**Interview with teacher Esmee, coordinator Team Science Week Sr. Regina School**

1. **Why is experiential learning, like Science Week, so important for primary school students?**

Experiential learning engages students actively in the learning process, making concepts more tangible and meaningful. During Science Week, students explored real-world issues like plastic pollution and climate change through hands-on activities such as recycling projects, beach clean-ups, and experiments. These experiences not only deepen understanding but also build skills like critical thinking, collaboration, and problem-solving—essential for 21st-century learners.

1. **How did you integrate the SDGs into your science activities?**

We selected Sustainable Development Goals that are particularly relevant to our island context, such as SDG 13 (Climate Action), SDG 14 (Life Below Water), and SDG 15 (Life On Land). Each class explored one or more SDGs through age-appropriate science activities. For example, students investigated the impact of plastic on marine life and learned about renewable energy. These activities helped them connect science to global and local challenges.

1. **What changes have you noticed in students’ awareness or attitudes toward sustainability during the week?**

There was a noticeable increase in students' awareness and enthusiasm. Many became more vocal about environmental issues, asking thoughtful questions and taking initiative, like reminding their peers to recycle or pick up trash. Several students even brought ideas from Science Week into their homes, encouraging their families to reduce plastic use. The week sparked a genuine sense of responsibility and curiosity.

1. **What role do community partnerships play in enhancing Science Week?**

Community partnerships were essential. Organizations like the Nature Foundation and Perpetual Plastic provided expertise, materials, and inspiring presentations. These collaborations made the learning more authentic and connected students to real change-makers in our community. They also highlighted the importance of collective action and showed students that their efforts, no matter how small, contribute to broader goals.

1. **How does Science Week align with the broader goals of your school?**

Our school values holistic, inclusive education that prepares students to become responsible global citizens. Science Week reflects this by integrating academic content with social and environmental consciousness. It supports our mission to foster curiosity, empathy, and leadership, while also promoting cross-curricular learning and community involvement. Through this initiative, we aim to plant seeds for lifelong engagement with science and sustainability.