

Scotiabank marks Child Month with focus on Schools for Labour Day, Reading Day and Teacher's Day

[Tuesday, May 6, 2013] Scotiabank marks Child's month with activities focusing on literacy and education. Child Month, in which Read Across Jamaica Day, Teacher's Day and Labour Day are observed, will see hundreds of Scotiabank volunteers (ScotiaVolunteers) supporting schools across the island and completing a major project at Bellfield Primary School in St. Mary.

On *Read Across Jamaica Day*, Tuesday May 7, ScotiaVolunteers will visit Children's Homes and Places of Safety to read with the wards. On Teachers' Day, Wednesday, May 8, ScotiaVolunteers will substitute for teachers at Basic, Primary and Secondary schools across the island. The focus of the sessions will be financial literacy for kids.

Come Labour Day, May 23rd the major Scotiabank project will be at the Bellfield Primary in St. Mary where the school will be repainted and a new mural created. The existing vegetable garden will also be expanded with the ScotiaVolunteers committing to work with the school throughout the year to maintain the garden.

Bellfield was one of five schools in St. Mary which received assistance from Scotiabank last year in the wake of Hurricane Sandy. The bank funded repair of its roof. The other schools repaired since November 2012 were Highgate Primary, Carron Hall All Age, Carron Hall Infant and Zion Hill Primary.

The secondary Labour Day project will be to refresh pedestrian crossings across the island as part of Scotiabank's partnership with the Road Safety Unit of the Jamaica Constabulary Force in the programme Street Smart Street Safe.

"Volunteerism is in our DNA and these designated days provide a great opportunity for us to participate meaningfully. Through the Scotiabank Bright Future program and the ScotiaFoundation, our charitable efforts

are aimed at being relevant and responsive to the needs of the communities we serve. Our work in education focuses on improving the learning experience and outcomes of our youth, so the Bellfield project is one of our important activities this year," said Joylene Griffiths-Irving, Director, Corporate Social Responsibility.
