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NIHERST
NATIONAL INSTITUTE
OF HIGHER EDUCATION
RESEARCH SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

September 9th 2026

Dear Editor / Head of Department

**NIHERST Marks International Literacy Day with Read Aloud & STEM Activation
at Nipal Presbyterian Primary School**

Tableland, Trinidad and Tobago, 8th September, 2026: The National Institute of Higher Education, Research, Science and Technology (NIHERST) commemorated International Literacy Day with a Read Aloud and STEM activation at Nipal Presbyterian Primary School.

The initiative brought literacy and STEM together, using reading as an entry point to encourage students' curiosity, questioning, creativity, and interest in science, technology, engineering, and mathematics (STEM).

Members of the NIHERST Board of Governors, together with the President and other representatives of the Institute, engaged students through a Read Aloud session and interactive STEM activities. The activation demonstrated how literacy provides an important foundation for students to understand, communicate, and engage meaningfully with STEM concepts.

The activity formed part of NIHERST's ongoing efforts to bring meaningful educational experiences directly into communities, particularly those that may have less access to specialised STEM engagement. Through reading, hands-on activities and opportunities for exploration, students were encouraged to see connections between literacy, STEM and the world around them.

The initiative reflects NIHERST's broader mandate to promote science, technology and innovation while supporting the development of foundational skills among young people.

Through initiatives such as this, NIHERST continues to promote opportunities that inspire young people and demonstrate the important role that literacy plays in learning, discovery and participation in an increasingly science- and technology-driven world.

##END##

Photos:



Caption (L-R): Dr. Fazal Ali (President - NIHERST), Rev. Peter Arjoon (Presbyterian Minister), Mr. Anil Rampersad (Principal of Nipal Presbyterian Primary), Ms. Usha Rampersad-Gokool (Governor – NIHERST), Dr. Sharmilla Harry (Deputy Chairman – NIHERST), Mr. Jerome Ramkhalawan (Governor – NIHERST)



Caption: Ms. Karen Ross, Senior Librarian at NIHERST, engages students during a Read Aloud session



Caption: Mrs. Georgia Le Gendre of NIHERST captivates students with another engaging story



Caption: Students get hands-on as they interact with robots, sparking curiosity and excitement.



Caption: Science in action! Students enjoy an exciting, hands-on science demonstration filled with discovery, curiosity and fun.



Caption: NIHERST President Dr. Fazal Ali, alongside Ms. Usha Rampersad-Gokool, Governor, distributes storybooks to students at NIPAL Presbyterian Primary School.

Contact Information

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About NIHERST

The National Institute of Higher Education, Research, Science and Technology (NIHERST) is a statutory body committed to promoting the development of science, technology and higher education in Trinidad and Tobago, while supporting innovation, creativity and entrepreneurship across the national community.

Nipal Presbyterian Primary School

Located at No. 33 Pooran Road, George Village, Tableland, has been an integral part of the Tableland community for more than 100 years. With its century-long history, the school has established a strong and enduring presence, contributing to the educational and social development of generations of students and families within the surrounding community.