



KBC's Launch in Jamaica

'To the rescue' was what all the stakeholders of education thought of KBC Learning Center at their launch in Jamaica on October 29, 2007. The directors of KBC learning who are educational and technological specialists, saw the need to expand their educational supplementary service providing organization from their Head Quarters in Washington Dc. to the Island of their birth in Jamaica's time of education crisis. KBC's staff of educational, psychological and technological specialists revealed the innovative methodologies and techniques through technology that the center has already began to implement with the aim to empower education among our citizens while rapidly reducing illiteracy in Jamaica.



Representatives from the private sector such as; the Digicel foundation, Cable and wireless Jamaica, World Bank consultants, The Scotia Bank Group and the Promethean electronic white board Co. along with Principals from Jamaica College, St. Richards Primary, Wolmers Boys, Ruseas High, and Vase Prep. Liberty Prep, St. Hilda's High, Cyber learning Caribbean, School of Destiny, parents and students were all excited about the breakthrough interventions through technology that are used for diagnostic assessment, individual programmes and lessons, via the internet and concept in collaboration with parent and teacher conferences that guarantee great academic results in little time.



KBC works with the belief that all students can learn and all must. In aid to the government's education transformation movement, stakeholders believe that KBC is the right solution for Jamaica at the right time.

Look Out Jamaica! Are you prepared for the Transformation?

Inside this issue:

Mrs. Golding is simply ecstatic about KBC's methodologies.

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Meet the KBC Family



Mrs. Angela Bennett
Director



Mrs. Yolanda Patterson
Special education



Ms. Kerian Russell
Early Childhood
Specialist



Mr. Wesley Edwards
Numeracy Specialist



Ms. Monique Jackson
Literacy Specialist

Ms. Diana McInnis
Office Assistant

The Ministry's View

The ministry of education and its views on 'technology in Education'

The Ministry's 7th Aim Outlined in their Constitution

"To enhance student learning by the greater use of information and communications technology as preparation for life in the national and global communities"

November 2-5 2006

'Improving Governance and Leadership in Education and Training with Technology'

The conference at the Wyndham Rose Hall Resort & Country Club in Montego Bay was collaborated by the Ministries of Education, Youth and Culture; Commerce, Science and Technology, the Institute of Education, the Jamaica Teachers Association, and Information Communication Technology for Development (ICT4D).

Minister of Education, Youth and Culture, Maxine Henry Wilson has said, "We are to remain competitive in the global environment. The Ministry recognizes the critical role of technology in globalization, and consequently we are emphasizing information and communication technologies in education, as a means of transforming our society and our people into knowledge based and globally competitive forces," the Minister stressed. She said the conference was being held at an appropriate time, in light of the transformation that would be taking place in Jamaica's education system over the next 10 years.

December 4-7 2007

'Advancing technology in education and Human services'

ICT and Education 'Sustaining a Nation's Development'. Sunset Jamaica Grand, Ocho Rios, Jamaica

The new Minister of Education Youth and culture, The Honorable Andrew Holness picked up where the previous Minister left off with a more intense plan to implement the advancing of technology in education. Mr. Holness viewed a variety of technological programmes and equipment that are being used internationally. His response was that more schools, teachers, corporate educators and private institution liaise on with these types of material in order to aid the traditional delivery methods to promote a more constructivism type of learning environment. The minister also commended institutions that have already started to utilize these methodologies and encouraged collaborations among the ministry of education's projects and other entities that may compliment each other in strengthening our education standards and output in our people.

Ms. Monique Jackson

The KBC Programmes

"Individualized tutoring that improves student performance and teacher effectiveness"

- ❖ Assessment scores help teachers, principals and families understand and address the specific academic needs of individual students.
- ❖ Results of assessments are used to establish student performance base line, identify areas of academic strength and weaknesses, develop individual student education plan and track student performance.
- ❖ Student's needs are addressed with the use of research based reading and mathematics tools that are individualized and highly structured delivered in a prescribed and systematic manner.
- ❖ On going assessment of students learning to measure progress towards goals.
- ❖ Ongoing professional staff.
- ❖ Active parental involvement
- ❖ Constant and systematic feedback among parent/student /school and KBC.
- ❖ Student progress data is readily available to parents and principals
- ❖ All students including those with learning differences and the gifted and talented are served.
- ❖ All assessments and instructional solutions are web-based

Services offered at KBC

- **Comprehensive academic assessments**
- **Individual Supplemental Education Plans**
- **Individualized tutoring in core subjects.**
- **GSAT/CXC/SAT test preparation**
- **Computer Literacy**
- **Workforce Training**
- **Enrichment programmes**
- **Special Needs/Gifted and Talented Programmes.**
- **Literacy and numeracy programmes**

Anyone can access KBC's services

KBC has utilized a unique approach to give all those need this type of intervention, the opportunity to do so with ease. Our approach to increasing the volume of educated citizens in Jamaica has influenced a variety of corporate sponsor's individual activists, musical artists and government affiliated characters, both locally and overseas who are determined to aid persons and groups in the effort to do their part in helping the nation's educational difficulties. We seek sponsors for those who may not be able to afford the services as well as provide packages for groups, schools and families. A number of adults take advantage of the tutorials in areas they need to further their goals at different price ranges and flexible timetables. Everyone should achieve their academic goals and at KBC we ensure that everyone can.

Student Feature

Most Improved Student in Reading

Denique Pink

When I looked at Denique's first piece of assessment

I thought to myself 'oh my goodness can we help her?', never did I believe that her learning to read would unfold so quickly in front of my eyes. Her results were not recorded on the assessment sheet as there weren't enough skills in any of the Reading readiness areas. I looked at her as a teacher looking at what Plato would say and I quote Children are like blank leaves waiting to be written on.

Yes she was blank but what were we going to write and how were we going to write it so that it doesn't disappear. She was placed on the software's click 'n' kids and raz-kids at times she would give up because she kept doing the same lesson over and over but as teachers understanding her needs we stuck to the task because we saw the bigger picture. Very soon she realized that her work was improving and so was motivated to reach for the sky. I am very proud to report that Denique is now reading with understanding and has grown in confidence because of this Denique now wants to come to KBC all the time because this is where she discovered 'I Denique can read'. Denique received the End Of Term Award " Most Improved Student In Reading". This further motivates us as academic monitor to believe in the fact that every student most learn and every student can learn

*By Kerri Ann Russell
Academic Monitor*

From An Insider



The children that are enrolled at KBC St. Richards's primary are very happy to be in such a programme. They have only been enrolled a little over two months but their improvements have surpassed what was expected from the period. They are showing unwavering interest and are more aware of their surroundings. They are now reading signs on the billboards when they ride the bus and are having intellectual conversations about the things, people and places around them. Some grade three students have been asking about Saturday classes and even extended hours to read and do math at KBC, just to show how excited they are about improving their Literacy and Numeracy skills. As the primary teachers of these children we see their change of character with a sense of confidence among the other children in their classes back at school. We believe in the structure of the programme as it facilitates us as the primary contact teachers of these students; we appreciate the workshops and seminars provided for us which enables us to be better able to administer various strategies to help the students. I am also enrolled at KBC along with other teachers from the school doing an international IC3 technological course. I am experiencing improved confidence in my computer skills and additional skills and knowledge in Literacy. Having this opportunity has complimented my academic and professional goals to become a Literacy specialist and one day own a center that helps students who has learning difficulties. I would recommend other schools and teachers as well as parents to get on board as I have seen the effectiveness of the individualized programmes implemented here. The possibilities that these interactive programmes and technology provide has sparked new excitement and motivation in my profession.

By: Betty - Ann Barrett

(Resource
Teacher)
St.
Richards Primary

Motivated Mother

My child's enrollment at KBC is a real blessing; he is very excited on the mornings that he should go to the center. He has been enrolled there for two months where I have seen tremendous changes in his attitude towards reading in the short time. He is showing more interest in doing home work and his teachers from school says the same about school work. He is now reading signs on the billboards when we are on the road, he reads the news paper and even talks about some of the pictures and titles of articles. He is trying very hard and even enjoying himself when he reads.

I like the fact that the monitors have parent conferences to update us of our children's progress and struggles. I am grateful for the workshops and seminars that they keep once per month for the parents. We get to ask questions about how to help our children do better in certain areas and ideas to deal with difficulties of our own.

I also do an international computer course at KBC along with other parents that does the same or other programmes. The monitors are very understanding and helpful and I feel very fortunate and confident with such an opportunity.

I know that this will help me with my plans for the future and to further my education to aid with my desired profession.

I wouldn't hesitate to recommend other parents to use up the opportunities that KBC offers it truly gives us hope and motivation to expect a brighter future for ourselves and our children.

By: Maureen Montgomery
(Parent) St. Richards Primary



The New Path Jamaican Educational Development

In Jamaica a high percentage of the country's youth are exposed to education provided but the quality of education is incapable of producing the desired quality and quantity of educated individuals to properly manage the affairs of the country. Although efforts are being made to improve the quality of education given to the students in all sectors of the education system, far too many students in the primary and secondary sectors are at risk of not becoming properly educated. Today's teachers in all sectors of the educational system have a pivotal role to in the development of a satisfactory educational system. They have relied on the instructive and constructivist methodologies for quite a long time and are confident that these methodologies have impacted positively on their students' academic development. They however need to properly synchronize traditional strategies with newer and more lucrative strategies to arrive



at the correct mix of strategies that are needed to maximize their students' learning.

Jamaican teachers while not disregarding the more traditional

learning aids such as the encyclopedia, chalk and talk and reading books have been familiarizing themselves with computer systems and other modern gadgets that are contributing to the acceleration of students' learning. These new innovations seek to supplement rather than replace the more traditional instructive and constructivist methods. They also present material to the learner in a more appreciated, user-friendly method that is designed to gain the attention of the individual: from all social classes; with different cognitive development; and from different cultures. The extent to which individuals are excluded from the participating functions of an institution or the society contributes to the success of the entity. Too many mature individuals are excluded from participating as equals in the Jamaican society

because they are considered to be uneducated. These disadvantaged individuals can, because of their non-educational background tend to be silently hurting because of their inadequacies. There are few individuals or communal entities that see to the restoration of these individuals as individuals of worth in the Jamaican society. What better, time than now to inject more lucrative strategies into Jamaica's academic system- a system that needs more dynamic injection of strategies to enhance student's upward mobility.



The Solution

Most stakeholders have realized that there is much to be gained from a well developed educational system. The management and staff of KBC Learning have studied Jamaica's educational system and are working assiduously to uplift the standard of the country's students by using an amalgamation of all the traditional methods and the highly user-friendly computer-oriented techniques. The unit has set its goals very high in producing quality education for its clients and is using its dynamism to get the job done in a highly professional way.

Mr. Wesley Edwards

Mr. Wesley Edwards
(Academic Monitor)

KBC's Interventions



Delivering the Solution to St. Richard's Primary School: One Funding Coordinator's Decision to Get Involved

Asked to describe her decision to get involved with helping to provide solutions to Jamaica's education crisis, Lisa Lewis says, "I'm not one of those people who likes to talk about problems - I want to implement things and see how they work." Ms. Lewis' decision to coordinate the funding of KBC Learning's intervention project at St. Richard's Primary School demonstrates this approach and also illustrates how individuals can make choices to invest in effective social change.

As an alumni of St. Richard's primary school, Immaculate Conception high school, the Alpha Academy and UWI, Ms. Lewis is familiar with the Jamaican educational system - and with its problems. Having expressed her longstanding interest in doing something meaningful to help Jamaican primary school education during a business development meeting at work one afternoon, Ms. Lewis was introduced by a work colleague to the Bennetts - directors of KBC Learning.

When the Bennetts explained to Ms. Lewis their years of experience with successful intervention projects in educational settings and told her that they could guarantee a certain level of success, Ms. Lewis was "keen to try it out." She approached Mrs. Buckley, the principal of St. Richard's primary, and asked her if the school's administration was interested in implementing the KBC Learning intervention program.

With Mrs. Buckley's enthusiastic support, Ms. Lewis and KBC Learning worked hand in hand with St. Richard's primary school management, teachers, parents and nutritional consultants, applying the KBC's "holistic approach" in order to develop a program tailor-made for the school. It was important to ensure continuity of the program's successes so KBC Learning introduced teacher training to the St. Richard's program. Ms. Lewis also felt strongly that "you can't just teach the teachers, you must also teach the parents," so a parent workshop was integrated into the program as well.

Ms. Lewis reports that when the program was introduced to parents of children at St. Richard's primary school, they were "completely overjoyed." In fact, the program was oversubscribed by 100 children." While Ms. Lewis has anticipated raising and coordinating the funding for eighty children, her efforts have stretched to support the implementation of individualized intervention programs for one hundred and forty children at the school.

Thus far, [X months in] Ms. Lewis feels that the intervention program is successful and has significant potential to benefit even more children. Her belief that the methods employed by KBC Learning, "have been proven to work," and that, furthermore, they would work in Jamaica, has proven to be well considered.

Not only are the children's results improving, the children and their teachers are excited about the program. As Mrs. Bennett reports, "the children are now turned on to learning. The children want to go to school, they want to be noticed by the teachers. They want to ask and answer questions. These were students that didn't want to go to school before." [Insert comment from Mrs. Buckley?]

With such success evident amongst program participants, Ms. Lewis' only concern going forward is that KBC Learning be able to keep up with demand. She however thinks that is "a good thing" and encourages others to "show how you're going to make a difference" and to get involved with the coordination and raising of funds in support of KBC Learning's intervention programs.

"I worry every day that we are not doing enough, fast enough, in Jamaica. We are losing generations every day, to crime and violence and things," says Ms. Lewis. In dealing with the educational crisis facing our children she feels strongly that, "we do not have the time to waste anymore. We need to stop pointing at the government and at the teachers - we need to just do it!"

Ms. Leslie Bennett
Editor

BOOKCLUB

To the parents:

Do you ever wonder how you can help your child develop a passion for reading?

Studies show that parents not only can but should take an active interest in a child's developing reading skills.

You can also consider a Book Club.

The Book Club concept works so well because it incorporates the principles for encouraging literacy that are mentioned above. It does this by:

- encouraging communication and discussion
- combining reading, discussion, and writing using well-written books that are interesting to children
- getting children to connect themes and information in books to their own lives
- allowing children to take responsibility for their study of literature



As you know, a child's learning begins long before his or her first day of formal education. You are your child's first and most important teacher and role model. However, when a child outgrows bedtime stories and story hour at the library, it becomes more difficult to shape his or her reading

experiences. It is essential, however, that you continue your efforts. You can do this by adapting principles you used when your child was just beginning to read and by introducing new ideas and experiences to fit your child's changing skill and maturity level. If you commit to doing this, you can and will play a key role in helping your child become an eager reader whose life is forever enriched by books.

Traditional reading/literature instruction focuses heavily on searching for the "right answer." Students are encouraged to read for facts and sometimes trivial details that they are asked to recall for quizzes and short-answer worksheet questions—which they usually struggle to complete independently. This type of reading instruction is not likely to develop a child's love of reading. The teachers and parents who use Book Club understand that literacy is a process. Good readers find meaning in a text by bringing their own ideas to it, discussing it, and connecting it to the world and their own lives.

Traditional reading instruction keeps children on the outside—telling them that meaning is buried deeply within texts and then sending them on fact-finding missions. The Book Club concept invites children to dive right into the literature—to question, debate, reflect, and to value what they bring to texts as readers. If your wish is to have your children be proficient readers and passionate about reading, then consider talking to KBC about our Book Club.

KBC Book Club offers interactive components for students. Our Classroom Connection allows students to communicate with their peers in other regions of the world through online discussions of books.

Have you ever wondered what Turkish Delight – the confection that bewitched Edmund in *The Lion, the Witch, and the Wardrobe* – tastes like? -Our monthly discussions will feature meals that reflect the theme of each book

Professional story-tellers will immerse our club members into each book as if they were characters in the story. We will always try to talk about the authors and whenever possible; request from them information or even a post card. We will endeavor to stay away from the best known books by popular authors to avoid reading what will be done in school or elsewhere.



*Advanced Technology gives our planet hope.
Five ways to save the world!*

- 1) Some experts are proposing radical ideas to save us from disastrous climate change.
Making clouds.**

Professors **John Latham** and **Stephen Salter** have designed a fleet of yachts that would pump fine particles of sea-water into clouds, thickening them to reflect more of the Sun's rays.



- 2) Adding nutrients to areas of the ocean that lack phytoplankton is one way of reversing the effects of global warming.**

Phytoplankton are not visible to the naked eye but from space, satellite images show that phytoplankton form enormous green swirls hundreds of kilometres long around coastal waters.

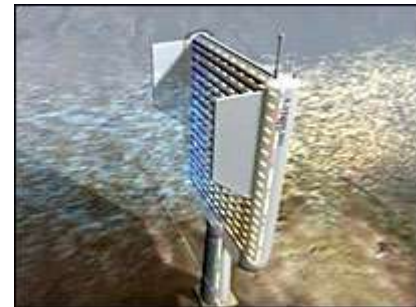


- 3) Creating a 'sulphur screen'
Launching rockets to create a sulphur screen high in the stratosphere is one way to counter global warming.**

In 1995, Professor **Paul Crutzen** won the Nobel Prize for helping to explain how the ozone layer is formed and depleted. Now the chemistry professor has a solution to mitigate global warming. He believes that sulphur particles similar to those erupting from volcanoes could act as a natural cooling device for the planet, by creating a "blanket" that would stop the Sun's rays from reaching the Earth.



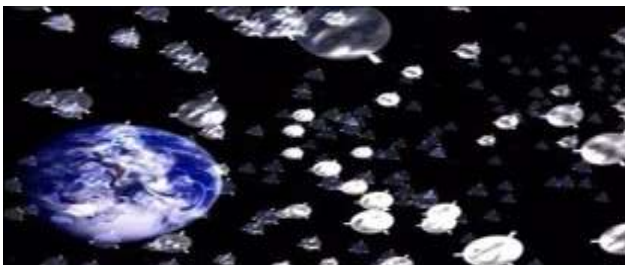
- 4) Machines help to mitigate our excessive burning of fossil fuels and its consequence, global warming?**



Artificial trees mimic one of the greatest carbon capturers on earth

They employ photosynthesis, using sunlight and carbon dioxide (CO₂) from sea water, to sustain themselves. "Just like trees, they can take carbon dioxide and give us back oxygen," says Professor Ian Jones.

What **Professor Jones** wants to do is add one of the components of urine - urea - to the areas of the ocean that lack phytoplankton.



But with global warming now a major concern, imagine if you could do this for the whole planet. One man believes it can be done - British born astronomer **Roger Angel**.

He thinks that by putting a giant sunshade - consisting of 16 trillion glass discs - in space, he can limit some of the Sun's energy reaching Earth.

Compiled by: **Monique Jackson**
Literacy Specialist
From- **BBC World News**

Parent Night Topic for November 2007
Developing Your Child's Self Esteem

1. Showing kids how to communicate their feelings, openly and honestly, is a good place for parents to start. Children need to know that even anger and fear are to be appropriately expressed rather than bottled up. Because children learn by example, parents must let their feelings be known.
 2. Listening--truly listening to children is a second key to developing good self-esteem. Having parents listen not only enhances children's good feeling about themselves, it also teaches them... (To be caring).
 3. Teaching how to get along with others through negotiation and compromise is important.
 4. Establishing fair, consistent discipline is one of the other building blocks of good self-esteem.
 5. Giving children responsibilities--tasks that are meaningful and 'do-able' and that they can be accountable for also builds self-esteem.
 6. Permitting children to make decisions (even an occasional wrong one) helps them learn good judgment.
 7. Keeping a sense of humor is important. It can work wonders and helps children keep perspective on what is important.
 8. Treating children lovingly, with both respect and courtesy, helps children learn that they are beautiful and worthwhile people. Parents, treat them the way you yourself want to be treated."
- When we build a warm and friendly relationship with our children, we establish the best Opportunity for imparting strong moral and spiritual values to them--the key to high self-esteem.

A B S U P P O R T W I F H H R H L
Z A R I U I N T E R N E T L E N E
P S L O K N L U K U D V R A X L V
W S T P M T F T Z J I M P R O V E
T E A R N E J O J Q V F N H E E L
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T S T N E R A P F O R A I S E P W

What is KBC

Author's Gallery

The Libyan Soldier

In the African continent, there is a country called Libya that was under attack from the enemies of the south. There was tall English man named Charles Dublin whom had many friends and a wonderful family. Dublin was sent to Libya for one reason...to defend the country against the war over Africa.

After 20 years of fighting and seeing his fellow battlers die for their country, he was the only one there. No one knew were he was.

The military was unable to find him. Since they lost communication with him all these years Dublin was wondering all about not knowing east from west neither north from south nor what year it was.

This became more dangerous, or so he thought but he did not even know that the war was over. He marched all the way to Egypt not knowing where he was going. The military of Egypt captured him and locked him up because he had illegally crossed their border.

In another 15 years and he was freed and flown back to the U.K Only to know he had to pick up the pieces that he left behind especially, with everyone thinking he was dead.

In the end everyone was surprised and happy to see him again and he still had a life to live.

By: Alex Ashley

(After School Student)

Christmas!!

Christmas is coming I can feel it in the air,
Literally I can! It's freezing out here!

Oh! But I know... Christmas is running through my hair with ornaments and, glittery bows..... gifts, stockings, goodies, *sorrel*, *ham* and *toy soldiers* in rows.

I just can't, can't wait any longer!

I'll cry if I have to wait a second more.

Granny always said, 'Never let those instincts of yours be ignored.'

The excitement of it all just makes me wonder...

What will my Christmas be like? Should I ponder?

No!!!! Suspense is the key to my everlasting glee.

Christmas is coming I can feel it in the air,

I just know it's almost here.

Michaelann Denton
(After School Student)

KBC

KBC

What can you do to discover all that you can be?

Where can you go to talk to someone who knows?

How can you achieve your cognitive dreams?

Why shouldn't you fly in the sky and sail the seven seas?

Well

If you corporate it facilitates as you elevate in your academic rate.

Don't hesitate be one to anticipate your higher state.

It's your choice to make, why wait?

Multi-sensory and individualized, professional and customized.

In the future you will see that now the place to be is

KBC

By Monique Jackson
(Literacy Specialist)

The Earth is too quiet don't you think?

The Earth is too quiet don't you think? Scream, shout, bang a pot!

DO something! The Earth is too quiet don't you think?

Sure we don't want this racket all the time, but all this will soon stop.

When? When does this noise stop you may ask?

Well, I'll tell you when At night, when the time of peace and rest comes.

All right, now I'm sure No need for your opinion anymore!

The earth is WAY too quiet And now I'm sure of it.

C'mon someone. Shout, whistle a tune, sing a song, beep a horn, stamp your feet,

rock to a beat, turn on your blow-dryer, set your hair on fire...wait!

STOP, STOP, STOP!!! I'm exhausted now You guys really need to pipe down,

I need some sleep!

Michaelann Denton

