



OFFICE OF THE PRIME MINISTER
13-15 ST. CLAIR AVENUE, ST. CLAIR
Republic of Trinidad and Tobago

Attention: HEAD OF NEWS and EDITOR IN CHIEF

MEDIA RELEASE

9th December 2015

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

No. of Pages: 2

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IT'S CHRISTMAS AT THE DIPLOMATIC CENTRE!

Dr the Honourable Keith Rowley and his wife Mrs Sharon Rowley entertained children from community residences and children's organisations throughout the country at the Prime Minister's Annual Children's Christmas Party, held today (Wednesday 9th December) at the Diplomatic Centre, St Ann's.

Serenaded by the St Margaret's Boys' Steel Orchestra; laughter, music and smiles filled the Diplomatic Centre as the children enjoyed games, treats and numerous fun activities. With faces painted, the kids interacted with the many characters including Olaf, the Snowman; Princess Elsa; Ninja turtles and clowns.

Exhibits from the National Institute of Higher Education, Research, Science and Technology's (NIHERST) Innovation and invention Unit – in particular the tactical and humanoid robots captured the children's attention and imagination.

For those more interested in the ever popular video games, the mini video arcade featured PS2 Dance Revolution, Nintendo Wii and Mario Party.

MC Nikki Crosby took charge of the formalities, which included a "Frozen" themed theatre production by the DC Shell Family theatre, with her usual infectious brand of humour; keeping

the kids occupied until the arrival of the Prime Minister. In his brief remarks the Prime Minister reminded the children that the real reason for Christmas was to celebrate the birth of Christ and to share love.

Also spotted among the guests were sport celebrities Shanntol Ince, Ria Ramnarine, Keshorn Walcott and Jehue Gordon.

Of course the much anticipated main event was the arrival of Mr and Mrs Claus who were helped by the Prime Minister and his wife to distribute gifts to the children.

A well-trained cadre of volunteers, selected from among sixth form students, ensured the smooth running of the day's activities, which were thoroughly enjoyed by all those in attendance.

We are unable to show images of the children from the Homes due to on-going sensitive issues.

Captions:

Photo#1- The Prime Minister and his wife, Mrs Sharon Rowley, seated on the right and left respectively of Mr and Mrs Claus, surrounded by the sixth form volunteers. Also sharing the company of the volunteers are the Honourable Ayanna Webster-Roy, Minister of State in the Office of the Prime Minister (seated to the right, one person after the Prime Minister) and sport celebrities, Keshorn Walcott, Ria Ramnarine and Jehue Gordon (seated behind Mr and Mrs Claus)

Photo#2 – The Prime Minister and his wife, Mrs Sharon Rowley, seated on the right and left respectively of Mr and Mrs Claus, the Honourable Ayanna Webster-Roy (seated next to the Prime Minister), together with the cast of DC Shell Family Theatre's production of "Frozen". Also sharing the spotlight are sport celebrities, Keshorn Walcott, Ria Ramnarine and Jehue Gordon (seated behind Mr and Mrs Claus) and Shanntol Ince (seated right)

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