

Honorable –Mr... YOGIDA SAWMYNADEN, Minister of Youth & Sports

The Representative of the Zone – Mrs. Purmessur

Municipal Councillors,

Officials of the Ministry of Youth & Sports,

Mr Farhad Dowlut , the President of the PTA & members of the PTA,

Dear Parents ,

Ladies & gentlemen.

Good morning.

On behalf of the Deputy Rector, the Senior Educator, the Staff and the students of JKC, and in my own name, I extend a warm welcome to all of you, and I thank you for your presence and I hope that you will enjoy your stay in our midst.

It is with pride and pleasure that I am associating myself with to-day's event, the Annual Prize Giving ceremony, my forth one.

At the outset , let me present the apologies of the Mayor of BB RH, the Director of the Zone and of Ms Caroline from Microsoft .. being committed elsewhere.

Every year I look back with great pride at the achievements of our students who are involved in so many aspects of college life.

Today we are rewarding the best achievers of 2015 for the End of Year examinations as well as for SC and HSC.

Congratulations to all Prize winners and to their parents. Hard work and dedication are always rewarding.

To all other achievers, who unfortunately, are not prize winners to-day, I wish them better luck for next time.

I have named "achievers" for I believe that every kennedian is an achiever. You should always aim for the sky, the worst that may happen is that you will only fall among the stars.

My thanks also go to all the Educators who have spared no effort to draw the best out of the students.

When I was posted at JKC in 2013, I assigned myself the mission of “redorer le blazon” of the Institution.

Together with my crew members, that is the Staff (both teaching & non-teaching) , the PTA and the Students’ Bodies, I can proudly but humbly say that we have been successful to a large extent , however, we still have to go a long way ahead.

At the SC level, we have been maintaining a high pass rate of above 98 % with one or two failures only per cohort. For the 2016 cohort, we are targeting a 100% pass rate and more students scoring the highest aggregate 6.

At the HSC level, JKC has got its second laureate in a row in 2014 and in 2015; alongside, two other students were awarded additional scholarship under the Merit & Social criteria in 2013 and in 2015 .

I would like to congratulate student Maximilien Lee Chong for being the Laureate for the Technical Side and also to student Kurmally for being the Additional Scholarship Winner for the Science Side for the 2015 cohort.

Such performances will definitely give extra motivation to the 2016 HSC cohort to do even better. Potential laureates are emerging but no one should rest on their laurels; everyone will have to run the extra mile to make a difference to walk away with the honors.

The introduction of Art & Design at the Principal level for HSC in 2013 has finally been fruitful with student Maximilien being the laureate with the combination Maths-Physics-Art & Design.

And now with the introduction of combinations involving Economics & Business studies and offering English and French at the Principal level, I think that we have ignited the lamp of hope for further success.

As in previous years, in 2015 also, kennedians have been shining in many CO. & Extracurricular activities; kennedians have been participating and winning prizes in:

- MUN (both at Zone and National levels)
- OMNICANE
- Activities organized by the Ministry of Youth and Sports
- Regional Athletics Competitions, amongst others.

It is good to note that JKC has been nominated as Microsoft Associate Showcase School.

Distinguished guests, we felt extremely proud when 2 kennedians were among the 4 youth leaders representing our country at the PAN AFRICAN YOUTH LEADERSHIP PROGRAMME IN US earlier this year. I have named student Maximillien and Duchenne. Last year we had Duymun who represented the country in Italy for MUNESCO.

Along with concentration in academic studies, we have shown that participation in Co & Extra Curricular activities is essential to promote holistic development.

The Hon Minister of Youth & Sports will be pleased to learn that we recently organized a football competition for the students of Forms 5 to Upper 6 and was won by the STAFF team. This is the spirit of good relationship at JKC.

Participation in the Duke of Edinburgh Award goes in the same direction. And today we shall seize this special occasion to reward our kennedians for the Bronze AWARD of 2015 and we look forward to launch the JUNIOR ACHIEVEMENT AWARD too very soon.

We are also participating in the LIONS Quest organized by the LIONS Club, in line with our aim in setting the JKC LEO Club last year. I would like to thank the LION Club of Beau /Rose Hill for its contribution for the welfare of our students.

In the context of the 9 year schooling ,We welcome the intention of the Ministry of Education & HR, TE & SR to convert JKC into an academy offering subjects in the Science, Technical and Sports streams.

We also thank the Ministry for having accepted our proposal to erect a new block for the Science Laboratories instead of renovating the existing ones. Site visits have already been effected.

We thank the Zone, and the Director, in particular, for always lending an attentive ear to our requests; I have been told that most of our requests for infrastructural works will be contracted out soon. I would like to express my gratitude to the Mayor of Beau Bassin/ Rose Hill Mr. Ken who has always responded positively to our request namely for the recent annual Sport Day.

However, our new Multi Purpose Hall is not yet operational due to lack of staff, the request made since 2014 are yet to be entertained. After several reports, the Zone has been reporting the issue to higher levels and we expect prompt action in the future. I appeal to the Zone to intervene in our favour to speed matters up so that the complex may be operational soon. I have personally spoken to the Hon Minister of Education & HR, TE & SR about the complex, and the Minister is quite keen to have the official inauguration later this year.

I have heard that the Ministry of Youth & Sports is also interested to use the complex. So, a helping hand will be most welcome.

Discipline has always been an issue at JKC, well before 1975... but I must say that with input from all stake holders the situation is being addressed. We are on the right track. Educators, Students' Bodies, non-teaching Staff and parents are all contributing in this respect BUT we still have a long way to go.

The PTA, and in particular, the successive Presidents (late Mr Poonie and now Mr Dowlut) have been investing a lot to improve the school environment and to provide support.

Distinguished guests the mission which I set to myself when I was posted at JKC in 2013 is well on track and will be taken much further ahead irrespective of whether I remain at JKC or not for kennedians have now realized their potential and that THEY ARE SECOND TO NONE.

I extend my warmest thanks to my staff for their dedication and hardwork. Without your expertise, support, commitment and encouragement , I would not have been able to achieve anything.

To end, I would like to remind my crew and my students about the wordings of an old Hindustani songstating that :

“ if you cannot shine like the Sun at least become a lamp to show the way to others

Irrespective of whether you receive praises or being defamed, never depart from the path of truth just be like the sea breeze and the forest of honey that always share their sweetness and freshness to everyone.

I thank you for your attention.

Long live JKC