



NEWS RELEASE

For Immediate Release

SCHOOLS RECEIVE MASKS AND SANITIZER ON INTERNATIONAL WOMEN'S DAY FROM CIBC FIRSTCARIBBEAN

Bridgetown, Barbados, March 8, 2022: - To mark the celebration of International Women's Day 2022, CIBC FirstCaribbean reached out to a number of schools to assist them in the continuous fight against the covid-19. The bank donated 3000 masks and 30 gallons of alcohol to 6 schools - 5 primary and 1 secondary school.

After discovering that there is a serious need for alcohol in the schools, to ensure the sanitisation of all the little hands daily, the bank purchased and presented these items to the schools to help in the fight.

"We can go through 2 gals of alcohol a day as we have to refill the sanitisers in all the classrooms and the children are supposed to sanitise whenever they enter the classroom, then of course we have bottles in other parts of the school as well, said Principal of St. Mary's Primary School, Mrs. Nancy Haynes

She shared this information with Ms. Donna Wellington, Managing Director of the CIBC FirstCaribbean when she visited the school to present the items and extend greetings on International Women's Day.

"In past years, we have invited girls from selected schools who are interested in careers in finance, business or banking, to spend a day at the bank, visit the various departments and meet staff members to see if they would be interested in a career in banking. We have also visited schools, both online and in person to give talks to children on various topics," Ms. Wellington said.

However, she noted that "since the children have only just returned to school after such a long time, we thought that those initiatives might be more disruptive at this time and so we looked for another way in which to share the day with the schools.

We chose schools that were either in close proximity to one of our branches or with whom we previously had an association and donated some much-needed alcohol for sanitising and masks."

With all protocols being observed, the Managing Director visited three of the schools and the other three will have their items delivered during the week.

She paid visits to Luther Thorne Primary, St. Mary's Primary and Lester Vaughan Secondary School. The other schools to receive packages will be Reynold Weekes Primary in St. Philip, St. Elizabeth Primary in St. Joseph and Eden Lodge Primary in St. Michael.

Principal of the Luther Thorne Memorial Primary, Ms. Maria Benn explained that they had to replenish the sanitisers in each classroom every day. With a school role of over 500 including a satellite location at the Restoration Ministries church, to accommodate all the children back at school, the need for sanitiser is great.

She further extended her appreciation for the masks, because with the little ones eating at lunch and break time and messing up their masks, they often needed others to replace the dirty ones, while others sometimes forgot theirs at home.

At the Lester Vaughan School, Principal Anthony Alleyne confirmed that the 856-member school is on a blended programme with some children studying online and others at school in rotation, as only about 500 students can be presently accommodated on any given day with the correct social distancing. Deputy Principal Mrs. Suzette Holder confirmed that they can go through about 4 gallons of alcohol daily.

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About CIBC FirstCaribbean

CIBC FirstCaribbean is a relationship bank offering a full range of market leading financial services through our Corporate and Investment Banking, Retail and Business Banking and Wealth Management segments. We are located in sixteen (16) countries around the Caribbean, providing the banking services that fit our customers' lives through approximately 3,000 employees in 68 branches and offices. We are one of the largest regionally listed financial services institutions in the English and Dutch speaking Caribbean, with over US\$11 billion in assets and market capitalization of US \$2 billion. We also have an office in Hong Kong. The face of banking is changing throughout the world and CIBC FirstCaribbean intends to lead these changes with the expertise, integrity and knowledge gained from banking in the Caribbean since 1836.

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Lester Vaughan Secondary - Donna Wellington presents the masks and alcohol to Principal Anthony Alleyne and Deputy Principal Mrs. Suzette Holder.



Luther Thorne 1: Senior Teachers and Principal of Luther Thorne Primary accept the donation from Donna Wellington - from left Chyrrl Baker-Waithe, Andrea Bishop-Knight, Dwayne Blanchard - Head of Health and Safety Committee and Class teacher, Carolyn Jean-Paul, Donna Wellington - CIBC FirstCaribbean, and Maria Benn -Principal.



St. Mary's Primary 1 - Principal of the St. Mary's Primary School, Mrs. Nancy Haynes accepts the donation of masks and alcohol from Donna Wellington Managing Director CIBC FirstCaribbean Barbados OpCo.