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International Bank

NEWS RELEASE

For Immediate Release

CIBC FIRSTCARIBBEAN GOES BACK TO SCHOOL AT EBENEZER THOMAS PRIMARY

Road Town, British Virgin Islands, 13, September 2022 - Amory Jervis, Country Manager for CIBC FirstCaribbean relived the excitement of the first day of school when he presented a cheque for \$2000 to Principal Sybil Hodge on September 12 at the Ebenezer Thomas Primary School (ETPS) assembly to welcome students to the start of the 2022/2023 academic year.

The money provides the funding for the "Word Wall" and "Math Pillars" commissioned by Principal Hodge to support the school's integrated teaching and learning efforts. Common words are painted on the walls of the playground while the multiplication tables 1 through 12 are stencilled on all the pillars outside each classroom. There is also a mural of the territorial education theme "Moving Full Steam Ahead" - "steam" being an acronym for science, technology, engineering, arts and mathematics.

Mr. Jervis addressed the students and teachers gathered under the pavilion before the symbolic hand over of the funds. He acknowledged the teachers' hard work and commitment to their students and commended them on their contributions as educators. He went on to encourage the students to excel at all they do and referenced the word wall as he called on them to expand their minds and be good citizens of the school.

"We use words to come up with ideas and grow our minds. We use words to express our feelings and to offer encouragement to our friends. We want you to think about the words that you choose when you write and when you speak and to use them wisely so that you will be heard and understood clearly by your teachers, parents, and friends. We encourage you to learn a new word every day and to do something kind and good every day that will make your day, your friends' day, your teachers' day, and your school day a wonderful one!"

Through the sponsorship of the word and multiplication walls, CIBC FirstCaribbean took its first step in rekindling its relationship with ETPS which originally started in 2009 when the bank signed up to the "Adopt-a-School" programme. During that period which spanned a few years, the bank staff volunteered their time to participate in reading week and to assist with projects including the repainting of the school walls and preparing the kitchen garden for planting.

"We are grateful for the assistance coming from CIBC FirstCaribbean and are excited to welcome the bank back to the Ebenezer Thomas Primary School family," said Principal Hodge. "We have several projects in the pipeline that will improve the school's offering for the children and we look forward to whatever ways the bank can assist us in realising our plans. We also will ensure that, as a school, we will endeavour to support the bank's community initiatives including the upcoming Walk for the Cure."

District Representative Honourable Julian Frazer, Chief Education Officer, Dr Connie George, and motivational speaker Mr. Pete Smith also shared remarks while musician Mr. Brent Hoyte kept the tempo upbeat as the event DJ.

The ETPS in Sea Cow's Bay has 151 students enrolled for the new academic year. Established over 40 years ago, the school has generated government and community leaders and high achievers including local sports heroes, two times 400m hurdles Commonwealth Games Champion Kyron McMaster and shot putter Eldred Henry - both Olympians.

Ends



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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 fifteen (15) countries around the Caribbean, providing the banking services through approximately 2,800 employees in 64 branches and offices. We are one of the largest regionally listed financial services institutions in the English and Dutch speaking Caribbean, with US\$13 billion in assets and market capitalization of US\$1.3 billion. We also have a representative office in Hong Kong that provides business development and relationship management for our fund administration. 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.

CIBC FirstCaribbean is a member of the CIBC Group. CIBC is a leading Canadian-based global financial institution with 11 million personal banking and business clients. Through our three major business units - Retail and Business Banking, Wealth Management and Capital Markets - CIBC offers a full range of products and services through its comprehensive electronic banking network, branches, and offices across Canada with offices in the United States and around the world.

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