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THE BARROUALLIE GOVERNMENT SCHOOL LAUNCHES ITS FIRST PUBLICATION

The Barrouallie Government School (BGS) officially launched their first published book titled *Little Pens, Big Dreams: Stories and Poems* from the Barrouallie Government School Young Authors, yesterday, Monday 16th February, 2026, at the school grounds. The launch, which jump-starts Literacy Week, also celebrates the hard work and literary talents of the school's young authors who collectively penned a collection of stories and poems.

Hon. Phillip Jackson, Minister of Education, Vocational Training and Innovation, Digital Transformation and Information, spoke on the importance of writing, stating that "Writing helps us to work out things in our heads and the more you write, the more you understand what's on your mind." Jackson went on to congratulate the students along with the principal, Joy Davis-Haynes, and the Literacy Committee. The Minister of Education encouraged the students to continue writing.

Senior Education Officer with responsibility for District One and keynote speaker of the launch, Mavis Findlay-Joseph, highlighted the importance of students reading what they write. "When you read what you write, you are doing three important things: you are checking your work, you are strengthening your thinking, and you are honoring your own voice." Findlay-Joseph also pointed out to the students that reading what they write enables them to see their ideas more clearly and improve their sentences, which will help them to grow in confidence.

Little Pens, Big Dreams is one of the fruits of the Early Learners' Programme initiative of the Curriculum Development Unit within the Ministry of Education to promote literacy in schools. The publication consists of thirty-eight (38) stories and poems written by the students from Grades one to six.

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