



**PRESS RELEASE  
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**Tuesday, July 1, 2025**



Minister of State in the Ministry of National Security, the Hon. Juliet Cuthbert-Flynn inspects members of the St. Mary High School cadet unit during the Reuel Vaz Trophy Parade and Presentation Ceremony held yesterday (June 30) at the institution. St. Mary High emerged as the champion in the Jamaica Combined Cadet Force's Reuel Vaz Trophy Competition and has copped the trophy for the 18<sup>th</sup> year.

**JCCF critical to national security- Minister Cuthbert-Flynn**

Minister of State in the Ministry of National Security, the Hon. Juliet Cuthbert-Flynn says the Jamaica Combined Cadet Force (JCCF) plays a vital role in national security.

**“Every early morning drill, every uniform inspection, every act of teamwork instils the kind of values that our country needs to restore — discipline, commitment and self-respect,”** Minister Cuthbert-Flynn pointed out.

While lauding St. Mary High School's Cadet Unit for copping the Reuel Vaz Trophy for the 18<sup>th</sup> time, the State Minister shared that the school's continuous win **“is a reflection of consistent excellence in training, administration and the high standards that the Jamaica Combined Cadet Force represents.”**

Minister Cuthbert-Flynn was speaking at the Reuel Vaz Trophy Parade and Presentation Ceremony held at St. Mary High School yesterday (July 1).



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Additionally, she commended all cadet units that participated in the competition, noting that **“the strength of the JCCF lies not only in its top performers, but in the collective effort of every cadet, every instructor and every school that chooses discipline over disorder and leadership over complacency.”**

The State Minister is urging more schools to participate in the annual JCCF competition and to encourage students to become members of the cadet force.

In her closing remarks, Minister Cuthbert-Flynn challenged the cadets to **“wear your uniform not just with pride but also with purpose. Use the skills you have learnt not only to impress, but to uplift and let the friendships and values you have built in this space carry you far beyond these school grounds.”**

The JCCF competition ran from January to April with over 100 schools across Jamaica participating. The Reuel Vaz Trophy was first awarded in 1948 and stands as a symbol of commitment to youth development, excellence, resilience and deep value of structured mentorship.

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