

Central Bank of Samoa celebrates Global Money Week 2017

At the conclusion of a week-long activities with primary and secondary school students, Central Bank of Samoa Assistant Governor Gilbert Wongsin over today congratulated the winners of the Bank's fourth Be Money Wise poster competition and its first ever Build Your Savings Piggy Bank /Money Box competition. These competitions by the Central Bank are a part of the Global Money Week celebration, which is an annual event coordinated by Child & Youth Finance International.

Global Money Week this year is celebrated from 27th March - 2nd April and is a worldwide celebration through events and activities to help empower children and youth to be confident and responsible economic citizens. During this week the Central Bank also coordinated two other events such as the Money Talk Workshop for students from Years 7 & 8 and the Speak Money Speech Competition which is a financial literacy speech competition for Year 13 students.

The "Money Talk" Workshops were conducted at the Central Bank and were held for three days at the start of the Global Money Week, from Monday 27th – 29th of March 2017. Nearby schools were invited for a two hour session with the first half comprising of financial literacy lesson's and activities, and the second comprising of presentations on our nation's currency – both banknotes and coins – to familiarise students with the features of our money.

Following the 3 days of Money Talk workshops was the Speak Money speech competition on the 30th March. 15 schools to field 1 representative, were invited to participate in this first ever speech competition, created to encourage students to build their public speaking skills and confidence but most importantly to engage in expansive thinking about financial literacy. Competitors spoke from a given selection of topics; such as Planning for the future, Future Entrepreneurs, The Culture of Saving, Financial success to me is..., Just to name a few. The 1st – 5th place winners received a cash prize from Central Bank and gift vouchers from Business System Ltd. The rest of the participants' received consolation prizes of \$50 cash each. The top five winners are:

<i>Name</i>	<i>School</i>	<i>Placing</i>
Daniel Koria	Samoa Adventist College	1 st
Jorim Paul-Phillips	Faatuatua Christian College	2 nd
Venus Papalii	Samoa College	3 rd
Teofilo Molio'o	Le Amosa Savavau Preparatory School	4 th
Dorothy Su'a	Leulumoega Fou College	5 th

The Build Your Savings - Piggy Bank/Money Box competition, asked high school students from Years 9-12 to create or build a piggy bank or money box in any shape or form, this was a chance for students to showcase their knowledge of sensible money management in a fun and creative way.

Each winning entry won a \$300 cash prize from the Central Bank and \$50 gift voucher from Business Systems Limited. The top 5 winners (in no particular order) of Build your saving's Competition entries are:

<i>Name</i>	<i>Class</i>	<i>School</i>
Quenjule Slaven	Year 12	St. Mary's College
Taei Iosua	Year 11	Falealili College
Saia Bartley	Year 10	LDS Church College
Pitapola Ioane	Year 11	Le Amosa Savavau Preparatory School
Vaesaina Tuiletufuga	Year 12	Safata College

The Be Money Wise Poster Competition, with the theme "Save for your dreams", was focused on the primary school levels Years 3- 6. The primary school entries were divided into 2 categories; Category 1 was Years 3 & 4 and Category 2 was from Years 5 & 6. The top 5 winners from each category received a cash prize of \$100 tala from the Central Bank and a \$50 Gift voucher sponsored by Business Systems Ltd. The top 5 winners (in no particular order) from the two categories are:

Category 1: Top five winners

<i>Name</i>	<i>Class</i>	<i>School</i>
Daisy Mikaele	Year 4	Samatau Primary School
Daniel Mikaele	Year 4	Saint Joseph Primary School
Henry Mailo	Year 4	Samoa Primary School
Sauao Mila	Year 4	Saint Joseph Primary School
Joseph Lutupo	Year 3	Saint Peters Primary School

Category 2: Top five winners

<i>Name</i>	<i>Class</i>	<i>School</i>
Jade Belford Scanlan	Year 6	Vaiala Beach School
Penina Charity Sakaria	Year 6	Pesega Fou Primary School
Tahlia Freijah	Year 6	Vaiala Beach School
Christina Slaven	Year 5	Vaiala Beach School
Egnezeema Chan Tung	Year 6	Saint Mary's Primary School

Each primary school of the Be Money Wise Poster Competition winners were also awarded \$100 tala cash prize by the Central Bank for each winning entry as a reward for incorporating financial literacy competitions into their lessons.

All winners of the 2017 BMW Posters competition and Build Your Savings Piggy Bank/Money Box competition, were selected from 454 entries received from schools in both urban and rural in Upolu.

The Assistant Governor acknowledged the parents, principals, and teachers for encouraging their children and students to enter and participate in the competitions. He also thanked Meilan Meredith for the kind sponsorship from Business Systems Ltd.

The Central Bank hopes to conduct many more Financial Fitness activities in the years to come.