

NEWS RELEASE

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Media Advisory:

Volunteers to build new community playground at Fatima Academy, St. Bride's

Through the efforts of hundreds of volunteers, and with the strong support and leadership provided by *Let Them Be Kids*, **Fatima Academy** on the Cape Shore will see the redevelopment of its schoolyard. The community playground project gets underway at 8 a.m. on June 1st.

The Fatima Academy Playground Committee is pleased to announce that our school/communities have received a Let Them Be Kids Helping Hands Award for 2012 to redesign and construct a new playground for Fatima Academy. This is only one of thirty grants awarded in the country! As part of this award, our school will be receiving a 50/50 funding match, access to experts in the construction of playgrounds and assistance in building the playground.

The Committee's vision is to create a desirable location that is inviting to all residents and tourists of the Cape Shore where they can enhance their physical activity, family togetherness and where members of all ages can socialize. Fatima Academy Playground Committee plans to create a safe, fun and sustainable play park for children and families of the Cape Shore to gather and socialize.

While accomplishing this goal the school hopes to provide students with the opportunity to learn and utilize effective leadership skills while encouraging them to take an active role in their community. The Committee is hoping that this project will empower our communities to work together to achieve a common goal.

Our new playground will be an area that is conducive to learning. This project will assist us to establish and reinforce positive health and wellness activity for all ages. The school is hoping that this will increase our students' pride and commitment in being a sustainable community in rural Newfoundland.

The design of the playground will be the result of choices made by our pre-school and school age children through a process called "dot-mocracy," as the children vote on the kinds of components they would like to see in the structure. Bel-Air Playgrounds will then use these results to design a playground that includes features identified as most appealing by the children.

“Build Day” has been set for Friday, June 1, 2012, and many volunteers from the community will be on hand to not only erect our new structure, but to celebrate working together for such a wonderful project.

This is going to be an exciting and wonderful day for our school community. The children at Fatima Academy are looking forward to a safe and welcoming place to play. We are overwhelmed by the generosity of *Let Them Be Kids*, and all the volunteers who are supporting this effort. *Let Them Be Kids* is a charitable world-wide program which acts as a catalyst to build community capacity while building playgrounds in areas of need.

Volunteers are being provided with refreshments throughout the day. For more information, please call the school at 709-337-2500 or Let Them Be Kids at 416-405-9494.