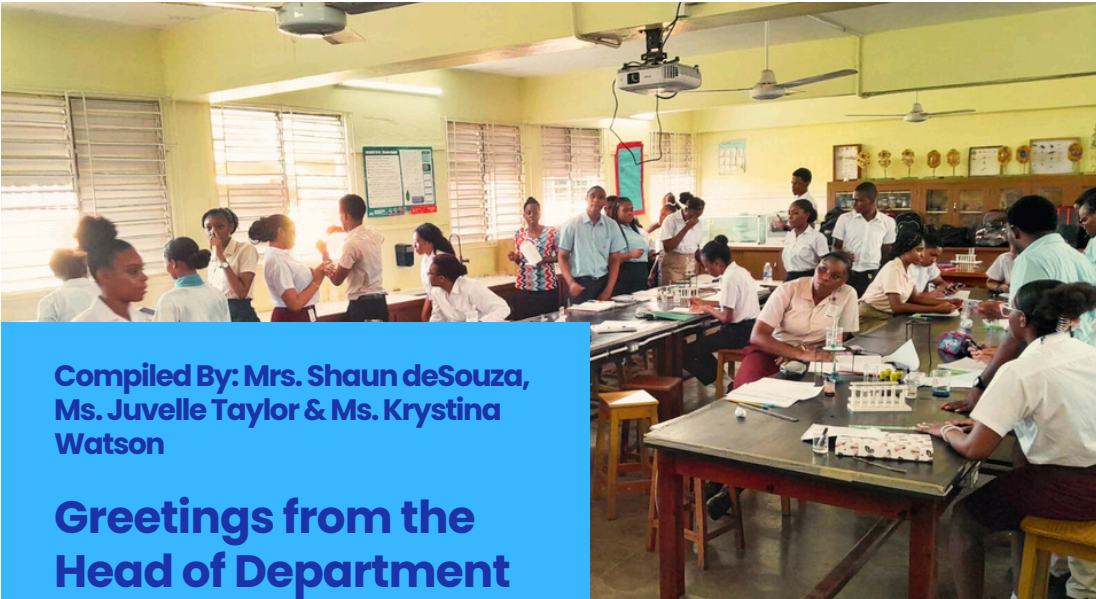




FACULTY OF  
NATURAL SCIENCES

# NEWSLETTER



**Compiled By: Mrs. Shaun deSouza,  
Ms. Juvelle Taylor & Ms. Krystina  
Watson**

## Greetings from the Head of Department

Dear Lecturers & Students,

Welcome back to Semester 2! I hope you all had a restful break and are ready to dive into another exciting semester of teaching, learning, discovery, and growth. As we continue to navigate the ever-evolving world of science, I encourage you to embrace new challenges, collaborate with your peers, and take full advantage of the opportunities ahead.

Let's make this semester one of excellence, innovation, and achievement. I look forward to seeing all the great things you will accomplish.

Wishing you all a successful and inspiring semester!

**Mrs. Nichola Beckford- Cameron  
HOD, Faculty of Natural Sciences  
Montego Bay Community College**

## Celebrating our High Achievers - CAPE Merit List 2024



We are proud to announce that several of our talented students have made the Territorial Merit List for Jamaica in their recent CAPE examinations. This remarkable achievement highlights their dedication, hard work, and exceptional academic abilities. We extend our heartfelt congratulations to these students for their outstanding performances and wish them continued success in their future academic and professional endeavours.

Well done, and keep reaching for the stars!

## Our Achievers

**Dainielle Drummond  
10th (Agricultural Science Unit 1)**

**Jade-Ashley Burke  
6th (Chemistry Unit 1)**

**Tiara Hayles  
6th (Environmental Science Unit 1)**



## Faculty Outreach - Tree Planting Project at the Catherine Hall Primary School

In a collaborative effort to promote environmental awareness, the Ecology Club of spearheaded by Mrs. Shaun deSouza (Lecturer, Biology & Environmental Science), Mrs. Venessa Russell (Lecturer, Chemistry) and Mrs. Cameron (Dean), recently organized a successful Tree Planting Project at Catherine Hall Primary School in light of National Tree Planting Day (October 4, 2024).

The initiative brought together faculty members, students, and school staff to plant a variety of trees on the school grounds, fostering a sense of environmental responsibility among the students.



**Faculty and students join forces with Catherine Hall Primary School to plant trees and nurture a greener future.**



By engaging students in hands-on environmental activities like tree planting, we instill in them a sense of responsibility and connection to the natural world.

Through initiatives like the recent tree planting project at Catherine Hall Primary School, we aim to inspire the next generation to be conscious stewards of the Earth, ensuring that they grow up understanding the importance of preserving our environment for future generations.



### Why are these initiatives important?

Tree planting is not just an environmental activity; it is an essential act of responsibility for our planet's future. Trees are nature's powerhouses, they absorb carbon dioxide, produce oxygen, help filter water, provide habitats for wildlife, and reduce the effects of soil erosion. By planting trees, we actively combat climate change, improve air quality, and promote a more sustainable environment for all living beings.

Our tree planting efforts aim not only to enhance local ecosystems but also to inspire a new generation of environmental stewards who will continue the work of protecting and preserving our planet for years to come.





## Faculty Pink Day – A Show of Support for Breast Cancer Awareness

In recognition of Breast Cancer Awareness Month, on Wednesday, October 27, 2024, our dedicated lecturers participated in Faculty Pink Day, an initiative led by Mrs. Heidi-Ann James Foster. Faculty members wore pink to show solidarity with those affected by breast cancer. In addition to raising awareness, the faculty generously donated \$20,000 to the Cancer Society of Jamaica through our school nurse.

This initiative reflects our commitment to not only academic excellence but also supporting important causes within our community. We thank everyone who contributed to this meaningful effort and continue to encourage awareness, early detection, and support for those impacted by breast cancer.



Lecturers unite in pink for Breast Cancer Awareness Month, showing solidarity and support for those affected by breast cancer. Together, we raise awareness and promote early detection!



Raising funds for organizations like the Cancer Society is critical in supporting the ongoing fight against cancer. These funds provide much-needed resources for cancer research, support services for patients and families, and public education campaigns on prevention, detection, and treatment options.



### Importance of our efforts

Breast cancer awareness campaigns provide an opportunity to inform the public about risk factors, the signs to watch for, and available resources for support. Early detection significantly increases the chances of successful treatment, making awareness a powerful tool in saving lives. Additionally, it fosters a sense of solidarity among those affected by the disease, encouraging survivors to share their stories and support one another in their journeys.

By participating in awareness initiatives, we contribute to a broader conversation that can lead to positive change whether it's through promoting regular screenings, encouraging self-exams, or supporting those in need of care.



## Funeral Services and Mortuary Science Students Present their Business Plans

Our Funeral Services and Mortuary Science Year 2 students recently had the opportunity to present their business plans as part of their Funeral Service Business course under the guidance of Mrs. Cameka Campbell Green. The presentations served as evidence of their hard work, creativity, and entrepreneurial spirit as they outlined innovative approaches to improve the funeral services industry.

Each student demonstrated not only their technical knowledge but also their ability to apply business principles to a sensitive and essential sector. These business plans covered various aspects, including customer service, sustainability, community outreach, and business growth strategies, critical areas for success in this unique and impactful field.



## Proud of our Graduates!

On November 13, 2024, Montego Bay Community College celebrated the graduation of a new cohort of graduates from various programs, including those from the Faculty of Natural Sciences. It was a momentous occasion, marking the culmination of years of hard work, dedication, and academic achievement.

We extend our congratulations to all the graduates and wish them success in their future endeavors. May they continue to inspire and excel as they move forward in their careers and make meaningful contributions to their fields.

**L-R - Marissa Darmand (Past Student, Mrs. Nichola Beckford-Cameron (Head of Department), Asjha Bigby (Past Student)**



*Congratulations*





## Faculty Outreach - Care package distributions Christmas (2024)



In the true spirit of giving, the Ms. Krystina Watson, Communication Studies Lecturer in the faculty, organized a Christmas Care Package Outreach to bring a little extra joy to those in need this holiday season. Faculty members came together to assemble and distribute care packages filled with essential items, non-perishable goods, and festive treats, ensuring that the warmth and kindness of the season reached those who might be facing difficult circumstances.

Thank you to everyone who contributed to making this outreach a success, and we look forward to continuing our community-focused efforts in the New Year.



Care packages prepared with donations by members of the faculty along with students.

## Christmas Potluck and Pixie Exchange

In the spirit of the holiday season, our lecturers came together for a festive Christmas Potluck and Pixie Exchange. The event was a wonderful opportunity to share delicious home-cooked dishes, enjoy some holiday cheer, and strengthen the sense of community within the Faculty of Natural Sciences.

The Pixie Exchange, a fun and lighthearted tradition, allowed each lecturer to anonymously "gift" a small, thoughtful item to a colleague, spreading joy and creating a sense of camaraderie. The gathering was filled with laughter, good food, and heartfelt conversations, reminding us all of the importance of taking time to appreciate each other during the busy academic year.

We were grateful for the warmth and togetherness of the event and look forward to more opportunities to celebrate and connect in the future.



### Upcoming Activities for Semester II



- Cross Country
- Sports Day & Pre-Sports Day Activities
- Unit Test 3 & 4
- Mock Exams
- Student Development Seminar (Year 2 Students)