

Tacirua Primary School successfully received a grant from the University of the South Pacific to implement a 3 month project. With the main aim of improving the students' ability to read in their vernacular language, the school launched its project on March 15, 2019. At a global level, there are approximately 0.0006 speakers of the iTaukei Fijian language, as expressed by Master Simione Sevudredre of the iTaukei Affairs Board.

The introductory phase to the learning process is to set a conducive learning environment for the students, whereby enjoyable chants, songs and poems will be taught to the students. This will be accompanied by hand eye coordination games which seeks to introduce counting, collaboration, pronunciation and quick thinking abilities. These are known as *sere vasi*, *sere ni veimei* and *sere kali*. Well known songs are Asita, Asita batiyaya, Teitei *Ulavi*, *Teitei mata ni vavai* and so and so forth.

The project will be shared with members of the community and it is envisaged that children from the nearby residential areas such as Savutalele, Dokanaisuva, Tacirua and Nayavuloulou will be interested to join and improve their reading in the vernacular.

With this funding, the school also has the support of the Institute of Indigenous Studies, iTaukei Affairs Board and the Christian Citizenship & Social Services committee of the local Delaivalelevu Methodist Circuit.