

VESP View

VANUATU EDUCATION SUPPORT PROGRAM

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Issue 5: Right Age Enrolment and Inclusive Education promoted during Vanuatu 2017 Pacific Mini Games



The Pacific Mini Games provided a great opportunity for the Ministry of Education and Training to get a message to the community about the importance of a good start to schooling.

Free Activities during Vanuatu 2017 Pacific Mini Games

Children and parents in the free access area of Korman enjoyed activities throughout the second week of December 2017 as part of the Ministry of Education and Training 6 Yia Klas 1 campaign for the start of the 2018 school year.



Activities included discussions about the importance of primary school enrolment at the right age, testimonies from teachers and principals, quizzes and games for the children.



Early education is essential in developing children's brains, building their confidence in socialising with other children and developing their interest in learning. Delma Joel, the principal of Kawenu School, explained why it is important for children to start school at the age of 6, "A 6 year old child is ready to go Year 1. It is important for the future of the children that they go to Year 1 so they can be confident in socialising with other children, develop interest in learning, follow simple instructions, speak independently in their own words, learn to write and recognize letters and numbers."

Excited Children Win Prizes



Children enjoyed the free activities and the lucky ones run away with 6 Yia Klas 1 Shirts, school bags, caps, balloons...



Children Promoting Right Age Enrolment Lead Vanuatu Football Teams to the Gold Medals

Ni-Vanuatu children entered the football fields with the players for the last football games of Vanuatu 2017 Pacific Mini Games to promote right age enrolment in primary school and inclusive education. As highlighted by Honourable Minister Nirua, Vanuatu football players “are a model to the children of Vanuatu. Education is so important for the future of all children.”



Marie, a football fan attending the male semi-final and final games in Port Vila Stadium was delighted by the entrance. “They proudly entered the field and not only represented Vanuatu but also the support to an education for all children in Vanuatu. The right age enrolment at school is important and it is a great opportunity to remind all the people of Vanuatu.”



During the last two days of Vanuatu 2017 Pacific Mini Games boys and girls, including those with special needs, wore the 6 Yia Klas 1 shirts and entered the fields. The kids held the hands of the players to encourage parents in Vanuatu to enrol their children in Year 1 when they turn 6 and to promote inclusive education.



vesp@espvanuatu.org

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The Vanuatu Education Support Program is managed by Coffey, a Tetra Tech company, on behalf of the governments of Australia and New Zealand.