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GIRLS TIME: Sharing brunch and convo, Veronica Campbell-Brown bonds with students from her foundation



TRUE COLOURS: "Spending time with the girls was refreshing for me."

Veronica Campbell-Brown recently treated a few young ladies from her eponymous foundation, and members of their families, to a trip to the city, complete with tickets to the Jamaica International Invitational, Sunday brunch, and some well-needed one-on-one time. "I know what it is like to have someone assist you in accomplishing your objectives. This is one of the reasons why I am very happy to reach out to these girls in a way I believe can make a real difference for them and their families," says the Olympic and world champion sprinter.

The girls got to witness as Campbell-Brown copped gold in the 100m race in a strong come-from-behind win over a tough field featuring American darling Allyson Felix, Trinidadian standout Kelly-Ann Baptiste, and the Ivorian sensation Muriel Ahoure. "Spending time with the girls was refreshing for me, as it allowed me to get to know them away from the school setting," says Campbell-Brown. "It also provided a wonderful opportunity to mentor as well as to impart some of the life lessons that have helped me to be successful, and have kept me grounded."



Established in 2011, the VCB Foundation's scholarship programme targets Jamaican high-school girls and commits to offering financial assistance, covering school fees, transportation and lunch, from the eighth grade through to the end of high school. Since its inception, the foundation has given close to half-a-million dollars to the first cohort of four girls: Elaine Ewers (Vere Technical), Aneca Campbell (Troy High School), Petrina James (Irwin High) and Terry Mathias (St. Andrew Technical High). The girls were selected based on academic performance and need.

Meanwhile, Campbell-Brown has nothing but high praises for her team that includes husband Omar Brown. "I feel very blessed to have a devoted team working with me, supporting a vision that is dear to my heart," she says. "These are very busy people whose sacrifices I truly appreciate, and I thank God for them."

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