

\$13M FOR SCHOOL REPAIRS

The School Repair Programme 2017 will run from July 25 to August 25. This was announced by THA Chief Secretary Kelvin Charles, on Wednesday.

Repairs are conducted every year during the July/August vacation period to maintain and enhance the infrastructure of school compounds in Tobago. “The intention is to treat with 42 schools,

seven of which are secondary schools and 35 the primary schools,” Charles revealed. The Executive Council has approved \$13 million toward the repairs. Roughly 100 contractors will be used to conduct the repairs, which will include painting, plumbing, the replacement of doors and windows, and minor construction. Charles said a community approach will benefit both schools and residents,

especially young Tobagonians. “...We’re saying that we wanted to do a couple of things,” Charles explained. “One... to ensure we provide opportunities for more of our business persons, more of tradesmen and so on to be empowered and to improve on their skill levels.” He said over time, the Division will “... ensure that they’re tested and evaluated and provided with the relevant licenses”.

TOBAGO HOSTS TOURISM TOUR

Tobago hosted a familiarisation tour recently, as the island seeks to step up its marketing efforts. Tourism officials hosted a contingent from the United Kingdom, 13 travel agents and one journalist from “The Telegraph Newspaper” from July 4-11 to learn more about Destination Tobago, its sights, and various aspects of the island’s culture. The group also attended meeting with various tourism stakeholders at a social networking session at Café Coco Bar and Bistro.

In a media release, the Division of Tourism, Culture, and Transportation described the visit as “key”, adding that “...product knowledge and awareness is an integral part of ensuring that Tobago is correctly positioned in the market.

It said the ultimate goal for Tobago is to “maximise sales and traffic to the destination”.



IT’S OFFICIAL: National Library and Information System Authority (NALIS) chairman Neil Parsanlal, left, presents executive director Catherine Romain with her instrument of appointment during a meeting at the Anne Mitchell Gift Auditorium of the Scarborough Library Facility on Tuesday (July 18, 2017).

TEACHERS GETTING VACATION TRAINING

Education isn’t only about academic learning. It’s also creating an environment where students can develop into citizens who make positive contributions to society. And although school is out for the July/August vacation period, school administrators are continuing their professional development through a series of training sessions.

This week, 80 secondary school administrators attended the weeklong Professional Development for Principals workshop at Bishop’s High School. Chief Secretary Kelvin Charles said the programme important step in boosting the education sector. “Principals, heads of departments, and deans are engaged...so it’s a leadership programme,” he stated.

A three-week dyslexia training session is also being conducted for 18 teachers at Scarborough Methodist School, which will create greater awareness about the disorder, where the affect student exhibits difficulty in learning to read or interpret words. “We are covering the gamut of ensuring that our various teachers are exposed to training,” Charles said.