



## Newsletter (~ 9~)



August 2015 edition

Dear Friends in Samoa,

How are you? In August, we had a Japanese PMSP team including Mr. Hirakawa (Project Manager), Ms. Wada (Mathematics Expert) and Mr. Abumi (Science Expert) who have been working for the attached schools of Hokkaido University of Education conducted the workshops at three pilot schools during the period between August 11<sup>st</sup> and 14<sup>th</sup>. The number of the attendance is as follows; Saina P/S→33, Falefitu P/S→35 in Upolu and Salailua P/S→30 in Savai'i.

### <Mathematics>

Ms. Wada gave the lectures under the title of “Let’s compare the volume” with much hands-on activity. She talked to the Samoan teachers that both motivation and exercise would improve the academic performance of the students. And it’s important to let students have creative ideas to find the volume of the various shapes. And finally students can develop the formula themselves. This is the fruit of ‘Problem solving lesson’.



Ms. Wada explained “A Unit of Volume”.



Samoaan teachers enjoyed building a solid.

<Science>

Mr. Abumi picked up on the topics of “Gravity and Air resistance (Year 4) and “Motion & Friction (Year 5)”. The gravity and the friction are not visible. Therefore it’s important to let students understand through the activity or experiment with real feeling. The resources used for the experiments are all available in Samoa. He said that examining the result of the experiment is essential in science class. He also put emphasis on the blackboard management so that the students can see the whole view of what they learned in the lesson.



Mr. Abumi explained “The Gravity”.



He demonstrated how large the frictional force is.



Let’s check the result of the experiment.

Through this program, the PMSP team of MESC including Mr. Sione (Mathematics officer) and Mr. Savelio (Science officer) supported us a lot.

They sometimes gave the adequate advice to attendees in Samoan.

I do hope that Samoan teachers will put into practice what they have learned and share the ideas with their colleagues.

By Michiko, Project Coordinator