

# TOP MARKS FOR NEW HAITI SCHOOL

**It's a fresh start for Port-au-Prince students**

Pupils from St Gerard's primary school, Port-au-Prince, which was destroyed in the 2010 Haiti earthquake, were thrilled to witness the official opening of their brand new building on 17 September – and it was all thanks to a four-way partnership between local Redemptorists, SERVE and two Spanish aid

groups. It's nearly five years since the school, situated in the capital's Redemptorist parish, was razed to the ground killing 292 children and six teachers. In the immediate aftermath, Frs Gerry O'Connor and Sean Duggan helped implement an emergency response, providing food, medical



One of the many happy pupils attending St Gerard's Primary School

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supplies and shelter. They have also assisted with the long-term project of rebuilding the school, enlisting the invaluable support of SERVE volunteer Stephen Stranney as a consultant engineer. The finished €780,000 premises is stunning and has the capacity to offer educational opportunities for 1,200 children daily, on a two-cycle basis. At the official opening, the building was signed over in favour of the

Haiti Redemptorists and renamed Redemptorist Missionaries School. We are now committed to helping the Redemptorists in Haiti to build an Early

Education Unit and to help strengthen the curriculum and the skills base of teachers working in the seven primary schools on Redemptorist missions across Haiti. We're

also committed to a student scholarship fund covering annual fees that amount to just over €50 per year. Many thanks to all concerned on a job well done. 

