

Chetolah Park Success Story

The Chetolah Park Primary School is located in one of Kingston's very volatile and depressed inner-city communities, known as Hannah Town. This school which was built to accommodate approximately 1,000 students, now houses only 89 students, as enrollment has dwindled due to violence in the area. Parental involvement in the school activities, including the PTA is strongly curtailed, as parents fear crossing the "borders" that have been so designated by the thugs in the area. The appearance of the school building is somewhat drab and on first appearance the compound often appears deserted. The general physical environment is outstandingly clean, but a bright coat of paint inside and outside of the building could be very beneficial to lift both the appearance of the school and the spirit of the school community.

Despite the many challenges being faced on a daily basis by the Chetolah Park school community, it is refreshing and heart-warming to report the school's success in the 2006 Grade 4 NAP Literacy test. Of the ten (10) boys and three (3) girls who sat the exam, six (6) boys and two (2) girls performed at "mastery" level; four (4) boys and one (1) girl performed at "almost mastery" level; and only one (1) boy performed at the "non-mastery" level. This is indeed an encouraging result and the hard-working, dedicated teaching staff, headed by the Principal, Miss Iris Hollingsworth must be highly commended for their efforts.

*Submitted By: Grace Christie
Supervising Specialist-Chetolah Park/
Gender Specialist - EEHP*

Date: November 27, 2006