

## **Send Off Reception for the Japan Exchange and Teaching (JET) Programme Participants for Cycle 2024**

On 31 July 2024, the pre-departure orientation and a send-off reception for the new participants of the Japan Exchange and Teaching (JET) Programme was held at the residence of H. E. MATSUBARA Yutaka, Ambassador of Japan. For Cycle 2024, a total of twenty-eight (28) JETs have been selected to participate on the JET Programme, with 24 participants from Trinidad and Tobago, and 1 participant each from Antigua and Barbuda, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Saint Lucia, and Saint Vincent and the Grenadines. The participants travelled to Japan to take up their appointment as Assistant Language Teachers (ALTs) in various prefectures across the country.

At the reception, Ms. MAKINO Michiko, Chargé d' Affaires of the Embassy of Japan, welcomed the JET participants who were in attendance. She urged the JET participants of 2024, to uphold their responsibility in maintaining the highest levels of respectability during the programme. At the same time, she hopes that the participants will develop long-lasting bonds of friendship with the people of Japan and fully enjoy the culture and natural beauty of her country. She stated that “I believe that your stay in Japan will meet, or even exceed, your expectations, and I wish you success on the journey you are about to embark upon as the Caribbean Cultural Ambassadors.”

Following the welcome address, Ms. Latoya Roberts-Thomas, Secretary of the JET Alumni Association of Trinidad and Tobago (JETAATT), addressed the departing JETs. This was followed by remarks from two outgoing JETs, Ms. Tamika Mason (Trinidad to Hokkaido Prefecture), on behalf of the Trinidad and Tobago JET participants, who expressed her enthusiasm about experiencing life in Japan and thanked the Embassy for the opportunity and Ms. K'Sha Woodley (Saint Vincent & the Grenadines to Wakayama Prefecture) on behalf of the Island JET participants, who extended thanks, appreciation and excitement on being selected for the Programme.

In attendance at the reception were representatives from the Ministry of Education, Senior Government Officials, representatives from the University of the West Indies and members of the JET Alumni Association (JETAATT).

Please visit the Embassy of Japan website for more information on the JET Programme and our daily activities: [https://www.tt.emb-japan.go.jp/itprtop\\_en/index.html](https://www.tt.emb-japan.go.jp/itprtop_en/index.html)



Ms. Gwyneth-Ann Morris-Alexander, Deputy Permanent Secretary, Ministry of Education, Mrs. Matsubara, Ms. Makino Michiko, Chargé d' Affaires and Mr. Aaron Ramrattan, Director, School Supervision and Management Division with the JETs of Cycle 2024



Group Photo



Ms. Makino Michiko, Chargé d' Affaires gives the welcome address



Ms. Latoya Roberts-Thomas, Secretary of the JETAATT gives remarks



Ms. Tamika Mason gives remarks on behalf of the outgoing JET Participants from Trinidad and Tobago



Ms. K'Sha Woodley gives remarks on behalf of the outgoing JET Participants from the Islands



Mr. Aleron Rajalal, Public Relations, Cultural Affairs and Programmes Coordinator, speaks at the JET Orientation



Ms. Samantha Smalal, Events Coordinator of the JETAATT speaks to the JETs at the Orientation



Mr. Isaiah Trotman takes a photo with  
Ms. Makino and Mrs. Matsubara



Ms. Jedidah Walcott takes a photo with  
Ms. Makino and Mrs. Matsubara



Ms. Lauren Chin sticks a tag by her new  
home in Japan



Ms. Patrice Nurse points out where will  
be her new home in Japan