCTOBER 31ST 2024
9:00 AM - 1:00 PM**

**FOR HIGH
SCHOOL
STUDENTS AND
PARENTS**

Learn about college options
and get your questions
answered!

- ✓ College Options
- ✓ Scholarship Programs
- ✓ Student Loans

For more information
Contact:
mjones@sca.edu.bz

123 NEWSLETTER

A MERCY CENTER OF EXCELLENCE & INNOVATION



A NATION PROUD AND FREE

BELIZE AT 43

Celebrating with edible art cookies
from [@sprinkledbz](https://www.instagram.com/sprinkledbz)

MERCY DAY 2024



DÍA DE LA
MISERICORDIA 2024

