

Lynn Smith, Principal

On behalf of the administration, staff, and students of Bahamas Academy, I would like to take this opportunity to wish you all God's richest blessings for this new year.

We are in the middle of our second term and the school year is quickly progressing. A number of exciting things are happening on our campus and we would like to share these with you. On Monday, January 13, 2003, the Ministry of Education held its annual awards ceremony for the national examinations held during May and June of 2002. We are proud to announce that a 2002 graduate of Bahamas Academy was among those being honored for her outstanding achievement in the BGCSE examination results. That student is TESSA GIBBS. She achieved nine (9) passes: 6 A's, 2 B's, and 1 C. Tessa received an award for the highest score in the English Language examination in the entire country! This was no surprise to us because Tessa's performance has been consistently good from elementary school. Three years ago when she sat her BJC examinations, she also received an award for achieving the best overall passes in the island of New Providence. We'd like to congratulate her English teacher, Mr. Ronald Julien, for the excellent work he does with his students. We'd also like to congratulate Tessa's parents: Mr. & Mrs. William Otto Gibbs for the support they give to Tessa, their other two children, and Bahamas Academy. Tessa is a member of the Philadelphia Church. She is currently studying Biochemistry at the College of the Bahamas. Listen for her to continue her excellence at this institution.

On February 5, 2003, two of our students will participate in a Spelling Bee competition. They are TRAVIS KNOWLES and TANEISHA MILLER. They will compete against students from 14 other private schools, and the winner(s) from that competition will go on to compete in the national competition sponsored by the Ministry of Education later on this term. Let's encourage these students and continue to pray for their success. Travis is the son of Mr. & Mrs. Howard Knowles of the Centreville Church. We congratulate these students.

In addition to the academic successes at Bahamas Academy, we have an athletic department we are extremely proud of. This year we expanded our sports teams to include a girls' basketball team and a junior boys' basketball team. The teams have been doing very well. Of course, everyone is following the success of our senior boys' basketball team. As of this writing, the senior boys have played nine games and have won all nine! So it looks like they will be going to the playoffs, which begin on January 27. We will announce the venue in our next Corner. Please come and support our team-they are on their way to winning their second championship! We would also like to congratulate them for winning the basketball tournament they played in Alabama during December. In addition, we applaud Portland "Mitch" Bain (a member of the Grant's Town Church) who was named Most Valuable Player in the tournament. Hats off to Coach Symonette who works untiringly with this team. See you at the games!! -Lynn C. Smith, Principal