



The world's local bank

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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HSBC SUPPORTS GEORGE TOWN PRIMARY SCHOOL LIBRARY

Students at George Town Primary School will enjoy an improved library experience thanks to a CI\$20,000 donation by HSBC Bank (Cayman) Limited (HSBC Cayman.)

The donated funds will be used by George Town Primary School to purchase urgently needed books and computers required for student research and library programmes.

George Town Primary School Principal Marie Martin outlined the importance of the library to the life of the school: "We are very grateful to HSBC Cayman for this generous donation. The library is an important support to students' learning by offering tools to facilitate the improvement of reading skills and also research opportunities for both in-class project work and homework projects. The library and its facilities are also used for in-school reading programmes and after-school programmes."

HSBC Cayman CEO Gonzalo Jalles pledged the bank's ongoing support: "HSBC Cayman looks forward to being involved with the library programme at George Town Primary School. The school has a dedicated staff and an active PTA all working together to benefit students, so we are very happy to help them improve their already impressive programmes."

This information is issued by

HSBC Bank (Cayman) Limited

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Press Release

HSBC Cayman is making the donation to George Town Primary School to celebrate the bank's inclusion in the Cayman Islands group of clearing banks.

Mr Jalles said: "To mark this important step in the process of expanding our services in the Cayman Islands, we at HSBC felt it was important to take the opportunity to do something positive in the community in which we will be operating. We hope that this sponsorship programme will be the first of many such community activities to come."

George Town Primary School is in the middle of a major refurbishment project. However, the school library is in urgent need of immediate improvement. After being destroyed by Hurricane Ivan in 2004, the school has done an impressive job of re-building its library with limited resources, but has never been fully re-established to its pre-Ivan standard. HSBC Cayman's donation of CI\$20,000 will cover the major aspects of the short-term improvements needed at the school library.

HSBC Cayman and George Town Primary School are currently planning ways to get HSBC staff involved in the life of the school, including future reading programmes and fund raising projects.

George Town Primary School consistently places among the top primary schools in the Cayman Islands in terms of both Schools Inspectorate reports and student test results.

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Caption: HSBC Bank (Cayman) Limited CEO Gonzalo Jalles (2nd from left) and Director of Human Resources Walling Whittaker (far right) present HSBC Cayman's donation of CI\$20,000 for improvement of the school's library to representatives of the George Town Primary School PTA.

Notes to Editors:

HSBC Bank (Cayman) Limited

HSBC Bank (Cayman) Limited is a class A licensed bank regulated by the Cayman Islands Monetary Authority which carries out fund administration, captive insurance management, corporate trust and private trust services. In 2007, HSBC announced plans to expand its offering in the Cayman Islands with the anticipated roll out of additional services in the latter half of 2008. Prior to the launch of the new services, HSBC Bank (Cayman) Limited has been actively recruiting in the local market. Currently approximately 70% of HSBC Cayman's employees are Caymanian, significantly above the country's average of 49%. HSBC Bank (Cayman) Limited is committed to education and training of staff and has launched a major training initiative to ensure that staff deliver first class service to clients.

HSBC Holdings plc

HSBC Holdings plc serves over 128 million customers worldwide through around 10,000 offices in 84 countries and territories in Europe, the Asia-Pacific region, the Americas, the Middle East and Africa. With assets of some US\$2,354 billion at 31 December 2007, HSBC is one of the world's largest banking and financial services organisations. HSBC is marketed worldwide as 'the world's local bank'.

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