



CONCH SHELL

27 EDITION | APRIL

S.O.P

In the last weeks, I had the opportunity to do my first contact visit to some Adventist schools on Guadalcanal, Solomon Islands. One of the documents that I had to share with the school I visited was the checklist from the Ministry of Education for the reopening of 2022 academic year. You see one of the requirements for the school to open is for every school to have a Standard Operating Procedure (SOP). SOPs are not popular in previous years; we only have students' handbooks and that's about it. Now it's different and it was required that every staff and students must comply with these operating procedures, particularly when at school.

While the world's SOP may be a compulsory document in schools at this pandemic period, there is also a much higher SOP that deserves much attention. And it should be a compulsory document that should and must be read by all Adventist school teachers and that is the SPIRIT OF PROPHECY (S.O.P). For our Adventist schools Ellen G White, in her influential work, began by defining authentic education as "the harmonious development of the physical, the mental and the spiritual powers". This concept of harmonious, whole person development has become a key element of Seventh-day Adventist educational philosophy, which appears frequently in the official statement of mission, core values and philosophies of Adventist schools, colleges, and universities worldwide. I believe that the mission statements that hangs on our office walls will become evident and have a very big impact on our institution once we spent time reading the Bible and the spirit of prophecy. In fact she said in testimonies vol 5, 686 that her purpose in penning the SOP is to urge young and old, learned and unlearned to search the scriptures for themselves; to impress up all that the study of God's word will expand the mind and strengthen every faculty, fitting the intellect to wrestle with problems of truth, deep and far-reaching; to assure all that the clear knowledge of the Bible outdoes all other knowledge in making man what God designed he should be.

The Spirit of prophecy along with the Bible are the chart and compass that should aid Adventist school administrators and teachers when sailing through this tough times.

As we strive to bring about excellence in our Adventist schools in times like this, may we be grounded in His word and make it our goal to read the Spirit of Prophecy

Blessings,

Ferol Asa

Associate Education Director for SIM - Central Region



ADVENTIST EDUCATION DAY REFLECTION

The TPUM Education day, 2022, gave our staff members the opportunity to go and visit the families of our students. Incidentally, the TPUM Education day, coincide with the week our students were on Term holidays. With the theme “I will Go to my school’s families”, the teachers formed two groups, with two mini buses, and organized our visits in such a way that we are able to cover as many of our students’ families in Vitilevu, as possibly can. We were blessed that Fiji Mission gave us the HOPE mini bus, as we need it apart from the school mini bus.

We planned our visit to take up two days, thus we started on Thursday (07/04/22) and concluded our visits on Friday (08/04/22), TPUM Education Day. On Thursday morning, one group covered the area from Wainibuka to Nausori, while the second group covered the greater Suva area. The two groups met for lunch at the Fiji Mission headquarter, in Suvavou. Teachers agreed, that they will provide for their own meals as we visit our students families.

After lunch, the first group covered the area from Navua to Sigatoka, while the second group attended to the Nadi area. We were blessed to be hosted for dinner by a former staff member of Navesau, now residing in Nadi, Mrs Wane Koroka. I must also sincerely acknowledge the hospitality rendered to us by the Head teacher at Lautoka SDA Primary School, Mr Inoke Valetini, who gave us a place to sleep as well as breakfast on Friday morning.

After breakfast on Friday morning, we decided to pay a visit and sing songs and prayed first with talatala Hughes family before doing the same with Pr Thomas Albert’s family. Mrs Hughes, a teacher was recently diagnosed with breast cancer while Pr Albert’s family recently lost a son.

A group than spent the day visiting our students’ families around the Lautoka area, while the second group attended to the Ba, Tavua, Rakiraki areas. The group visiting the Lautoka area was hosted for lunch by Pr Albert’s family. Thank you Pr Albert, a former Chaplain of Navesau.

The TPUM Education Director, Mrs Mere Vaihola, provided us with “I WILL GO” packs that we gave out to each students after having prayer with the family. We also gave out FIJI WATER bags with stationaries that were donated by the Fiji Water Foundation. Packs, bags and stationaries for those students who we were unable to reach, we issued to them upon their arrival upon registration for Term 1, 2022 academic year.

The visit was also a blessing and an eye opener for us the staff as we come to terms with the reality of where some of our students live, their family’s socio and economic backgrounds while choosing to place their child through Adventist Education and in a school such as Navesau Adventist High School. To choose True Education over Free Education, despite their daily situations is truly faith in action. This TPUM Education Day activities has given us teachers a new and inspired perspective on how we view and handle the students under our care.

We were truly blessed to actively participate in this year’s TPUM Education Day.

Vinaka

Josua Qalobula (Principal for Navesau Adventist College)



Principal Josua Qalobula and his staff a group photo before split into their 2 groups for visitation

I WILL GO TO MY SCHOOL FAMILY

This is the first for such an event happens in Tuvalu. The school has an enrolment of 315 and 92% of these students comes from Non-Adventist family, what a great opportunity to share Jesus. A total of 191 families to reach out to them. It took the teachers the whole week from the 4th - 11th in the afternoon to ensure all these 191 families are visited.



Staff of Funafuti visiting children's home

Such great commitment and sacrifice from the principal and his team and to be commended for their hard work. According to the principal Mr Kima Pedro, it was a real blessing to actually visit their children's room. For most parents it is the first time for teachers to meet them and for teachers to experience sharing and connecting with their children's parents. Parents expressed their appreciation to the schools for such great initiative as no school in Tuvalu has done such an activity. Parents were able to share with the teacher's their concerns and teachers were also able to share the resources from the family pack and it was well accepted. Because, it has such profound impact on the parents and community the school was featured on their national TV local news. Now having visited all their children's home, the school now are working on meeting some of the concerns from parents and some of the needs they observe in the homes in order to support the children's learning.

REGONITION FOR SERVICE



Tesimale Latu with daughter Elisapesi Manson and family

The Tonga Mission workers held a combine Sabbath service held at the Vaka Ua Hall Beulah College, on the 17th of April. Tesimale Latu of Tungua, Ha'apai, Tonga, was presented with the SPD Medallion Award from the president of the Tonga Mission Pr Fanueli Mataele. This is for his continuously demonstrated exemplary commitment towards Adventist education in Tonga and the Pacific. Tesimale started his professional educational service in 1964 as a teacher at Beulah Adventist College in Tonga and have worked in Fiji and Samoa and later retired in 1995. He is known for his passion to Adventist education and continues to dedicate his life to bring others to Jesus through Adventist education. The Education Department of the South Pacific Division salutes Tesimale Latu for his life-long ministry to Adventist Education.

"Wherever you find something extraordinary, you'll find the fingerprints of a great teacher."

ARNE DUNCAN

BIBLE READING IMPACT

Lautoka SDA Primary School in Fiji received their donated world changer on the 22nd of April, 2021. It was presented to all the 42 children of Year 4 at the school on the Friday morning the 23rd of April. This was indeed a very exciting moment. For many, this was their first time of owning a Bible. They receive their Bible with joyful heart. They were pleased to own a Bible. They rubbed the cover of their bible gently, and carefully flipping the pages of the bible with their fingers. They cherished their bible so much. Their eyes shone in excitement as they hold and hugged their bible close to their heart.



On the 25th of April, 2021 early on Sunday morning a lockdown enforcement was announced for Lautoka and students were to remain in their homes. The Bibles was with them at home for 9 months before everything came back to normal. We return to school for seven weeks to complete the 2021 academic year. In these 7 weeks we decided to read a chapter a day during our morning devotion. Bible reading became very exciting day by day. In some mornings we could not hold ourselves back but to continue on to two or three more chapters and the bible reading activities became extremely interesting each day. As the Bible reading moved on. We discover many things happening in our class.

1. The reading skills improved. Everyone was participating in reading.
2. There were lots of silence during free time. Children are engaged to their Bible.
3. Students grouping up to read a chapter of an interesting thought they discover.
4. They know the books of the Bible in order and the number of books in the Bible with their Authors.
5. Rough and aggressive behaviour began to tone down
6. They share openly during class discussion about what they have discovered from their reading.
7. They love to be engaged in Bible activities like finding verses beginning with the 26 alphabets, Bible search, Bible marking, finding great leaders of the bible, finding important dates and Bible time, claiming promises from the bible, reading stories and many more.
8. Highlighting beautiful verses, memory gems, Bible promises and reciting them.
9. They would love to take their Bible along with them to any congregational gatherings or assembly.
10. They often pray together in little groups. Prayer became part of their daily routine in the classroom.



11. Children's characters begin to change. Children pays attention and listen to instructions well. We find the reading of the word of God captivating and children treasured each bible reading time as precious activity that they love to do and would not missed .

God indeed change and shape character through the mighty power of His word. In this seven weeks of reading, the year 4 student could feel and hear Jesus speaking to their hearts. It was through the mighty word of God that transform their lives. I encourage everyone to diligently contemplate upon the Word for it transform Life. - **June Sumo (Class 4 Teacher)**

BLESSING IN DISGUISE



New desk designs donated by Ron Clarke

Kauma Adventist High School in Kiribati is still close due to lockdown restriction. With the increase of enrolment 500 beginning of the year it was a real challenge for the school in term of infrastructure.

According to the Education Director Morimai Tekeinang the lockdown is a blessing in disguise.

It has given the school to complete the new classroom block, renovation of the library and getting new desks in order to accommodate this high enrolment.

The school is in debt to Ron Clarke in Australia for his kind support and donation in order to assist the school in getting things ready when school resumes back to face to face learning.

A LEVEL HIGHER THROUGH HIS LEADING



On the Sabbath 30th of April, 2022, Navesau Adventist College in Fiji organized a Welcome, Thanksgiving and Dedication service. Parents and friends of the school were invited to join the Navesau family on this special Sabbath. The Divine Service program was designed to Welcome all to the 2022 academic year, Thank God for the achievements of our Year 12 in the 2021 External Exams and to Dedicate the school body to the Lord as the school move into this new academic year with the new theme “A Level Higher Through His Leading”.

The Fiji Mission CFO, Mr Apisalome Seru, was the Guest Speaker for the Divine Service. He delivered a powerful and inspiring message on the theme “Something Better” The school dining hall was used for the Sabbath services as the chapel cannot contain the number of people who came to worship with us. After Sabbath, a PTA met and new PTA officers were elected. The school admin team also reported to the PTA. The Vice Principal on academic matters including the External Exam Results, the Assistant Principal on student services and the updated roll, the Business Manager on Fee collection and the Principal on the Term Calendar. The attendance of the parents was overwhelming.

On Sunday, the Prefects induction. Dr Nemani Tausere was the Chief Guest and spoke to the student leaders on the new school theme, “A LEVEL HIGHER Through His Leading”. Teachers were also badged by Dr Nemani, to boost teacher performance and the spirit of being an Adventist educator. The Prefects induction was also attended by the Fiji Mission Education Director, Mr Anasa Vateitei. It was also heartening to see parents, who travel from the interior of Vitilevu, coming in on Friday and leaving after the Prefects induction on Sunday. These parents were billeted in the classrooms. This was really a humbling experience to see the number of parents present and their support for Adventist Education. [Josua Qalobula \(Principal for Navesau Adventist College\)](#)

SPD FIJI SCHOOL VISITS

After almost 2 years, Fiji boarder finally opened and David McClintock took this opportunity to visit the schools in Fiji from the 21st - 28th of April. With Mr Anasa Vateitei from Fiji Mission, organising this trip, we were able to visit 12 schools out of the 14 schools in 1 ½ weeks and we just want to thank God for allowing this to happen and above all for His travelling mercies upon us during this trip. Mr Anasa was able to visit all the schools in January to February his first visit in this role and for most schools since covid19 pandemic. This was the first ever visit from SPD and TPUM to their schools. The objective of these school visits was to pray, affirm and encourage schools in their role as Adventist teachers in such challenging time. God bless our schools in Fiji.

1. With Mr Anasa's connection with the ministry he was able to book an appointment for a meeting with Hem Chand the HR. We wanted to meet him, the primary and secondary head, instead he invited his whole team to meet with us. We were honoured for such opportunity, it was just a courtesy visit to thank them for their support toward our schools and David also apologised for the past how things did not work out but we are looking forward in working together with the ministry.

A cake was presented as token of appreciation for their morning tea, education resources books and Mr Anasa took all the magazine from my office, RECORD, MINISTRY and ADVENTIST JOURNAL to the secretary to put it out in the office for people to come and read.



There are 5 teachers and only 1 Non-Adventist teacher who is a Methodist. An enrolment of over 150 students. Due to student's leaving far away from school there are about 40 students who are boarding. Also very impressive, the mothers are rostered once each term to provide hot meal for the whole school every lunch time. We thank the parents for their support and working closely with the school in supporting their children's education. Just want to thank the Head teacher for his leadership in this school and the commitment from the staff even in remote places they still do their best

3. We were impressed that when we arrived the Principal had organised that all staff will be at the staff room for a PD with David. There are 21 staff and only 1 Adventist teacher this year, they have an enrolment of 162 students and they are still coming. Take note there are only 28% of students that come from Adventist families. Yet the principal allows Bible teaching first period of the day by the chaplain and some lay members.

David did a presentation on the role of Adventist teacher and it was well accepted by the staff and most staff were taking notes.

SOME HIGHLIGHTS



2. This is the only school David has not visited even during his role as a TPUM Education director and also it was my first visit to this school. A beautiful campus, well-kept and we were also impressed in such remote school students uniform were neat and tidy. Such a historical school, and we were blessed to be given each a book of the school history by Mr Secaleki the Head teacher.





CHAPLAINS AND BIBLE TEACHER'S PD COMING UP

*Don't
Miss Out*

**"A Chaplains biggest gift is
to be present and just listen."
- Diane Johnson**

PRAYER REQUESTS

Schools Lockdown challenges
Solomon island teachers vaccination issues
Kiribati increase enrolment impacts on infrastructure
Chaplains & Bible Teachers PD Day Out - 12th May
School Leaders and Teachers
Non-Adventist Teachers and students in our schools



**How you DISCIPLINE
is how you show your view of God.**

Suggested Strategies: by David McClintock

1. Catch them being good
2. Have set routines/rituals
3. Room arrangement possibilities
4. Good relationships with students
5. Create a specific contract
6. Satiation
7. Be kind and polite but firm at all times
8. Model the behaviour you want.
9. Simplify the assigned work
10. Establish a time limit
11. Be specific on the unacceptable

12. Set up options for the person
13. I can only control myself!!
14. Safety valve options
15. Never label
16. Be positive in your interactions.
17. Pick up on the small stuff
18. Encouragement works better
19. Publicly acknowledge and affirm
20. Follow up on the issues
21. Eye contact and room awareness
22. Talk to your colleagues
23. Apologise when you get it wrong

FINALLY

**"But who ever desires to become great among you, let him be
your servant."**

MATTHEW 20:6

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

For your stories please forward it to:

Mere Vaihola
Education Director

or

Joseph Pitakia
Associate Education Director