

Chantilly District,

Chantilly P. A.

Manchester

Jamaica

January 20, 2021

Dear Dr. Mark,

Accept greetings to you and all the members in New Hampshire. Although we are faced with this pandemic, we strongly believe that God who is our Saviour will keep and continue to protect us throughout this year and beyond. We are pleased to inform you that the school is still in operation although it has been greatly affected by this pandemic.

We realize that some of the students are having serious challenges accessing the internet. Some parents can't afford the buy data to be online daily; hence, these children miss out on learning opportunities. Some of these children don't have a device to get their lessons online. The parents would use their phones but most of the time they are at work and the child is at home not getting the lessons. This is truly heart rending as our children are suffering and will be affected in the long run. Printed work was done at the school and was collected by the parents for the children.

At the closing off in December, we treated the students by preparing meals with cake and sorrel. This was packaged and parents and student came and collected. Food items that were purchased for lunch at the school were given out to the parents during the first lockdown in Jamaica. They really appreciated it and were very grateful. We were planning to do packages for drop off at the end of this month, however we will resume face-to-face on Monday, January 25, 2021.

As it relates to our family, I lost my father in October as he was diagnosed with Pneumonia and experienced shortness of breath. We went to the hospital to have him tested for Covid-19 but he died before anything could be done. All staff members have families who have lost their jobs both here and overseas. Any financial help that they would normally receive during the festive season was cut off. Aunty Bev (our cook) was out of a job from March as no cooking took place; however, we gave her a stypen at the end of each month.

Currently, the vaccines have not reached Jamaica as yet, but the Ministry of Health reported that it will be here by April of this year. For the past two weeks, all teachers have been teaching online from school. Internet was given to the school since the start of January, however we are not sure how much it will cost us at the end of this month. We have sourced sanitizers, antibacterial soap and hand towels for the reopening of school on Monday.

We are very grateful for the support that the Team from New Hampshire has given and continue to give. We will continue to do our best in educating the next generation and making our country the place to live, work and do business. Thank you once more for your contributions. May God continue to bless and keep you all safe.

Respectfully Yours

Margaret Brooks-Cohen