

## MEMORIES OF A UWI SCHOOL STUDENT

For me, UWI School helped to set a foundation for my life. I entered UWI School in 2005, starting in Prep. Though probably nervous to enter a new school this feeling would have quickly died down as I felt as if I was in this school my whole life. The environment, activities, teachers and students were nothing short of the most suitable and comforting elements in my life at that point in time.

UWI School helped to set my foundation by exposing me to all different types of activities. Such activities included music (pan, recorder, choir, folk choir), swimming, football and cricket. These activities all helped my fellow students and me to be exposed to other things and not just be completely focused on academics. It allowed us to develop many areas of our life, discover talents and also to relax and have fun. Apart from these activities which helped in the holistic development of the students, we also had R.E. classes to help in our respective spiritual development and celebrations of the various cultural festivals in our nation such as Divali, Eid and Christmas allowing us to understand other cultures and gain respect for others in society.

The highlights of my UWI school journey were the various sport competitions and house competitions. Sports Day, Swimming Gala, Inter House Football and Inter house Cricket caught my attention every single year. Being an avid sports fan and athlete these activities would have been what I looked forward to doing. I most enjoyed the friendly competition, the joy of winning, the pain of losing and the camaraderie. I was even fortunate enough to win a Victor Ludorum on Sports Day and was voted to be Games Captain when I was in Junior 5. Yellow House and Green House always tried to reach on our level but everybody who knows that Blue House has been and will always be the best!

Apart from all of these activities and factors aiding in our holistic development, UWI school was and I'm sure is still able to carry out their main function of a school and provide a world class education. The curriculum of the school provided allowed me and my friends with a wide variety of knowledge that has stuck with me for my whole life. To compliment this knowledge that we were given, the teachers in the school imparted it in the best way possible. Not only were they knowledgeable about their various subject areas but they cared for us, helping us through our school life and engaging us in casual and non school related conversations just so that we won't be too overwhelmed. We saw them not just as teachers but as our parents away from home.

Last but not least at UWI School I was able to establish some of the best friendships in my life. In any school you go to, your friends carry you through a lot. In some cases, your friends are what encourage you to come to school. They help to motivate, comfort and support you. I can safely say that I made some of the best friends at this school. We would have spent many years playing football at lunchtime, lining up in the tuck shop and talking, playing police and thief, boys vs girls and many games that helped us to remain close and enjoy our young years together. Though we would have had our ups and downs, we would always resolve any problems and move forward. Even though most of us would have gone to different secondary schools and furthermore now even to different countries to do tertiary studies, we still remain in contact and once we are all in Trinidad you could bet your bottom dollar we liming.

So in conclusion, though there is so much more these are just a few of the things that really stood out to me about the University school. Most important to me is the way in which the school was able to set a foundation to allow me to develop holistically. It also set me for the wider world sending me out with an open mind and surrounded me with good people that may stick with me throughout my life.