Press Release

October 30, 2006

For immediate release

Police Force Continues Support of SwimJamaica

For many children living within inner-city communities there are few, if any opportunities to learn to swim. SwimJamaica is working to change this by sponsoring children from schools within these communities onto the SwimJamaica Children's Programme. Since April 2005 The Jamaica Constabulary Force have partnered with SwimJamaica to help some of the students take lessons.

This school term the JCF is transporting sixty students from four schools (Cecil Boswel Facey Basic School, Rema Basic School, St. Alban's Primary and Victory Basic School) to lessons at the National Stadium Pool. These students from Trench Town and Denham Town are progressing through a level of the Children's Programme with lessons on a Monday and Wednesday morning. The programme comprises seven levels and some of the children have reached level four.

"The lessons are going very well. It's great to see the children enjoying the water and learning new skills, including water safety and lifesaving" commented Cath Moore, SwimJamaica's Technical Advisor.

Students can be seen in their brightly coloured SwimJamaica t-shirts (each level is a different colour), looking forward to finding their instructor and starting the lesson. At the end of the term there is a test and the children receive a certificate. Those that pass progress to the next level.

Inspector Bignall of the Transport & Works Division organises the transport. He commented, 'When we were approached by SwimJamaica we were happy to assist such a programme that supports the uplifting of young people from inner city communities'

SwimJamaica has over 500 students this term registered on the Children's Programme at six locations across Kingston as well as in Discovery Bay. Approximately a third of these children are sponsored.

End

For further information, contact:

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Photographs and captions (available as high resolution .jpg files)





Students from Cecil Boswel Facey Basic School, St. Alban's Primary and Victory Basic School arrive for swim lessons at the National Stadium Pool, having been transported by the Jamaica Constabulary Force