



CONCH SHELL

20 EDITION | SEPTEMBER

WE CAN DO ANYTHING!

Being an educator is truly a calling because we are blessed with a great opportunity to influence the future of our world; we have the honour and privilege of motivating and preparing the future leaders of our community and church. What an awesome responsibility!

The fact is, such great opportunities come with great responsibilities. We are expected to possess exceptional knowledge and skills to teach, to motivate students to learn, to work extra hours, to persevere despite the lack of respect and appreciation from students and the community, low salaries, lack of recognition, to balance our professional and personal roles and responsibilities competently. We do also have the additional responsibility of being spiritual role models for our students. It is not as easy as it sounds.

At times, it feels as if we are going up against an opponent that is so much stronger and is defeating us in all aspects of life and we cannot see through it. It seems like life is saying that we are not big enough, tall, smart, talented, experienced, strong or good enough, and we ended up feeling hopeless!

A story is told of a family of four in a grocery store, a father, a mother, and two sons. The older son just got back from deployment in full military uniform. The family were so excited. The younger son is around seven years old. He is astatic to have his brother back, and he is jumping all over him and asking him a thousand questions. One of the questions he asked was about doing push ups. "Can you do ten push ups?" his older brother said yes, I can do that. The number increases until he asked, "Can you do fifty push ups with me on your back? The older brother who is big, strong and strapping said, of course I can do that too. The younger brother then said, "Prove it!" Right there in the middle of the grocery store the older brother in full military uniform got on the floor, invited his brother onto his back and started doing push ups-and he did all those fifty. The younger brother hopped off his back, hopping around the store shouting we did it! We did it! When in fact, he did not do anything. It was the strength of his older brother that was at play the whole time. The two brothers left the grocery store chatting and laughing while the older brother was carrying his younger brother on his shoulders. What a remarkable sight!

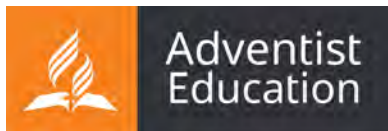
Christ calls us because the salvation of our boys and girls, our young people is at stake! And Philippians 4:13 is a promise that is reminding us fellow educators that we can get through whatever because Christ is the one who gives us strength.

We do have an older brother who is the biggest, the strongest, the most talented and experienced, willing to guide and lead us through. The challenge for us is simply to just lean on Him, trust our older brother that He has the strength to carry us through whatever it is that we are going through. In His Hands-success and victory is ours!

Yes! We can do all things through Christ who gives us strength!"

God bless

Kima J Pedro
Principal for Funafuti SDA Primary School



BURUKU HIGHLIGHTS

During the months of July and August 2021, Buruku Adventist School in the Solomon Islands staff and students had experienced a month long spiritual emphasis, awakening and empowerment through many spiritual programs ran by the local mission (SIM, Western Sub-office) and the Local church and School.

- Strategic planning (Western Region) – June (Regional Director)
- Treasurers & Secretary workshop – 1 week of worship (July) – GS (SIM) & CFO (SIM)
- Stewardship meetings – 1 week (July) – Stewardship director (SIM)
- “TRUTH FOR TODAY” Crusade via National TV down link/Hope SI – 3 weeks in July.
- Cottage meetings & Evangelism – Local Church (Jul/Aug.-1 week)
- Education week – August.

These evangelism events just happen one after another within the month of June to mid – August, 2021. The SPIRIT truly does work, impacting lives of many of our young people (Students included), thus many decided to follow Christ by requesting Bible studies while others decided to go into the water of baptism.



These were the candidates who chose to be baptized at the end of our three weeks “TRUTH FOR TODAY” crusade down linked at the School’s Compound during the School’s midyear break.



Photo above shows another group of Baptismal candidates (7), standing in front of the Pastor’s house, preparing to enter the water of Baptism. They were led by our three Ministers. This baptism was done on the second Sabbath morning after first above. Marked are four (4) Buruku high school students who decided to be baptized at the end of our One week campaign ran locally in our community.



A week that followed the last baptism was an Education week. The climax of the spiritual emphasis was a Baptism. This baptism was special, because it was the first baptism done on our seashore were ALL girls were baptized. 9 student girls’ candidates of which one is a primary grade 6er (not standing).

According to the principal Mr John Denis "the school witnessed the power of the Holy Spirit working through the lives of our young people. The school would like to acknowledge GOD the only source of wisdom, knowledge and blessings received through weeks of Spiritual emphasis." - **John Denis**

"In the same way, there is more joy in heaven over one lost sinner who repents and returns to god than over ninety-nine others who are righteous and haven't strayed away."

LUKE 15:7

NAQAQA SUCCESS STORY

Naqaqa SDA Primary in Fiji during the lockdown, the teachers took a bold step last month to move out and distributed worksheets to those students (10%) who do not usually collect and return worksheet to school on time. The purpose of this home visit is to encourage parents and students on the importance of home schooling and what they can do together to help meet weekly expectations from school.

Having returned from the home distribution, the school was able to find out that 10 students were affected badly with no place to study at home. There are 5 less fortunate families who can not provide a conducive place for learning from home.

Therefore, the school planned to impact these 5 families, every Wednesday in 5 weeks. On the 15th of September the school visited the 3rd family, administering on providing a safe and conducive place for learning from home.

It's easy to feel disconnected, as many parents struggle with their work, school distribute worksheet with expectations, kids affected emotionally, and pandemic period stance. But some simple things can bring a family and school closer.

Struggle is real to some families during this pandemic, yet one cannot discern unless we seek and serve. The principal Mr Sakeasi Nakau states "One of the most satisfying, blessed, and productive ways to unite is to go out and serve our children holistically administering in their needs. Teachers also set good example for our kids and help the unfortunate family in our very remote area. Holistic education in still curiosity and develop better communication and social skills. Develop psychological, social, and emotional growth. Make learning natural and engaging."



1. Teachers have to walk and cross a creek in order to reach our targeted family



3. House cleaning and set up. Teachers do the work themselves



2. The struggle for student family is real



4. Now the 3 students from this family will enjoy working with their worksheet in this clean Lino and conducive house.

Character development is certainly a major goal of Adventist Education.

Mrs. White. in her book stated "The great work of parents and teachers is character building-seeking to restore the image of Christ in those placed under our care".

Students during this pandemic either affected psychologically, socially, emotionally and spiritually. They need Christ and they need to see and experience it. - **Sakeasi Nakau**



The science laboratory was funded by AUSAID and built in 2003 and was completed and handed to the people of Guadalcanal in 2004, at that time Mr Leovania the current principal was the principal of Tenakoga Adventist School. The cost of the building was about SBD\$450,000.00 plus an additional chemical and apparatus cost of about SBD\$50,000.00

Upstairs of the building hosts the form five, form four and in the middle is the office and resources room for English and Social Science teachers.

Downstairs are the Science laboratory on the east, science teacher's office & chemical room in the middle and on the western end is the Form six Science classrooms.

"We totally lost everything that morning on September 2, not a single thing we saved. The detail list of books, chemicals, apparatus, including desk top and other church properties were gutted by the fire that morning" according to Mr Francis Leovania the school principal.

The police and the school administration will continue to investigate the culprits who burn the building and they must be put into justice.

We would like to thank all of you who are thinking and praying for us. Some have already donated either cash money or materials to us thus far. - **Francis Leovania**

TENAKOGA WE WILL RISE

There was a little bit of drizzle in the evening of September 1 and all the students and staff were looking forward to the speech contest as they anticipated retaining the 2020 Solomon Islands National Oratory Speech award won by Tenakoga Adventist Community High School in the senior category.

However, at 4am shouting all over the campus looking to the science classroom blocks fire, fire, fire. The fire started on the eastern classroom block (F5 classroom) rushing to the middle then down to the science laboratory, science chemical storage room and finally to the form four upstairs and form six science classroom.

Students, staff members and the kind assistance from parents and community helped to be able to save the other building adjacent to the science block otherwise we will lose both buildings.



MOVING FORWARD

After the one week early break due to the fire tragedy at Tenakoga Adventist High School in the Solomon Islands. All students have now returned to school with a few changes to class venues. The year 7s are combined in the dinning hall, while the year 12 science students are in the visitors feeding house. The rest of the classes are in the building that was survived from the fire. Sister school Burns Creek Adventist High School has allowed the students to complete their science experiments and re-do their Chemistry CAT at their school laboratory.

The planning for the new classroom is underway. A proposed two storey building has been redesigned. The burnt building has been demolished and the school is awaiting the expertise of a soil engineer to test the strength of the soil before the rebuilding work starts. The school will be staging a praise and give concert on the 3rd of October to help raise funds for the building. Therefore continue to ask for your continuous support in prayer and other forms of help to ensure that school is still operating and rebuild Tenakoga.



1



2



3

1 & 2 Renovating work on the partially burnt classroom

3 Demolishing the burnt classrooms

4 Year 7's using the Dinning hall

5 Year 12 science students using Burns Creek science lab to re-do their CAT



4



5

"We have witnessed God's leading during this challenging time for the school" states Ms Simbe a teacher at Tenakoga. The school continue to praise God as we move forward for what He has done and will continue to do for Tenakoga.- **Chareen Simbe**

FAMILY WEEK OF PRAYER BRINGS MORE BAPTISM FOR BETIKAMA

Betikama Adventist College in the Solomon Islands concluded its Family Week of Prayer with baptism of 15 students on September 19, 2021. This brings to a total of 65 baptised souls at Betikama this year. Target baptism for the year is 70. Mr Partinson states "we hope to reach the target in the next baptism program before finishing off this year. We are very much intentional with bible studies classes conducted twice a week. These classes are conducted by members of staff."

Among those baptised recently were 4 non Adventist. - **Partinson Bekala**



The 4 non-Adventist students after baptism

WORLD TEACHERS' DAY COMING SOON



I never stop giving thanks for you as I remember you in my prayers.
Ephesians 1:16



Happy
Teacher's Day!

PRAYER REQUESTS

- Fiji schools on lockdown
- Navesau financial challenges
- Tenakonga Adventist High School
- Fulton Adventist University College safe campus over covid19
- Schools examinations
- Plans for the rest of the year
- School staffings 2022

FINALLY

"As you Teach...Don't become weary in doing good, for at the proper time you will reap a harvest..."

GALATIANS 6:9

We would love to hear from you, your stories and challenges could be means of blessings and encouragement to others. So, please share!

For your stories please forward it to:

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or

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