MAY 2026

EDITION #1

WEEKLY NEWSLETTER

May 4th, 2026

Investment Playbook

EQUITIES

Stock Ticker	Stock Information (as at May 1st, 2026)	Comments
SEP Seprod Limited	P/E: 13.66x P/B: 1.54x Price: $82.9 Div Yield 2.54%	**OVERWEIGHT** Seprod remains a leading food and beverage company with a strong track record of revenue growth and dividend generation, supported by strategic acquisitions and regional expansion. The acquisition of AS Bryden significantly enhanced scale, driving substantial increases in revenue and profitability, while ongoing consolidation continues to support earnings growth. Geographic diversification and a broader regional footprint also provide resilience against domestic demand pressures in post-Melissa conditions, while supporting the Company's ability to sustain earnings and dividend generation.
TJH TransJamaican Highway Limited	P/E: 14.27x P/B: 6.44x Price: $6.84 Div Yield 3.74%	**OVERWEIGHT** The Group continues to experience stronger-than-projected traffic growth, and this momentum is expected to persist in the near term. Operational efficiency has improved following the JIO acquisition, supporting enhanced profitability and cash flow generation as debt levels continue to decline. Coupled with an attractive dividend yield, these factors position TJH as a compelling opportunity for income-focused investors, with post-Melissa recovery dynamics expected to provide additional support to traffic volumes and overall growth.
CCC Caribbean Cement Company Limited	P/E: 12.73x P/B: 2.5x Price: $104.28 Div Yield 1.95%	**OVERWEIGHT** Caribbean Cement Company Limited presents a compelling investment opportunity, driven by its dominant market positioning, financial resilience, and exposure to an attractive growth trajectory. The Company has effectively leveraged its monopoly position to sustain strong sales growth and improving profitability, supported by ongoing margin expansion and lower finance costs following debt reduction. Its robust liquidity and capital base provide a solid foundation for continued expansion and consistent dividend distributions. Looking ahead, demand is expected to remain resilient, driven by rebuilding activity in the post-Melissa environment and increased infrastructure and housing investment across the Caribbean, supporting the Company's medium-term growth outlook.

Ratings Definitions

OVERWEIGHT/BUY

Exposure to this asset should be between 5% and 10% of your total portfolio

MARKETWEIGHT/HOLD

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LASD Lasco Distributors	P/E: 10.2x P/B: 1.05x Price: $3.26 Div Yield 3.77%	**MARKETWEIGHT** LASCO Distributors has continued its growth trajectory, supported by steady demand across its core product lines and ongoing market expansion. The Company is strengthening its platform through investments in distribution, marketing, and logistics infrastructure, alongside a growing focus on exports and its pharmaceutical portfolio. While operations remained intact during Hurricane Melissa, broader economic disruptions have contributed to higher operating and financing costs, weighing on margins. Despite this, cost discipline has supported earnings stability. In the current environment, LASD's focus on essential goods and its expanding distribution network position it to remain resilient while supporting longer-term growth.
SCIJMD/SCIUSD Sygnus Credit Investments	P/E: 20.54x / 17.61x P/B: 0.5x / 0.43x Price: $10.17 / $0.05 Div Yield: 6.91% / 8.06%	**MARKETWEIGHT** Sygnus' business model is built on providing capital and direction to the underbanked, targeting the middle market. To support this strategy, the Company has executed several capital raises across equity, preference shares and debt, positioning it as a regional leader in private credit. Although Jamaica accounts for approximately 41% of total exposure, portfolio risk is mitigated by a sector mix weighted toward infrastructure and financial services, with limited exposure to hospitality and agriculture. This composition materially reduces earnings and credit headwinds in the post-Melissa environment. This cash flow stability also supports consistent income generation, and a strong dividend yield reinforcing return visibility within a more defensive earnings profile.
LASM Lasco Manufacturing	P/E: 10.88x P/B: 1.78x Price: $6.97 Div Yield 2.73%	**MARKETWEIGHT** LASCO Manufacturing has faced a more constrained operating environment, with Hurricane Melissa disrupting production and weighing on output and margins in the near term. Despite this, the Company has demonstrated gradual stabilization, supported by cost management and consistent demand for its core product lines. As a key supplier within the LASCO group, LASM continues to benefit from its positioning in essential goods, although near-term performance may remain pressured. Over the medium term, normalization of operations and continued focus on efficiency are expected to support recovery and earnings growth.

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GK **GraceKennedy Limited**	P/E: 10.22x P/B: 0.76x Price: $71 Div Yield 3.34%	**MARKETWEIGHT** GK has reported solid top-line growth and continues to advance its merger & acquisition (M&A) strategy, having increased its ownership stake in Catherine's Peak Bottling Company Limited to 100% and recently acquiring the remaining stake in Dairy Industries (Jamaica) Limited, strengthening its position across key segments. The company continues to pursue M&A opportunities both locally and internationally, which should enhance earnings diversification and support long-term growth. While revenue growth remains steady, profitability has been pressured by higher operating and logistics costs, softer performance in certain domestic and remittance segments, and more recently, disruptions related to Hurricane Melissa. Despite these challenges, GK's diversified business model, strong international performance, and continued expansion efforts position the Group to maintain resilience and support future growth.
FTNA **Fontana Limited**	P/E: 18.72x P/B: 2.7x Price: $6.74 Div Yield 3.71%	**MARKETWEIGHT** Fontana has been growing and expanding since listing on the junior exchange in 2019, with recent acquisitions increasing its footprint to eleven locations. In its most recent quarter, revenue grew by 5.6% year-on-year to $2.86 billion; however, net profit declined by 38%, largely due to disruptions caused by Hurricane Melissa, including temporary store closures and reduced trading hours in key locations. Operating expenses also increased by 22.2%, reflecting acquisition-related costs and new concept launches. While operations have since normalized, elevated cost pressures may continue to weigh on profitability in the near term. Nonetheless, the Company remains well positioned to support continued expansion, and its larger network is expected to drive long-term growth.
SVL **Supreme Ventures Limited**	P/E: 20.63x P/B: 8.28x Price: $15.94 Div Yield 4.52%	**MARKETWEIGHT** Supreme Ventures remains the market leader in Jamaica's lottery and gaming industry, supported by its established distribution network and continued product expansion. The Company has executed on its growth strategy through acquisitions and new product offerings, which have supported steady market activity and revenue generation. However, the operating environment has become more challenging, as Hurricane Melissa disrupted activity in key western parishes, contributing to a decline in industry sales and highlighting the sector's geographic concentration. Additionally, the continued shift in consumer spending toward gaming and betting, however increasing competition within the lottery segment, may place pressure on margins over the medium term. While new products such as Scratchaz support engagement, the pace of growth will depend on sustained consumer uptake and normalization of activity in affected regions.

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WISYNCO Wisynco Group Limited	P/E: 16.49x P/B: 2.63x Price: $21.44 Div Yield 2.15%	**MARKETWEIGHT** The operating environment is becoming more constrained, as hurricane-related hotel closures continue to limit demand from key tourism-linked channels, while newly implemented taxes on sugary drinks and alcoholic beverages are expected to weigh on consumption across core product categories. Wisynco, however has strengthened its operational efficiency and expanded production capacity in recent years, supporting revenue growth and margin expansion even amid disruptions caused by Hurricane Melissa. Improved output and distribution execution have allowed the Company to offset temporary weakness in its hotel and food service channels, highlighting the resilience of its broader distribution network. Despite these pressures, the Company's expanded capacity and diversified channels continue to support earnings resilience, even as near-term growth moderates within the current operating environment.
SGJ Scotia Group Jamaica Limited	P/E: 8.06x P/B: 0.95x Price: $51.35 Div Yield 3.51%	**MARKETWEIGHT** SGJ offers stable exposure to the financial sector, supported by a strong credit risk framework and relatively low non-accrual loans. Profitability continues to benefit from loan portfolio growth and disciplined cost management, reinforcing steady earnings performance. The Group is also focused on improving operational efficiency and strengthening its core business, which should support sustainable growth over the medium term. Coupled with its consistent and attractive dividend payments, the Company remains a compelling option for income-focused investors seeking stability and long-term value.
CAR Carreras Limited	P/E: 16.16x P/B: 33.76x Price: $21.96 Div Yield 6.79%	**MARKETWEIGHT** Carreras Limited operates within a highly regulated environment and continues to benefit from the relatively inelastic demand profile of its core products, supporting stable revenue and strong cash flow generation. However, the upcoming increase in Special Consumption Tax (SCT) on cigarettes is expected to present headwinds, as higher prices may accelerate the shift toward illicit trade, which already represents a significant portion of market consumption. While the Company has historically managed tax-related pressures through pricing and portfolio adjustments, the extent of the impact will depend largely on the effectiveness of enforcement measures aimed at curbing illegal supply. Despite these challenges, Carreras' strong market position and the nature of its product offering continue to support earnings resilience, particularly within a defensive portfolio context.

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JBG Jamaica Broilers Group Limited	P/E: N/A P/B: 0.62x Price: $15.2 Div Yield 0%	The group recently identified accounting issues within its US operations which have affected reported earnings and reduced near-term visibility on cash flow generation. Management has initiated corrective actions, including enhanced oversight and operational adjustments, alongside a broader restructuring of its overseas operations. This is supported by recently secured senior secured financing, which provides additional liquidity and extends the group's debt maturity profile, while the balance sheet has also strengthened following a recent revaluation exercise. Notwithstanding these measures, the group remains under monitoring given the need for consistent execution of the turnaround plan and improved transparency around underlying operating performance.

***The "Monitoring List" represents stocks that are on our radar as our initial expectation for these companies is positive. However, no official recommendation is presented as these stocks are still being evaluated.*

Monitoring List

Fixed Income

Bond & Issuer	Bond Information (as at May 1st, 2026)	Comments
HLT 3.75% 2029 Hilton Domestic Operating	Price (Bid/Ask): $96.28/ $96.42 Yield to Maturity (Bid/Ask): 5.10%/5.05% Maturity: May 1st, 2029 Modified Duration: 2.78 Credit Rating: BB+ (S&P)	The Hilton Hotels gives investors access to several global brands in the hospitality and travel sector. As of 2022, Hilton managed, franchised, or owned 7,165 hotels and resorts, totaling 1.1 million rooms in 123 countries. The industry also continues to represent a potential travel recovery play as the demand for business transient (short stay business travel) and group travel continues to gain momentum with trends through 2Q23 continuing to look strong.
SFCCN 5.3% 2028 Sagicor Financial Corporation	Price (Bid/Ask): 100.01/$100.07 Yield to Maturity (Bid/Ask): 5.29%/5.26% Maturity: May 13th, 2028 Modified Duration: 0.07 Credit Rating: BBB (S&P) / BB+ (Fitch)	**OVERWEIGHT** SFCCN 5.3% 2028 gives investors exposure a global life insurer with a growing footprint in the North American Market. While the credit has seen some spread compression, we believe that there might be more to come. This comes as it trades slightly cheap relative to peers with the major concern as it relates to macroeconomic exposure to Caribbean government debt is likely to be improved with the Ivari transaction. In this regard, the successful closure of the acquisition means that there is potential for more spread compression. In addition to this, approaching closer to the end of the Fed hiking cycle might also limit the potential downside tailwinds on price from even more restrictive monetary policy.
MAT 3.75% 2029 Mattel Inc	Price (Bid/Ask): $96.86/$96.98 Yield to Maturity (Bid/Ask): 4.92%/4.88% Maturity: April 1st, 2029 Modified Duration: 2.70 Credit Rating: BBB (S&P) / BBB-(Fitch) / Baa3 (Moody's)	Mattel markets toy products that are sold to its wholesale customers and direct to retail consumers. The Company offers products for children and families, including toys for infants and preschoolers, girls and boys. A rebound in dolls, especially Barbie and Frozen, is the key to Mattel outperforming projections.

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Unit Trust

Unit Trust Fund	30/04/2026	23/04/2026	Week/Week Return	Year-to-Date Return	1 Year Return	Yield
Capital Growth	75.467	74.286	1.59%	-2.02%	-2.90%	-
Money Market	18.576	18.580	-0.02%	1.59%	5.90%	4.23%
Income Portfolio	100.000	100.000	-	-	-	4.73%
FX Bond Portfolio (US$)	1.680	1.679	0.04%	1.62%	11.29%	3.89%
Real Estate Portfolio	21,395.753	21,488.466	-0.43%	14.82%	21.99%	-
FX Growth Portfolio	1.433	1.433	0.03%	2.09%	26.41%	-
FX Income Accumulator Portfolio	1.068	1.066	0.12%	1.30%	3.21%	5.24%

"Someone's sitting in the shade today because someone planted a tree a long time ago."

Warren Buffett

LOCAL EQUITY MARKET

For the week ending May 1, 2026, the local stock market, measured by the Combined Index, improved by 2.47%. The Main Market Index improved by 2.55%, the Junior Market Index improved by 1.21%, and the JSE USD Equities Index improved by 1.08%. During the Proven Group Limited USD was the largest gainer, rising by approximately 23.50% to close at $0.07. Paramount Trading (Jamaica) Limited was the biggest decliner, which fell by 19.33% to close at $0.96.

Large-cap stocks, reflecting those listed on the Main Market Index are outperforming on a YTD basis, improving by 9.62%, relative to its Junior Market counterpart which has declining by 5.59%.

For the week ending May 1, 2026, overall market activity resulted from 128 stocks of which 64 advanced, 53 declined and 11 traded firm. Market volume amounted to 230,505,337 units valued at over $1,007,952,253.34. Key contributors to trading volume are Wigton Energy Limited with 91,483,622 (39.31%), followed by TransJamaican Highway Limited with 24,158,735 units (10.38%) and One On One Educational Services Limited with 23,003,332 units (9.88%).

Revisiting relevant news during the week:

BOJ sees inflation averaging as high as 7.5 per cent

Bank of Jamaica policymakers in March privately projected inflation could average as high as 7.5 per cent over the next two years as oil prices and geopolitical tensions threaten to drive up costs and weaken growth, minutes of the central bank's latest meeting show.
BOJ sees inflation averaging as high as 7.5 per cent

Rising fees squeeze Carib Cement profit

Caribbean Cement booked record sales in 2025 but a higher royalty rate paid to parent company Cemex pushed royalty and service fees up more than 50 per cent, even as production volumes slipped.
Rising fees squeeze Carib Cement profit

Sugar tax pushes GraceKennedy beverage prices up 9 per cent as of May 1

GraceKennedy Limited will raise prices on non-alcoholic sweetened beverages by an average of nine per cent from May 1, citing the Government's new sugar-content-based tax and other cost increases, according to a customer notice seen by the Jamaica Observer.
Sugar tax pushes GraceKennedy beverage prices up 9 per cent as of May 1

BOJ approves SVL digital wallet

Supreme Ventures Limited (SVL) is set to launch a digital wallet and prepaid Mastercard later this year as it continues to leverage its scale to penetrate financial services.
BOJ approves SVL digital wallet

Shareholders miss out on $17 dividend as Carib Cement parks cash with Cemex

Caribbean Cement Company Limited (CCC) has built up $15.7 billion in cash, but much of it is being channelled to its parent, Cemex, rather than paid out to minority shareholders.
Shareholders miss out on $17 dividend as Carib Cement parks cash with Cemex

Proven & ANSA McAL raising US$30 million via Roberts Manufacturing IPO

Proven Group Limited is selling down nearly half of its stake in Barbados-based Roberts Manufacturing Company Limited in a deal worth up to US$15.63 million as the regional investment company moves to improve liquidity, reduce debt, and position itself to resume dividend payments.
Proven & ANSA McAL raising US$30 million via Roberts Manufacturing IPO

Index	01/05/2026	24/04/2026	31/12/2025	Week/Week	Year-to-Date
JSE Main Market	348,565.21	339,883.69	317,986.88	2.55%	9.62%
JSE Junior Market	3,211.31	3,172.88	3,401.41	1.21%	-5.59%
JSE Combined Market	356,331.21	347,755.61	328,444.54	2.47%	8.49%
JSE USD Equities Market	260.36	257.58	212.16	1.08%	22.72%
JSE Financial Index	64.93	63.08	64.44	2.93%	0.76%
JSE M&D Index	122.48	119.86	106.01	2.19%	15.54%

INTERNATIONAL DEVELOPMENTS

U.S.

Stocks largely shrugged off the stream of sometimes conflicting headlines about the war in the Middle East and a surprisingly hawkish Federal Reserve policy meeting to post solid gains in most major indexes. Large-cap stocks outpaced small-caps, and value outperformed growth as another increase in oil prices lifted the energy sector. The S&P 500 Index returned over 10% for the month of April, its best monthly performance since November 2020.

With more than half of the companies in the S&P 500 having reported quarterly earnings, T. Rowe Price traders noted that generally robust earnings results drove the market's gains. This more than offset negative sentiment about the potential drag from higher prices of energy and other commodities going forward. Oil prices were volatile, and West Texas Intermediate oil (the U.S. benchmark) finished the week up more than 7%.

Alphabet, Meta highlight earnings reports

Five of the "Magnificent Seven" companies reported earnings, with financial results generally meeting or exceeding expectations for these bellwether firms. Alphabet shares jumped after the Google parent noted that strong demand for its artificial intelligence (AI) and cloud products showed that its heavy investment in AI is starting to pay off. On the other hand, Meta Platforms plummeted after it said that it will boost its AI spending by even more this year. The company issued $25 billion of new corporate bonds on Thursday.

FOMC dissenters send hawkish signal

The Federal Open Market Committee (FOMC) held rates steady, as was widely expected, with a statement that continued to note an easing bias. Three members dissented from the decision to incorporate the easing language, and one dissented in favor of cutting rates.

Europe

The pan-European STOXX Europe 600 Index ended the week broadly flat, nudging up 0.10% in local currency terms. The corporate earnings season continued, with signs of positive earnings momentum. However, the ongoing stalled negotiations between Iran and the U.S., ongoing closure of the Strait of Hormuz and a higher oil price kept sentiment in check. Among major stock indexes, Germany's DAX added 0.68%, and Italy's FTSE MIB rose 1.24%. France's CAC 40 Index declined 0.53%. The UK's FTSE 100 Index was little changed, down 0.04%. Most European markets, with the exception of the London Stock Exchange, were closed for International Workers' Day on Friday.

ECB leaves interest rates unchanged

The European Central Bank (ECB) held the deposit rate, its key rate, at 2% at its meeting on Thursday. However, officials acknowledge that the risks to the eurozone's economy had "intensified" as a result of the conflict in the Middle East and that the governing council had discussed "at length an in depth" a potential interest rate rise.

Economic sentiment in the eurozone falls to lowest level since 2020

The Economic Sentiment Indicator fell in April to 93.5, its lowest level since November 2020, according to data released by the European Commission. Consumer confidence was particularly weak, while industrial and construction confidence was more resilient.

Japan

Japan's equity markets generated mixed performance over the week, with the Nikkei 225 declining 0.34% while the broader TOPIX gained 0.33%. Heightened currency volatility was a key market driver during the week, including a sharp yen rebound widely attributed to suspected official intervention. At the same time, evolving Bank of Japan (BoJ) policy expectations also influenced markets, as the central bank held rates steady but signaled further tightening.

T. Rowe Price

Index	01/05/2026	24/04/2026	31/12/2025	Week/Week	Year-to-Date
Dow Jones	49,499.27	49,230.71	48,063.29	0.55%	2.99%
S&P 500	7,230.12	7,165.08	6,845.50	0.91%	5.62%
NASDAQ 100	27,710.36	27,303.67	25,249.85	1.49%	9.74%
FTSE 100	10,363.93	10,379.08	9,931.38	-0.15%	4.36%
Euro Stoxx 50	5,881.51	5,883.48	5,791.41	-0.03%	1.56%

ABOUT US

> **Barita Investments Limited**, is a publicly-traded company on the JSE, 74.3% owned by Cornerstone Financial Holdings Limited (“Cornerstone”).

The Barita Group is made up of Barita Investments Limited and its subsidiary, Barita Unit Trusts Management Company Limited (BUTM). Founded by Rita Humphries-Lewin in 1977, Barita has the distinction of being one of the oldest stock brokerages in Jamaica. The Company is regulated by the Financial Services Commission (FSC), is a member of the JSE and is licensed as a Primary Dealer and Cambio Dealer by the Bank of Jamaica (BOJ or the Central Bank). In August 2018, Cornerstone Financial Holdings Limited (Cornerstone or CFHL) acquired majority shares in Barita and has supported the Company’s mission and vision to be a premier investment force in Jamaica and the wider Caribbean.

OUR PRODUCTS AND SERVICES INCLUDE:

- Stock Market investments on any of the three regional exchanges
- Fixed Income Trading
- Investment Banking Services
- Unit Trust Investments
- Currency Trading
- Structured Products
- Retirement Planning
- Wealth Planning
- Market Research

BUTM currently offers seven (7) unit trust products spanning fixed income, equities and real estate and is recognised as a strong player in the middle market retail segment and a leader in unit trust performance.

Barita serves its clients island-wide through its Head Office in Kingston and branches in Mandeville and Montego Bay with a team of 163 members across its operations island-wide.

Contact us
Tel: (876) 926-2681 or (888) 429-5333
Website: www.barita.com