

**PRESS RELEASE**

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2005-2006

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**Benevolent Mission of Atlanta establishes computer laboratory in  
Jamaican primary school**



Students at St. Ann's Bay primary are now able to readily access on-line educational material through the use of several new fast, high capacity Pentium-4 computers and accompanying software. In addition several students will be awarded scholarships towards meeting their financial need for books and lunch meet. The computers were donated by Benevolent Missions of Atlanta (BMA), an Atlanta based nor-profit organization. This vibrant organization which was formed one and a half year ago that defines its mission as dedicated to effectively harnessing and leveraging the time, talent and resources of the Jamaica-U.S community to assist disadvantaged and at-risk children with great potential throughout the island of Jamaica and in the metro Atlanta area. The organization funding is raised from Atlanta-based Jamaicans and friends who have donated generously to BMA fundraising activities. BMA's president, Dr. Conrad Ingram, a university professor of chemistry in Atlanta, explains that the short term plan is to expand the program that was established at St. Ann's Bay primary to a total of six primary schools across the country, one in each region defined by the ministry of education.

The computer acquisition program was designed to provide institution-wide assistance to benefit multiple students. In particular, the computers will be utilized to improve students reading, writing, numeracy and computer literacy skills. Already the school has installed selected learning software on the systems and is currently using them to develop students phonetic and research skills In addition some math software has been installed in an effort to

In addition officers of the organization visit with students and staff at the primary school on a fairly regular basis, during which they interact and conduct motivational discussions with several students, offer them guidance on focusing, studying, setting and achieving their academic goals, overcoming social challenges, and on career choices. The visiting members also hold discussions with the principal, guidance counselors, and grade teachers regarding students' progress, challenges faced by the institution, and BMA's involvement. For more information, please see [www.benevolentmissions.com](http://www.benevolentmissions.com).

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