GOVERNMENT OF THE VIRGIN ISLANDS

PRESS RELEASE

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Education Month 2026 Launched During Meet the Media Press Conference

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The Ministry of Education, Youth Affairs and Sports officially launched Education Month 2026 with a list of activities focused on strengthening the education system and advancing national development through learning.

The month of activities was launched at a Meet the Media Press Conference on Monday, March 2nd and featured a panel comprising the Minister for Education, Youth Affairs and Sports, Honourable Sharie B. de Castro; Chief Education Officer, Orlandette Crabbe; and President of the H. Lavity Stoutt Community College, Dr. Richard Georges who provided an overview of the ministry's priorities, the role of key institutions within the education system, and activities planned for Education Month.

Honourable de Castro reaffirmed the Government's longstanding position that education remains the foundation upon which the Territory's future is built. She framed education as central to national development, emphasising its role in shaping every sector of society.

"Education is not simply a sector of national development. Education is the foundation of national development. It is the cornerstone upon which every other pillar stands," she stated.

The Education Minister highlighted the ministry's continued focus on infrastructure, resources, and professional development, noting that these priority areas have guided recent investments and remain central to strengthening the education system. "You cannot build a future-focused generation with past-tense investment and so we invested deliberately, strategically, and unapologetically." she added.

During the question-and-answer segment, Honourable de Castro, Mrs. Crabbe, and Dr. Georges responded to media inquiries on the direction of the education system, workforce readiness, and institutional capacity. Discussion during this segment also highlighted the role of the H. Lavity Stoutt Community College within the national education framework, particularly in supporting student advancement and workforce development.

Dr. Georges spoke to the college's continued growth and evolution, noting strengthened accreditation, expanding academic pathways, and ongoing

institutional development that position HLSCC as a key contributor to national development and social mobility.

Following the panel discussion, Chief Education Officer Orlandette Crabbe provided an overview of activities planned for Education Month 2026, outlining how schools across the Territory will participate in student-focused, educator-focused, and community engagement initiatives throughout March.

Activities scheduled for the month include Teach for a Day, Early Childhood Book Parades, Pre-Primary Games, Inter-Primary Sports Events, Commonwealth Day observances, the National Science and Innovation Fair, Rep Your College Friday, student-led open houses across schools, educator professional development sessions, leadership conferences, and parent engagement initiatives.

Education Month 2026 is being observed from 1 to 31 March under the theme, “Strong Foundation for a Future-Focused Generation.” The Ministry has indicated that additional information on specific initiatives highlighted during the press conference will be shared throughout the month on their social media pages.

Facebook: Ministry of Education, Youth Affarirs and Sports
Instagram: @bvieducation

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Gallery





Additional Documents or Media

- Education Month 2026 Calendar of Events