



## PEARSON TECHNO-MATHS QUIZ LAUNCHES 5<sup>TH</sup> YEAR OF COMPETITION

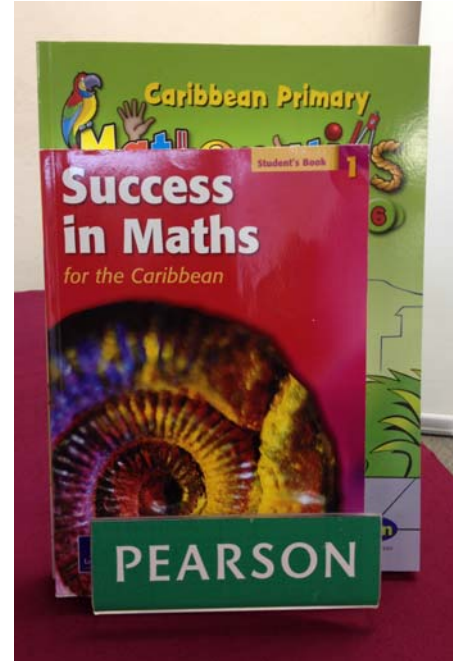
**ST. GEORGE'S, GRENADA, Monday, October 28, 2013 – GIS:** The Ministry of Education and Human Resource Development, in collaboration with Pearson and the National Insurance Scheme (NIS), launched the 2013-2014 Pearson Techno-Maths Quiz on October 21, in the Ministry of Education Conference Room.

The ‘Techno-Math Quiz’ is a yearlong competition that encourages schools to build the mental arithmetic and problem solving capabilities of their students. Permanent Secretary in the Ministry of Education, Mrs. Theresa Bowen, endorsed the initiative and stressed the importance of developing Arithmetic skills at a young age.

“As we are aware, mental arithmetic helps in stimulating the brains of the young ones,” Mrs. Bowen said. “Research has shown that children who were good in Mathematics in the first grade of school had the easiest and most success. This means that the earlier your child develops a clear understanding of mathematics concepts, the easier everything else would be for them.”

Mr. Lydon Richardson, Curriculum Officer for Mathematics in the Ministry of Education, explained the purpose of the Quiz and the ways in which developing mental arithmetic and problem solving skills benefits students.

“We are working toward raising the achievement level in students, and not just in mathematics. The better students do in mental arithmetic; it tends to rub off in the other subject areas. Students will do better in history, social studies, geography and the other sciences also,” Mr. Richardson said.



Although the competition is officially geared at Grade Five (5) and Grade Six (6) students, Mr. Richardson said that the teachers are encouraged to practice mental Arithmetic with all of their pupils. “We want all students to take part in the quiz. It doesn’t matter the student’s reasoning level or the student’s ability in Mathematics. We want teachers to develop cards, number facts cards, so that students can quiz each other in the classroom.”

Representative from Pearson, Mr. Kingsley Alexander, addressed the transition that the Pearson Company has made from purely printed books to electronic learning programmes.

“Pearson is presently undergoing a transformation, a positive transformation, to meet the requirement of the global changes in terms of the pattern of learning and the technologies that now prevail. As a leading company in global education it is imperative that we also lead in terms of the format of our provision of resources,” Mr. Alexander said.

The competition will run from October 2013 and will culminate with the National Finals in June of 2014. Principals and teachers of primary schools are encouraged to have their Grades Five (5) and Grades Six (6) students participate.



This is the fifth year that the Pearson Techno-Maths Quiz is being held in Grenada.

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