

BILTIR presents books to 27 schools as part of its 10th anniversary celebration

HAMILTON, Bermuda, 15 December 2021 – As part of its 10th year anniversary celebration, Bermuda International Long-Term Insurers and Reinsurers (BILTIR) has gifted 750 books to all P4 students in 27 schools across the island.

The books – ‘The Magic School Bus Takes a Risk’ – were provided to students to introduce the concepts of probability, risk and actuaries. The books were written in collaboration with the American Academy of Actuaries. The book distribution was launched through a live virtual event hosted by Planet Math, a Bermuda-based tutoring service set up in 2016 to help school students to improve their mathematical skills.

Bermuda’s P4 students were invited to join a Zoom presentation on Tuesday, December 14. The presentation included two catchy custom-written Probability songs and videos which can be viewed here: <https://m.youtube.com/watch?v=IP1FI6T7PNM> and <https://m.youtube.com/watch?v=N6KdbMdBljM>.

Two math superheroes, Math Man and Division Diva, played a coin-flipping game with students so they could experience probability firsthand.

They were joined by Taiyana Allen, the recipient of a \$30,000 BILTIR scholarship to study data analytics and actuarial science at Georgia State University. Taiyana, who now works as an Actuarial Analyst at Wilton Re, explained the role actuaries play in assessing probability in the life reinsurance industries in Bermuda. She told the students that there was a “huge need” for actuaries in Bermuda. The superheroes then shared their favourite part of the Magic School Bus book.

BILTIR represents 63 long-term insurance, reinsurance and servicing companies in Bermuda who provide life and annuity products and employ more than 600 people on the island.

Minister of Education, the Hon Diallo Rabain, JP, MP, said:

“In Bermuda, we have international business partners such as BILTIR who are genuinely committed to helping our communities to thrive and prosper. International business offers fantastic career opportunities for Bermudians. I hope that these books contributed by BILTIR enhance the joy of reading and help to persuade some of these young students to join the industry.”

Amy Ponnampalam, CEO of Athora Life Re Ltd. and Chair of BILTIR’s Social Impact Committee, said:

“We are delighted to be able to help our school students learn the mathematical skills which will be so important for them throughout their lives. One of BILTIR’s key objectives is to support educational causes in the community, and we hope that some of the students using the book will go on to be the next generation of Bermudian life insurance and reinsurance professionals. Planet Math were a fantastic

partner to BILTIR on this initiative. It is truly inspiring to see their talent and dedication in harnessing engagement from such young kids to get them excited about maths from a young age.”

Taiyana Allen said:

“I have been fortunate enough to benefit from a BILTIR scholarship to study in the United States, which paved the way for me to work within the life reinsurance industry here in Bermuda. A special thanks to BILTIR’s Chair, Sylvia Oliveira, for continuing to include me in these amazing events. The life industry offers an extremely interesting opportunity as well as a rewarding career, and I am hopeful that some of the students receiving these books will one day be future colleagues in the life sector here in Bermuda.”

Sergio Pitcher of Planet Math said:

“Planet Math was set up to help our school students improve their math skills and this wonderful donation from BILTIR is a massive contribution to that mission. Our main goal this year and for the next few years is to raise funds to provide tutoring for upwards of 200 students, twice per week for a full school year. Covid-19 has had a major impact on student learning over the past two years and we want to assist as many young people as possible. Our programme will help bridge the learning gap that has only gotten bigger over the past two years. This initiative requires substantial funding and working with BILTIR on this 'Magic School Bus' launch is a start towards raising funds for the tutoring initiative.”

Issued by Rein4ce on behalf of BILTIR

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About BILTIR

Bermuda International Long-Term Insurers and Reinsurers (BILTIR) was created to serve as a formal association representing the long-term insurers and reinsurers in Bermuda. The primary focus of BILTIR is to act as an advocate for Bermuda’s life and annuity industry for public policy that supports the industry marketplace, including regulatory requirements, other Bermuda Monetary Authority or Bermuda government issues, and tax matters with various jurisdictions. Today BILTIR represents 63 long-term insurance, reinsurance and servicing companies in Bermuda who provide life and annuity products and employ more than 600 people on the island. BILTIR is committed to supporting the industry’s growth and success in Bermuda and globally. For more information, visit www.BILTIR.bm.