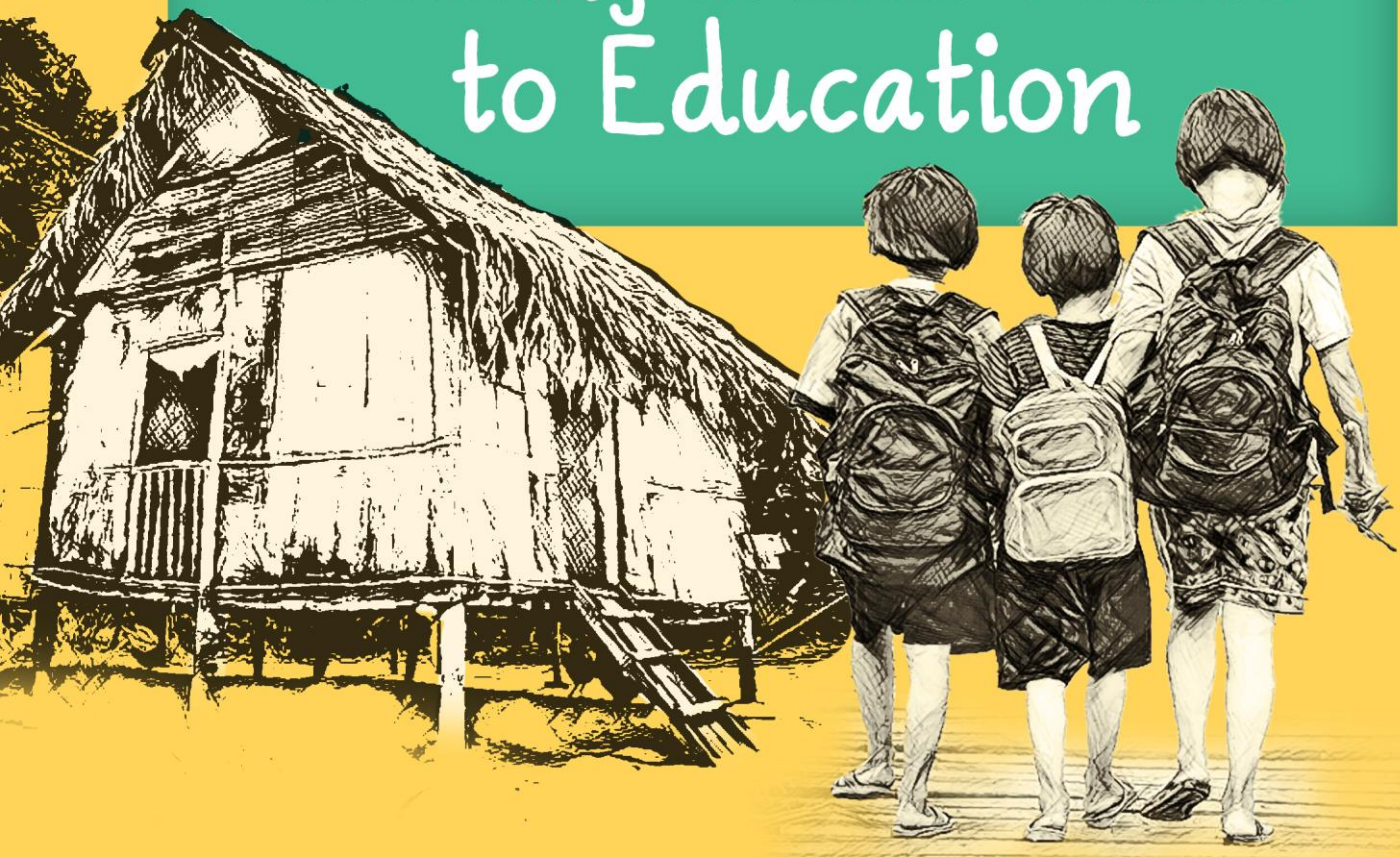




Creating Greater Access to Education



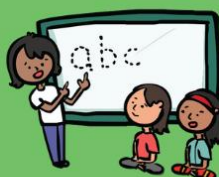
Empowered2Teach is a SUKA Society project that works towards empowering the indigenous community to have greater access to education. This report details the project's progress and impact achieved in 2023/24.



E2T INFOGRAPHICS 2023



15 Orang Asal
Preschools



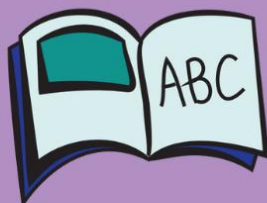
227 Number of Orang
Asal school children
attending preschool



68% Total average
student attendance



25 Teachers trained



76% Average
pre-school
assessment results



6 Rounds of
Joint Teachers
Training

5 Rounds of
On-the-job
training sessions

90% Best scoring
subject, Mathematics



130 Monthly supervision
and mentoring sessions

8 New OA preschools



46 Students graduating
to Primary One





The Orang Asal Situation

A significant number of indigenous children in Peninsular Malaysia do not have preschool education.

In fact, statistical figures in 2007 from the Jabatan Kemajuan Orang Asli (JAKOA) reported that 7,029 indigenous children in Peninsular Malaysia have never been to school.

The current Standard One syllabus assumes that students have basic reading, writing and mathematical skills. However, Orang Asal children attend Standard One hoping to begin learning English, Mathematics and Bahasa Malaysia. This puts them at a significant disadvantage right from the start.

As such, it is not surprising that many of them fail to catch up with the national school syllabus and eventually drop out of school.

Without access to proper education, many indigenous communities will continue to be trapped within the vicious cycle of poverty and struggle to be self-sustainable.

The Solution

Empowered2Teach (E2T) is a programme initiated by SUKA Society in response to the educational challenges faced by the indigenous community. The programme provides training, support and resources for the indigenous communities living in remote areas to start preschool education classes within their villages.

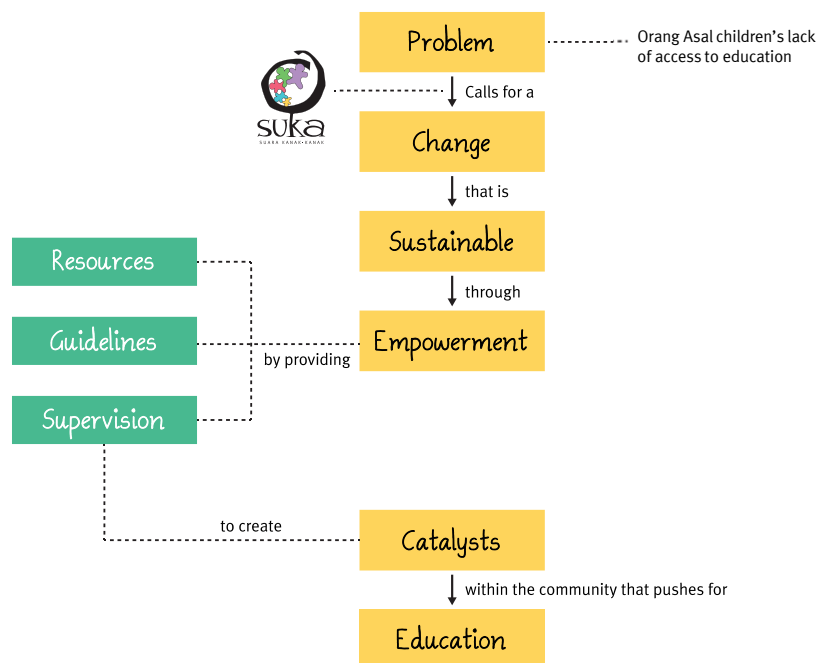
The programme plays an empowering role in providing the tools needed for Orang Asal teachers to serve as a catalyst for education and development in their respective villages. The programme prepares indigenous children for primary education by teaching them how to read, write, speak, and count. The programme also assists these children in their physical, emotional, social and intellectual development.



Programme Objectives

Empowered2Teach has four key elements:

1. Training indigenous young people to become teachers with the knowledge and skills to teach preschool education within their own communities.
2. Providing educational resources for the indigenous teachers to start community preschool classes within their own villages.
3. Providing consistent guidance, monitoring and support for the indigenous teachers and their community preschools.
4. Creating awareness and community support for the indigenous community preschools.



2013-2023 Highlights



I feel honoured to be given the opportunity to work together with the Orang Asal preschool teachers on this programme. It was a joy to see how interested and keen they were to learn during the training. They really tried their best! It is a truly rewarding experience for me. I hope these teachers put the posters we sent to good use in their classrooms and there will be another opportunity to work with SUKA Society in the near future. Lastly, I would like to thank UNESCO Malaysia for making my training possible.

Dr Lee Bee Choo
University Sains Malaysia, Penang



Dr Lee Bee Choo & Dr Debbita Tan with the E2T teachers

Foreword

2023 marks the tenth year of our Empowered2Teach programme. The programme started with five preschools in September 2013. Since then, the number of E2T preschools has grown to 13 preschools in the remote villages of Peninsular Malaysia and in 2022, expanded to the Orang Asal (OA) communities in Sabah. This commitment to education for the OA community over the past ten years has seen graduates excel in their studies at their local primary school. The teachers often check in with the former students' parents to see how their children are getting along in primary school. Project Warisan (Legacy Programme) was then introduced in 2020, to continue in this journey with the graduates through primary school.

We are also extremely proud that four of our pioneer teachers are still serving as catalysts pushing for education within their communities. Since then, we have seen the teachers grow in their role as leading educators in their communities and as mentors to the new teachers in the programme. As Programme Trainer at the start of this E2T programme in 2013, I had the privilege of journeying with all the OA teachers involved in this programme. The teachers had one common hope— to give indigenous children the opportunity to succeed in education. My hope for each of them is that they would be proud to have impacted the lives of children in their communities as they have played a role in ensuring that every Orang Asal child has access to education.

Marie Selvasagaram
E2T Programme Consultant and Trainer

“
TESTIMONIAL

The long-term partnership with SUKA Society has been instrumental in our efforts to run the All-Round Improvement of School Education social impact project, driving sustainable change in education for indigenous children. Their unwavering support and commitment have not only fuelled our endeavours but also paved our journey towards enriching people's lives.

Sandeep Tewari
Head of Country Management, DKSH

”



Mural Painting at Kg Tanam preschool.



Fellowship lunch with the kids.

Executive Summary

Empowered2Teach is a programme that works towards creating greater access to education for Orang Asal (OA) preschool children. At the start of 2023, the programme was supporting 13 indigenous preschools located in remote villages of Slim River, Gopeng, Tapah, Kuala Rompin, Gua Musang and Kuala Kubu Bharu in Peninsular Malaysia and Penampang, Keningau, Telupid, Tongod and Kota Marudu in Sabah, East Malaysia. There was a total of 219 students between the ages of three and six years old who attended the preschool classes regularly.

Over the years, we have implemented structures to help govern the running of the schools and created a support system for the teachers.

Firstly, our biannual joint teachers training focuses on equipping our teachers with tools and skills to teach effectively and prepare the students for a smoother transition to primary school. This year's teachers' training focus was to increase the level of English proficiency among the teachers and to introduce Level 3 syllabus to the Sabah OA preschools. Thanks to the experienced lecturers from Universiti Sains Malaysia (USM) who volunteered their time to conduct a few sessions during the training, our E2T teachers expressed their gratitude and were inspired to improve on the language. We hope to continue incorporating more English language training in the future.

Secondly, to provide consistent monthly supervision visits and video calls by our Programme Facilitator Nora, to ensure the teachers are on track with their syllabus, keeping up with the students' attendance and committed to their role as teachers. On-the-job training was also conducted throughout the year for the teachers to gain teaching experience in a classroom setting monitored by our Programme On-the-job Trainer, Dinah at her preschool in Kampung Poh, Gopeng.

Thirdly, to carry out twice a year assessment to gauge the academic progress of each student in the school. This year, we introduced the Nursery Level Assessment for the three-year-old students. This was introduced to the Sabah OA preschools with three-year-old students. Through these assessments, teachers were able to track their students' academic progress and share them with the parents during the parent-teacher meetings.

We hope that this programme will continue to provide opportunities for preschool education for the indigenous communities in Malaysia.

Special Event Harvest Festival (Hari Kaamatan)

Our Sabah preschools celebrated "Hari Kaamatan" with the students, parents and village leaders in this joyous celebration. The children were dressed in their traditional indigenous tribe clothing for a fashion show. There was also a cooking competition for the parents to participate and cook traditional dishes. This event was an opportunity to celebrate and pass down their culture to the next generation.

First Holiday Camp by Project Warisan

Project Warisan organised its first holiday camp for our former E2T preschool students from Kampung Rasau and Kampung Sungai Bil in Slim River, Perak. It was a two-day camp attended by 42 children. The children engaged in various self-discovery activities, relationship building and thinking skills.

Launching Of New School Building

On 9th May 2023, we had the privilege of officiating the new school building for CLC Kampung Kodong dan Kandang at Pitas, Sabah. Special thanks to the Latin Women's Association of Malaysia for the sponsorship of this project and PACOS Trust for co-funding and collaborating with us on this project. After the unfortunate fire incident in 2022, the school was in need of a new school building. It was heartwarming to see the community coming together to ensure this project was completed.

HIGHLIGHTS

Overall Preschool Assessment Results

The following results have been collected from 204 students aged three to six years old from twelve preschools in 2023. The participating schools are Kampung Pisang (Slim River), Kampung Sungai Poh (Gopeng), Kampung Jader and Kampung Enching (Gua Musang), Kampung Pos Musuh (Tapah), Kampung Tanam (Kuala Rompin), Kampung Kipouvo and Kampung Kibunut (Penampang), Kampung Kalampun (Keningau), Kampung Kodong dan Kandang (Pitas) and Kampung Saguon and Kampung Minusoh (Tongod).

This year, we introduced the Nursery Level Assessment for the three-year-old students. The students went through a basic level assessment for Mathematics, Malay and English.

The overall Nursery Level, Level One, Level Two and Level Three results (see tables below) shows an average percentage score achieved by 12 schools for their mid-year and year-end assessments in 2023. The average score is comprised of the Malay, Math and English subjects, and is graded with marks in the performance indicator table. We are pleased to note that there are improvements across all levels.

NURSERY LEVEL

Nursery Level assessment was implemented in the preschools in Sabah among schools that have three-year-old students. It is encouraging to see the level of excellent results in CLC Kampung Kipouvo, CLC Kampung Kodong dan Kandang and CLC Kampung Saguon in their year-end assessment. The lower scores recorded here for CLC Kampung Kibunut may be a result of poor attendance and changing of the main teacher towards the last quarter of the year. The importance of consistency in learning and leadership is crucial to this young age group.

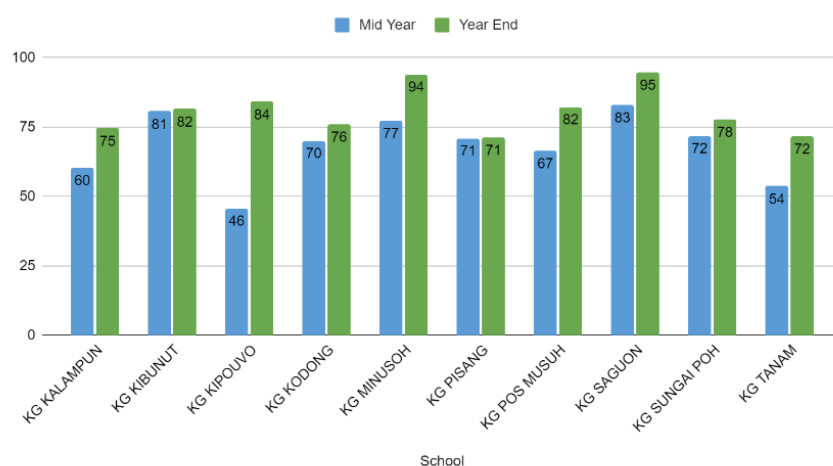
% OF OVERALL ALL PRESCHOOLS 2023 RESULT - NURSERY LEVEL



LEVEL ONE

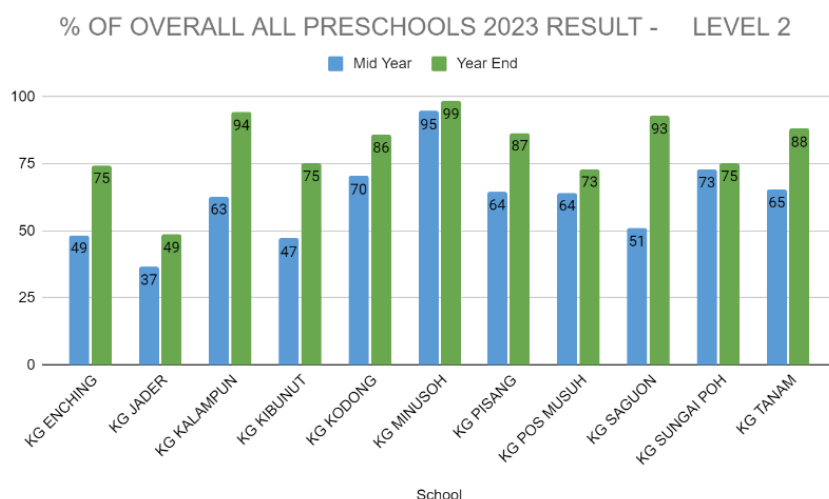
For Level One, overall school performance has increased by 12% from mid-year to year-end with results in the grade A category. Community Learning Centre (CLC) Kampung Saguon and CLC Kampung Minusoh were the two top performing schools for Level One. In their year-end assessment, all the four-year-olds in these two schools scored above 80 marks in all three subjects. The commendable efforts of the teachers have laid a good foundation for their students.

% OF OVERALL ALL PRESCHOOLS 2023 RESULT - LEVEL 1



LEVEL TWO

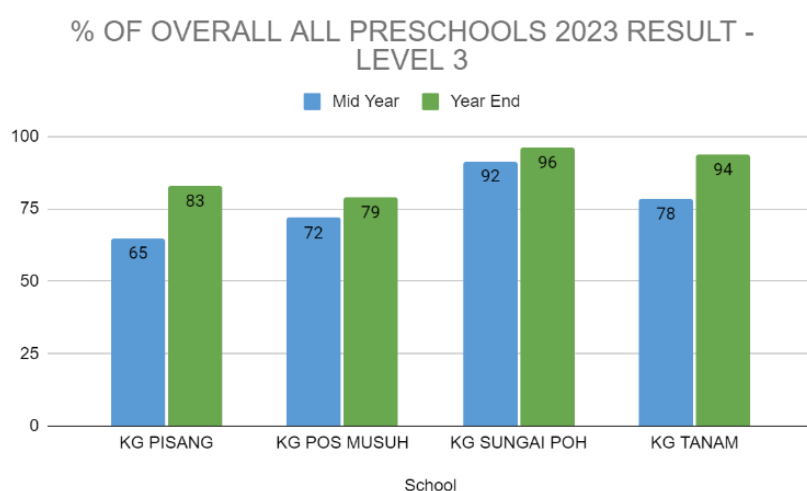
For the Level Two year-end final assessment, all schools recorded improvements, with the overall school performance increasing by 16%. The best performing subject for this level is Mathematics, scoring a total average of 92% in the year-end assessment.



LEVEL THREE

The Level Three overall school performance resulted in a 12% increase from mid-year to year-end. The average year-end results for the Malay subject scored 82% in the excellent category. It is important that the students do well in this language subject so that communication would not be a barrier when they enter the local primary school.

Level Three assessment will be introduced in 2024 to the Sabah preschools.



Overall, there are positive improvements in the results from mid-year to year-end across all four levels of assessments. These are very encouraging signs for the E2T programme as it shows that the community classes are affecting change in the level of literacy and numeracy of the children in these villages.

The objective of the E2T programme's effectiveness is to help students adequately prepare for primary school education. These results also indicate that literacy and numeracy can be achieved by these children through the empowerment of their own Orang Asal community. The community can indeed develop their own children from a young age, prepare them for formal schooling and aim towards a brighter future.

For a detailed report on the 2023 assessment review, please scan the QR code here:



KAMPUNG ENCHING, GUA MUSANG

There are six Orang Asal students attending Kelas Komuniti OA Kampung Enching. The average attendance of the year is slightly on the lower percentage of 57%. The start of the year is always a challenging time of adjustment to daily school routine for the students. Even though it was a challenging task for a teacher, Nabila didn't give up and found ways to engage the students while continually encouraging parents to regularly send their children to school. Towards the second part of the year, the attendance improved to 77% in October.

TEACHER



Nabila
Temiar Tribe

Nabila is from the Temiar tribe. She took over as the main teacher at the start of the school year in March. She completed Level 1 & 2 E2T teachers training and attended the on-the-job trainings at Kelas Komuniti Kg Sg Poh, Gopeng.

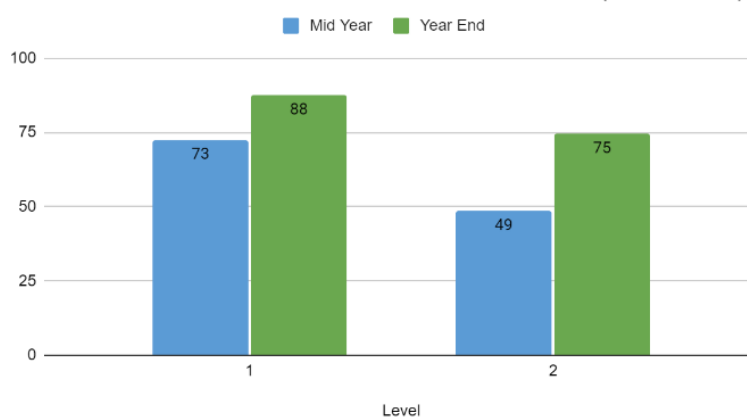
PERFORMANCE

For the Level One year-end final assessment, the school achieved an overall result of 88% in the excellent category. However, it is important to note that Level One had only one student. Nevertheless, the teacher was able to provide more individualized attention, thus resulting in high performing results.

For the Level Two year-end final assessment, the results showed an overall average increase of 26% scoring in the good category

Number of Students	
Level 1	1
Level 2	5
Total Students	6

% OF OVERALL KG ENCHING 2023 RESULTS (LEVEL 1-2)



Mother's Day celebration was well attended by all the mothers. The parents made a paper flower bouquet while the children decorated a Mother's Day card. The children performed and sang the Mother's Day song.



Mother's Day lunch.



Hari Membaca event in November 2023. The children read sentences from Peter and Jane and Buku Sara. The parents were proud to see that their children could read.

KAMPUNG JADER, GUA MUSANG

There are seven Orang Asal students attending Kelas Komuniti OA Kampung Jader. The school recorded an average attendance of 74%. The school attendance was affected by poor health among the students and adults in the community. Three of her students were not regular in class because of stomach issues. Haini regularly advised the parents to look into the children's health and to bring them to the clinic when necessary. Haini was encouraged that some of the students are now able to write, read and count. She is confident that her six-year-old student Anjang will be able to cope well in primary school.

TEACHER



Haini
Temiar Tribe

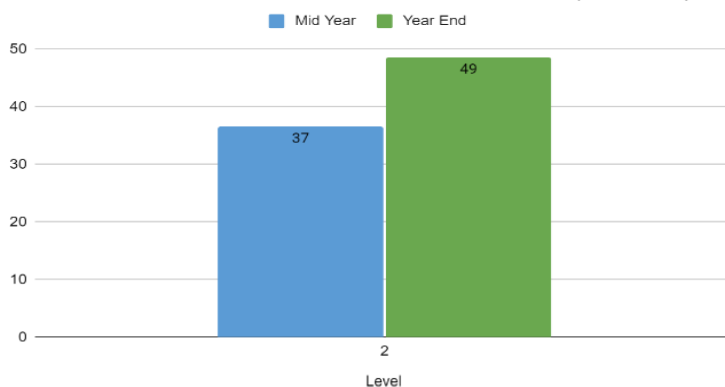
Haini is from the Temiar tribe. Haini served 10 years as a teacher when the Empowered2Teach programme started in 2013. She is able to manage her school well and is confident in her duties as a teacher.

PERFORMANCE

The overall results show the results for the five students in Level Two. The students scored higher in Mathematics but the language subjects pulled down the percentage. One of the reasons for the low performance is the poor attendance from a couple of students which has interrupted their learning progress.

Number of Students	
Level 1	1
Level 2	5
Level 3	1
Total Students	7

% OF OVERALL KG JADER 2023 RESULTS (LEVEL 2)



Haini loves teaching the children art and craft. Here we see the children are happy to show the flower baskets that they made.



Six-year-old student, Anjang is reading a passage from Buku Sara in front of the class.



The students made a beautiful Mother's Day card.

KAMPUNG KALAMPUN, KENINGAU

Community Learning Centre (CLC) Kampung Kalampun is situated 45 minutes from the Keningau town. It is one of the bigger schools that has 25 students. The school recorded an average attendance of 73%. Attendance is occasionally affected by climate factors which may cause flooding or shortage of water, depending on the season. The school regularly receives care and support from parents and community during special events. They regularly hold parent meetings and school clean up activity every month.

TEACHERS



Jessica
Murut Paluan Tribe

Main Teacher



Melania
Murut Paluan Tribe

Co- Teacher



Jilly
Murut Paluan Tribe

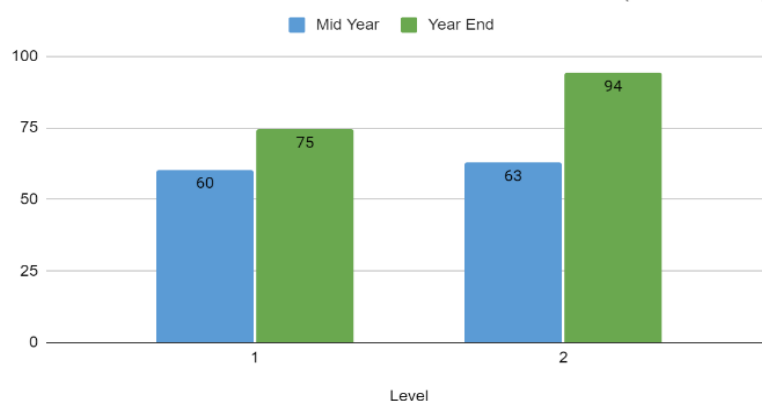
Co- Teacher

PERFORMANCE

For the Level 1 year-end final assessment, the school achieved an overall result of 75% in the good category. For Level 2 year-end assessment, the school achieved a big improvement with an overall result of 94% in the excellent category. This school also received the best achievement in the Malay subject when all students in the school scored 100% in their year-end assessment for this subject. This shows the efforts and dedication of the teachers in this school in helping their students to reach their full potential.

Number Of Students	
Level 1	10
Level 2	15
Total Students	25

% OF OVERALL KG KALAMPUN 2023 RESULTS (LEVEL 1-2)



Group photo of teachers and parents during the Harvest Festival celebration in May 2023.



The teachers and students do regular gardening at the school compound. Parents help on weekends.



The students having their outdoor games with teacher Jessica.

KAMPUNG KIBUNUT, PENAMPANG

Community Learning Centre (CLC) Kampung Kibunut offers day care and school to the children from the village with the age range from infants to four-year-olds. There are 11 students in this school. The school recorded an average attendance of 75% in 2023. Brevelia is the main teacher of this school. At the beginning of the year, she had challenges in getting the children settled with the school routine. She regularly seeks her mother's help and advice as she is an experienced teacher in a preschool too. Towards the second semester, the teachers could see the students improving in their writing skills and alphabet recognition.

TEACHERS



**Brevelia
Dusun Tribe**

Main Teacher



**Dolly
Dusun Tribe**

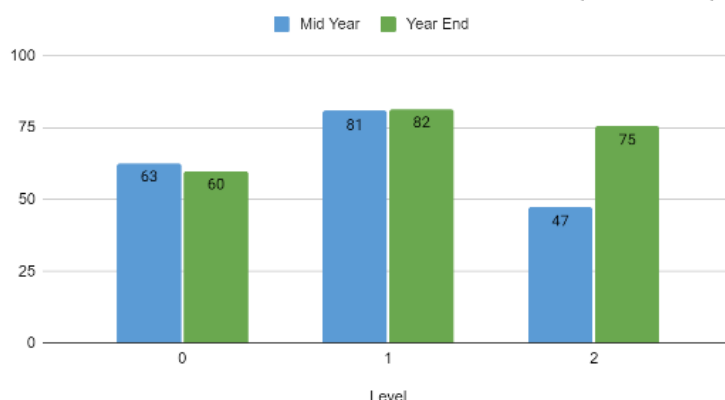
Assistant Teacher

PERFORMANCE

Level 0 symbolises Nursery Level for the three-year-old age group. This is their first year using the assessment. For the Level One year-end final assessment, the school achieved an overall result of 82% in the excellent category. For Level Two year-end assessment, the school achieved an improvement with an overall result of 75% in the good category. In Level 1, the students performed better in Mathematics and Malay. In Level 2, Mathematics remained the higher scored subject.

Number of Students	
Nursery	4
Level 1	4
Level 2	3
Total Students	11

% OF OVERALL KG KIBUNUT 2023 RESULTS (LEVEL 0-2)



Two six-year-olds graduated from CLC Kampung Kibunut.



Four-year-old student assessment.



Learning to brush teeth for personal hygiene.

KAMPUNG KIPOUVO, PENAMPANG

Community Learning Centre (CLC) Kampung Kipouvo offers day care and school to the children from the ages of three to four-years-old. The school also recorded good attendance for the year with 80% average attendance. To increase concentration and interest from these younger aged children, the teachers incorporated lots of art and craft activities and games into their lessons. Apart from that, the teachers would regularly teach the children about gardening and taking care of the school compound.

TEACHERS



**Camilla
Dusun Tribe**

Main Teacher



**Angeltha
Dusun Tribe**

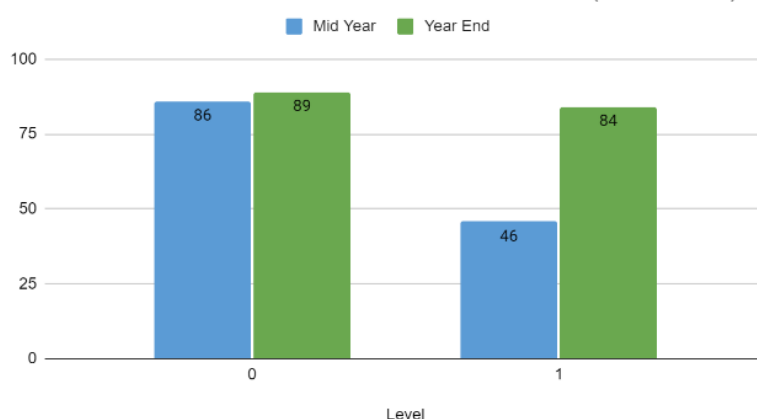
Assistant Teacher

PERFORMANCE

Level 0 symbolises Nursery Level for the three-year-old age group. In the year-end assessment, the three-year-old students achieved an overall result of 89% in the excellent category. For Level One year-end assessment, the students achieved an average of 84% for their year-end assessment, a 38% improvement from their mid-year assessment.

Number of Students	
Nursery	4
Level 1	7
Total Students	11

% OF OVERALL KG KIPOUVO 2023 RESULTS (LEVEL 0-1)



Opening ceremony of the new three-year-old classroom on 12th November. This project was sponsored by FBS.



DKSH held a CSR event on 28th November. They donated food supplies and did face painting with the children.



IMAGO team did a CSR event at the school on 4th December. The team sang songs and did colouring activities with the children.

KAMPUNG KODONG DAN KANDANG, PITAS

Community Learning Centre (CLC) Kampung Kodong dan Kandang is situated one hour from the Pitas town. There are 25 students attending the preschool regularly. The school recorded an average attendance of 76%. After the newly renovated building was completed, the teachers and students were able to have a bigger conducive space for learning. The teacher aims to beautify the school surroundings with plants and vegetables.

TEACHERS



**Hani
Rungus Tribe**

Main Teacher



**Marsela
Rungus Tribe**

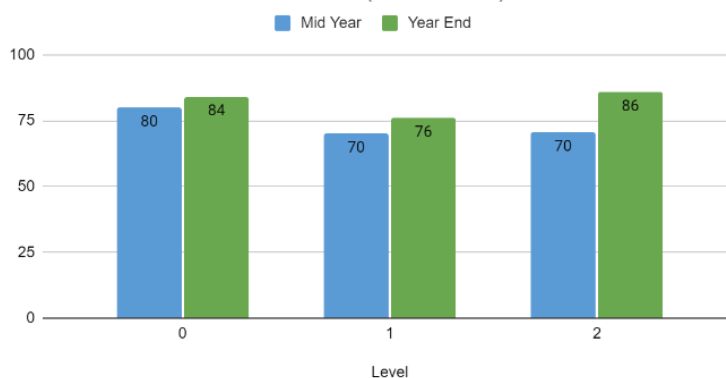
Co-Teacher

PERFORMANCE

The overall average results in all three levels show an increase from the mid-year to year-end assessment. This school excelled in Mathematics and English in the year-end assessment in the good and excellent category. The teachers were encouraged to see the improvement in results for all three levels. Hani aims to encourage her team of teachers to create more teaching aid resources to increase the level of creativity in their teaching techniques.

Number of Students	
Nursery	3
Level 1	14
Level 2	8
Total Students	25

% OF OVERALL KG KODONG DAN KANDANG 2023
RESULTS (LEVEL 0-2)



Kodong dan Kandang preschool.



Opening ceremony of the newly renovated school on 9th May. This project was sponsored by the Latin Women Association and co-funded by Pacos Trust.



Hari Membaca special event in November.

KAMPUNG MINUSOH, TONGOD

Community Learning Centre (CLC) Kampung Minusoh is situated one hour from the Tongod town. This is the largest school with 34 students attending the preschool regularly. The school recorded an excellent and consistent average attendance of 93%. This school is very active with the parents' support and involvement in all its events, and they meet regularly to discuss any issues faced by the school and community.

TEACHERS



Sitimah
Sg Makiang Tribe

Main Teacher



Elisna
Sg Makiang Tribe

Co- Teacher



Lurista
Sg Makiang Tribe

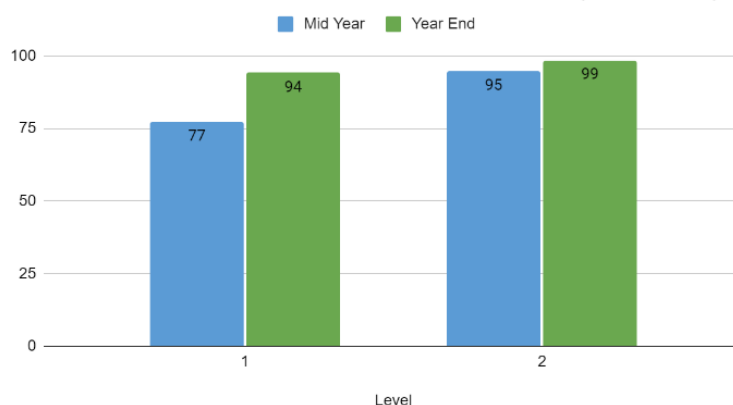
Co- Teacher

PERFORMANCE

CLC Kampung Minusoh was awarded the best performing school for the year among the Sabah schools with a final overall average result of 97%. The overall average results in both levels show an increase from the mid-year to year-end assessment to excellent category. The effectiveness of Sitimah's lead as an experienced teacher and the dedicated and competent co-teachers shows a team that works well together to ensure that each student in the school is given the proper attention and guidance. The team of teachers is also diligent in setting up a good learning environment by decorating the class and regularly creating teaching aid materials that will help the students learn more effectively.

Number Of Students	
Level 1	11
Level 2	23
Total Students	34

% OF OVERALL KG MINUSOH 2023 RESULTS (LEVEL 1-2)



The school celebrated Harvest Day where all the children, teachers and parents came dressed in their traditional clothes.



The parents participated in the cooking competition to showcase traditional dishes.



Year-end graduation ceremony.






Teaching aid materials.

KAMPUNG PISANG, SLIM RIVER

Kelas Komuniti OA Kampung Pisang has 24 students attending the preschool regularly. The school recorded an average attendance of 80%. Some of the challenges faced this year were students coming late to school and poor eating habits which caused the children to have long periods of sickness. The teachers approached the parents for action and cooperation to help address the issues. At school, the teachers also took steps to ensure the students are well hydrated and taught about healthy habits.

TEACHERS

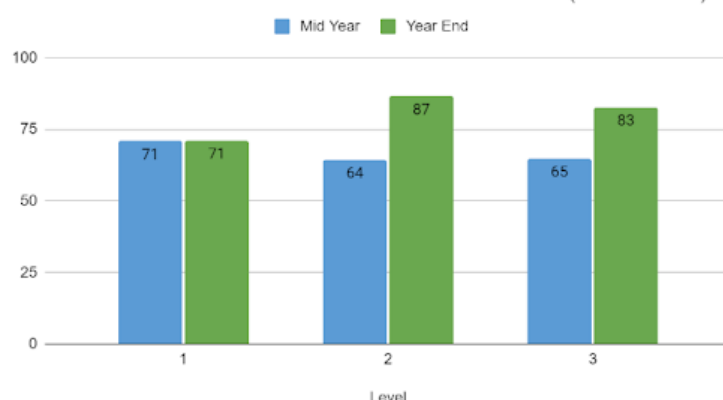
		
Umi Semai Tribe	Aziga Semai Tribe	Wah Virio Semai Tribe
Main Teacher	Co- Teacher	Co- Teacher

PERFORMANCE

The progress of students in Level One, Two and Three of the assessment are also measured individually by subjects. The strongest subject for this school is Mathematics. Level Three students' overall school performance resulted in a 18% increase from mid-year to year-end bringing the total overall performance to 83% in the excellent category. Umi and Aziga are continuing to assist the students in their after-school tuition for former students who wish to receive extra coaching.

Number of Students	
Level 1	12
Level 2	7
Level 3	5
Total Students	24

% OF OVERALL KG PISANG 2023 RESULTS (LEVEL 1-3)



The outdoor walls had a fresh coat of paint and a beautiful mural.



New floor tiling in the classrooms.



Graduation for the five six-year-olds.



First place for best performing E2T preschool in Peninsular Malaysia.

KAMPUNG POS MUSOH, TAPAH

Kelas Komuniti OA Kampung Pos Musoh has 14 students attending the preschool regularly. The school recorded an average attendance of 67%. Some of the challenges in the low attendance are because the kids are falling sick often or are sometimes following their parents out. The teachers often advocate for parents' commitment to prioritise sending the kids to school daily. Salbina and Norazelin would send homework to the parents because they do not want the kids to be left behind in their studies.

TEACHERS



**Salbina
Semai Tribe**

Main Teacher



**Norazelin
Semai Tribe**

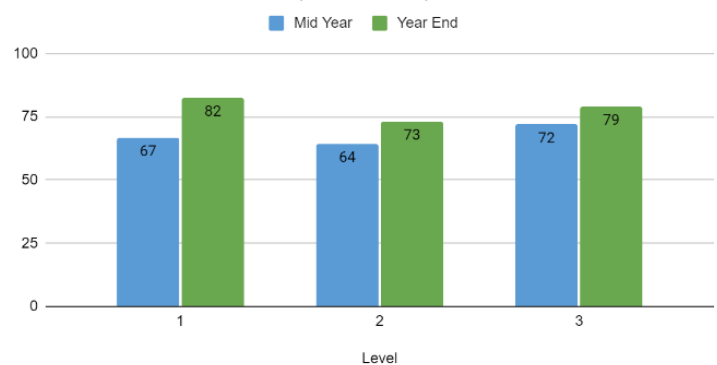
Co-Teacher

PERFORMANCE

Overall average results showed improvement from mid-year to year-end assessment. The students in Level One and Level Two are performing well in Malay and Mathematics. Salbina is confident that the six-year-old students are ready for Standard One. She is happy with their ability to read, count and write. She hopes that the attendance will improve and for continued support from the parents in the community.

Number of Students	
Level 1	2
Level 2	8
Level 3	4
Total Students	14

% OF OVERALL KG POS MUSOH 2023 RESULTS
(LEVEL 1-3)



Celebrating Mother's Day with cake.



Children performing Mother's Day song.



Children were excited to read in three different languages; Malay, English and Bahasa Semai at the "Hari Membaca" event in November.



Proud teacher and parent during graduation.

KAMPUNG SAGUON, TONGOD

Community Learning Centre (CLC) Kampung Saguon is situated one hour from the Tongod town and has 17 students attending the preschool regularly. The school records 72% average attendance. Some of the parents did not send their kids to school because there was a contagious disease. At the beginning of the year, there were a few students who had trouble communicating. The teachers came up with different ideas and activities which ultimately helped improve the children's speech.

TEACHERS



**Norizah
Sg Makiang Tribe**

Main Teacher



**Meglinah
Sg Makiang Tribe**

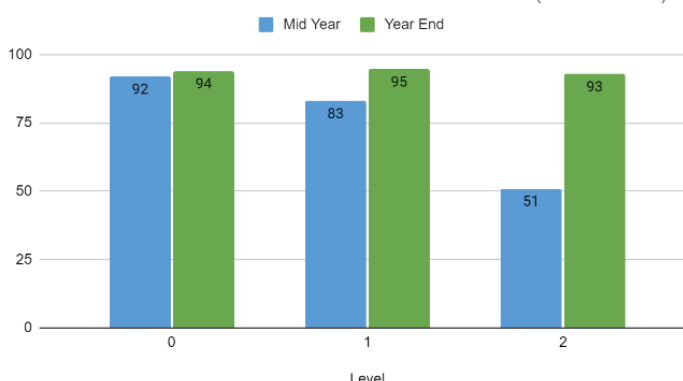
Co-Teacher

PERFORMANCE

The students performed well in their year-end assessment, scoring in the excellent category. Norizah has put in a lot of effort in her Level 2 students and we can see a significant 42% increase from mid-year to year-end assessment. It is important that this level is performing well as they would be the graduating students. Kampung Saguon also scored the highest overall average percentage of 95% for Nursery and Level 1. Norizah has a good team of teachers and they work well as a team.

Number of Students	
Nursery	4
Level 1	9
Level 2	3
Total Students	17

% OF OVERALL KG SAGUON 2023 RESULTS (LEVEL 0-2)



The school building underwent a few renovations such as a repaint, new back staircase and ceiling board replacements.



Twenty IT Lessons were developed as a pilot program for two E2T preschools. Kg Saguon was one of the recipients of this initiative sponsored by Nokia Malaysia. The teachers were trained during the teachers' training. The teachers then used these lessons to enhance the students' learning of the three core subjects.

KAMPUNG SERIGALA, KUALA KUBU BHARU

There are seven Orang Asal students attending Kelas Komuniti OA Kampung Serigala. The school uses the community hall from Monday to Friday for preschool. The school attendance started with a good average attendance of 70%. In June, the average attendance started declining to 39% due to regular absentees. Parents were moving in and out of town between parental residence and were unable to send their children to school. SUKA organised a few intervention and advocacy meetings with the community leader and parents but to no avail, as there were no improvements in the monthly attendance. Due to the decline in number of students towards the end of the school term, it was no longer sustainable for us to continue supporting the school in Kampung Serigala.

TEACHER

Sponsored by:
BAC Education



Nor Elfieka
Semai Tribe

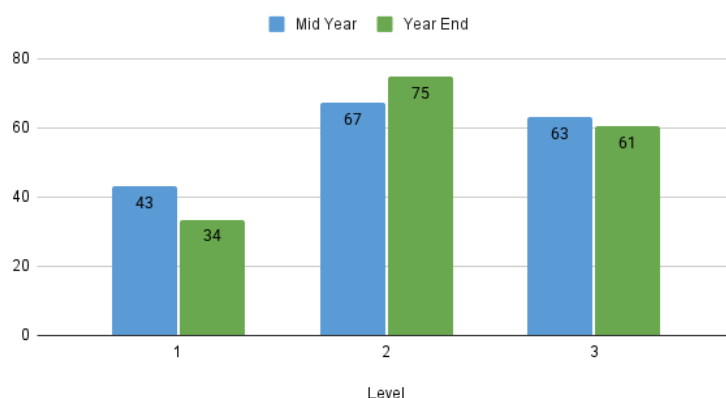
Noor Elfieka is from the Semai tribe. She is someone who is enthusiastic to learn and enjoys attending teachers training. She spends her weekends getting involved in tutoring primary school children in her community.

PERFORMANCE

The challenges faced in the school attendance was reflected in the overall decline in the average results from mid-year to year-end assessment. However, the Level 2 and 3 students maintained a good grade in their average percentage results. Mathematics was their strong subject. It was encouraging to see that these students achieved good results because they remained in the program for the second and third level.

Number of Students	
Level 1	4
Level 2	2
Level 3	1
Total Students	7

% OF OVERALL KG SERIGALA 2023 RESULTS (LEVEL 1-3)



The children made beautiful cards for the Mother's Day celebration.



Year-end graduation for six-year-old Noriana.

KAMPUNG SUNGAI POH, GOPENG

Kelas Komuniti OA Kampung Sungai Poh has 17 Orang Asal students attending the preschool regularly. The school recorded an average attendance of 79%. The school has always received great support from the parents. Teachers also received encouraging testimonies from former students who are performing well in their studies in primary school. One of the challenges of this school is the weak internet reception in the village. This school is also used for on-the-job teachers training taught by Dinah.

TEACHERS

Sponsored by:
DKSH Foundation



**Dinah
Semai Tribe**

Main Teacher



**Sarmia
Semai Tribe**

Co-Teacher



**Rabikki
Semai Tribe**

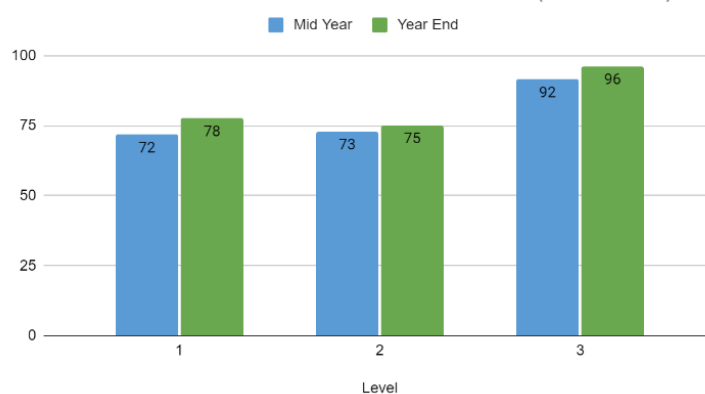
Co-Teacher

PERFORMANCE

Level Three students achieved the best performing results in the year-end assessment. The students were able to achieve excellent results in all three subjects. We are proud that these students will be able to graduate to primary school with a strong foundation. Kampung Poh also received second place in the best performing school of the year reward. This school has been among the top three performing schools for the second year running.

Number of Students	
Level 1	6
Level 2	7
Level 3	4
Total Students	17

% OF OVERALL KG SG POH 2023 RESULTS (LEVEL 1-3)



Omniraise visited the school and contributed some school supplies for the school in November.



Graduation for the five six-year-olds.



Year-end school picture with the students and school essentials sponsored by Melanie Wong Siew Yoong, En Compass Sdn Bhd.

KAMPUNG TANAM, KUALA ROMPIN

Kelas Komuniti OA Kampung Tanam has 22 students attending the preschool regularly. The school records 72% average attendance. The school experienced regular flooding at the beginning of the year that affected the children's ability to attend school. Some parents and children made the effort to go to school by walking through the water and brought clothes to change as soon as they arrived at the school. The newly built wall fence provided a safe space for the children. It is used for outdoor activities and as a playground for the children.

TEACHERS



**Siti Noraini
Jakun Tribe**

Main Teacher



**Norwani
Jakun Tribe**

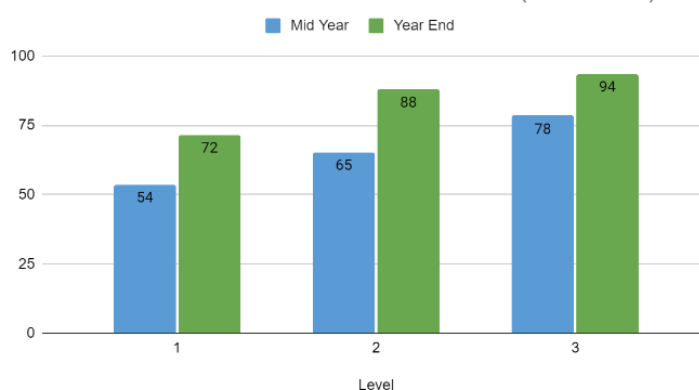
Co-Teacher

PERFORMANCE

Kampung Tanam achieved the top performing school 82% average for Level 1-3 in the year-end assessment. The students in Level 2 did well in all three subjects resulting in the excellent category. Overall, we see an improvement from mid-year to year-end assessment. Kampung Tanam also received 3rd place this year in the top three performing schools. This school has been among the top three performing schools for the second year running.

Number of Students	
Level 1	10
Level 2	7
Level 3	5
Total Students	22

% OF OVERALL KG TANAM 2023 RESULTS (LEVEL 1-3)



DKSH sponsored the building of new wall fence for this school this year. The team from DKSH also painted the walls with bright and colourful murals in June 2023.



Twenty IT Lessons were developed as a pilot program for two E2T preschools. Kg Tanam was one of the recipients of this initiative sponsored by Nokia Malaysia. These lessons are intended to enhance the students' learning.

Training

Sponsored by:
OSK Foundation



Our teachers' training is conducted twice a year. The first training is conducted during the mid-year school holiday and the second training is conducted during the year-end school holiday. All main teachers and co-teachers are required to attend the trainings so that they can continue to improve and develop as teachers. The mid-year trainings were held on 28th August to 1st September for the Peninsular teachers and 13th to 17th November for the Sabah teachers. The year-end trainings were held on 19th to 23rd February for the Peninsular teachers and 26th February to 1st March.

New teachers in the programme undergo two rounds of on-the-job training in our preschool in Gopeng, Perak. As Dinah also runs her own community class, our trainees are able to observe her class and receive on-site guidance over five days. Each teacher is required to complete the three levels of the on-the-job training.

Every month, our E2T facilitators Nora, Rufina and Regia will facilitate and coordinate the monthly supervision visits to the Orang Asal preschools, either by on-site visits or video-conferencing. During these monthly visits, they will collect the teachers' reports and school photos, check attendance records and level of syllabus completion. It is also important to look into the growth and progress of each teacher and assist in resolving the challenges faced by the teachers.

Teachers' Feedback

"I learned to incorporate games and craft in my lesson plans during the teachers' training. I will be using these methods in my classroom to improve and strengthen my students' learning."

Norizah Stephen, Teacher at CLC Kampung Saguon, Tongod

"I learned to improve my English and activities that I can use to teach phonics using movements and games."

Haini, Teacher at Kelas Komuniti Kampung Jader, Gua Musang



Dr Lee Bee Choo from USM introduced the PWIM method to teach English Vocabulary to the Orang Asal students. Each school was given 15 educational posters to be used in their classroom as teaching materials



Leong Mann Yee, an adjunct lecturer at UCSI University and a music educator, conducted Music and Movement class with the teachers. She introduced the use of music to connect with young children in the classroom setting.



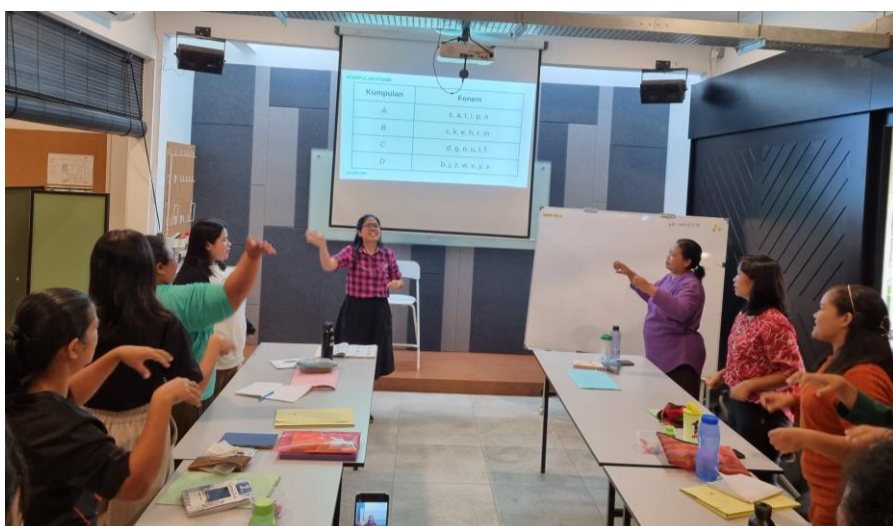
Programme Trainer Marie Segaram conducted teaching aid workshops during the year-end teachers' training in Sabah.

HIGHLIGHTS

Training (cont'd)



12 teachers successfully completed Level 3 Training at the mid-year joint teachers' training in Sabah.



Bernice Han and Aqilah Azahari, fellows from Teach For Malaysia conducted a two-day workshop on Sensory Phonics and Introduction to Special Needs.

TESTIMONIAL

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“I am very happy to see my former students performing well in primary school. Not only are they performing well academically, they have also settled into the new school environment. My best wishes to all the standard one students from my class last year. I hope that they will continue to be a good testimony to our OA community.”

Wah Dinah
 Teacher at Gopeng and On-the-job trainer

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Strengths

- The E2T curriculum was established in 2013. The curriculum was designed according to the stages of early childhood development from birth to six-years-old. The syllabus was created according to the national standards of curriculum for preschool education. Since then, the syllabus is reviewed and revised on a yearly basis for improvement and upgrade based on teachers' feedback and new improvisation according to the latest educational tools and methods available.
- Our biannual teachers' training is conducted by professional educators. Volunteer trainers go through careful selection process. They must possess early childhood related training, topic and skills of interest for preschool education or skills to improve our teacher's classroom management.
- Our E2T programme is taught by Orang Asal teachers. We believe that this is an essential requirement of the programme to empower the indigenous community. The children from this community will learn best from their own because of the language of communication and understanding of culture and upbringing that they share in common.
- The proximity of the preschool is near to their homes. Parents are able to send their children to school daily without barriers of location and transportation.



Weakness

- Yearly repair and maintenance of schools is a challenge for some of our schools because of the remote location. Transportation of building materials is affected by challenging road conditions and this also incurs higher costs.
- During harvest season, parents are unable to regularly send their children to school. The parents would prefer to bring the children with them due to convenience.
- School attendance fluctuates due to parents not prioritising consistent school attendance.



Opportunities

- This August, we are launching a 6-themed Bahasa Ibunda syllabus in accordance to our E2T preschool curriculum. This is an initiative to produce Orang Asal syllabus that introduces the culture of Orang Asal communities to the children in preschools.
- The E2T programme provides opportunity for volunteers to be involved. Areas for involvement include the preparation of packing school materials for yearly school delivery, syllabus development and Project Warisan camps.
- There are also opportunities for the public to volunteer their time and resources to hold CSR projects with our E2T preschools.



Threats

- Most of the preschools are located in remote locations far from proper access to basic infrastructure. Only seven out of 12 preschools have stable access to electricity while the rest are under the application process. All schools have access to clean water and their main source is from the nearest river. However, during dry season, water catchment system is interrupted and they have to travel further to collect water.
- Internet and telephone connection is weak in most of our preschools because of the remote location.
- Health issues are not addressed immediately and need to be brought to medical assistance at their nearest town clinic or hospital. Parents are not inclined to travel out to seek medical attention when their children are unwell. This creates unresolved health issues and long-term consequences to their children's health and antibodies. Children suffer longer-term diarrhoea, lung infection, cold and infection of insect bites. This affects them from coming to school regularly.

The experience as an E2T coordinator starting from 2022 until now has been wonderful. For me, the experience of working with a diverse ethnic community has taught me to appreciate what we have more, to live simply, to love the environment and to respect the culture of each tribe that has its own privileges. When we live, sit and eat with them (the community), we will learn a lot; this has given me a valuable experience that cannot be exchanged for money. I really like my work, helping rural communities especially in fighting for early childhood education, children's rights and also women's rights. For me, I believe that if we like the work we do, whatever problems or challenges we face, there is a way to solve them.

Teachers who are given E2T training can manage their Community Learning Centre (CLC) well. The programmes given to children help improve the development of children from the beginning of their entry until the end of the school term. And also, teachers can carry out their daily tasks more systematically with the programmes provided. This gives the teachers more confidence to carry out their teaching and learning at CLC. The assessment that is given every semester, to see the children's development, is also helpful. This gives confidence to parents and the community that this E2T programme really helps their children to be better prepared for Government Preschool or Primary School.

Rufina Kuyou
E2T Co-ordinator, Sabah

Project Warisan

Project Warisan was initiated in 2022, with the intention of following up with Orang Asal children that have gone through SUKA's E2T programme. Our goals include encouraging the children to continue in their schooling, supporting parents where possible, gathering data on their progress as well as having success stories to share and motivate those following in their footsteps.

The programme was rolled out initially to 5 villages, namely Kg Poh, Gopeng, Pos Musoh, Tapah, Kg Sg Bill and Kg Pisang, Slim River and Kg Tanam, Kuala Rompin. In 2023, we provided school uniforms and shoes for 121 children from these villages.

We held our very first Warisan Holiday Camp on the 1st and 2nd of June 2023 at RISDA Eco Park, Ulu Slim with the help of 12 volunteers. This camp catered to a total of 44 children from Kg Sg Bill and Kg Pisang. The 4 staff from SUKA also had the assistance of 4 E2T teachers and 2 parents. We spent a meaningful 2 days with the children participating in activities planned by the volunteers.

We held our second camp from 16th to 17th December for the children from Kg Poh, Gopeng. The owner of Gopeng Highlands Resort was gracious enough to offer special rates for the use of the amenities in the venue. This time, we engaged 27 children with the help of 4 volunteers and 3 E2T teachers. Our theme for this camp was English Explorers and the children enjoyed indoor and outdoor activities with themes including colors, body parts, transportation, emotions and much more. The main highlight was the Talent Time where each group performed a short presentation they had prepared.

In 2024, we look forward to extending Project Warisan to all other villages with the E2T programme. We also hope to grow our volunteer pool as many have expressed how much they benefited from working with the Warisan children. This will allow us to run more holiday camps, perhaps even simultaneously, during the school holidays. We are constantly exploring ways to motivate and encourage the Warisan children in their growth, be it academically, in sports or creatively.



Project Warisan (cont'd)



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TESTIMONIAL

“I often questioned the impact I could have on others until I became a facilitator for Project Warisan. Little did I know that this experience would profoundly transform not only the children but also myself. The camp broadened my horizons and fostered an appreciation for diverse cultures. It was a life-changing experience, altering my perspective and inspiring a passion for promoting acceptance and resilience. The connections formed during Project Warisan were deeply meaningful. Witnessing the children's growth and resilience was inspiring, and the bonds among the participants were heartwarming. While I aimed to inspire, it was the children who inspired me. Their enthusiasm and curiosity were remarkable. I hope that both the children and I gained something invaluable from this experience. In summary, Project Warisan was an extraordinary, life-changing event. It showcased the potential for positive impact and reaffirmed my belief in the resilience of individuals. May the lessons learned and the connections made continue to guide the children on their journey of self-discovery and resilience.”

Nina Zainal
Lead Facilitator (Project Warisan Holiday Camp 1.0)

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Programme Expenses for 2023

Empowered2Teach

No	Details	Total (MYR)
01.	Programme Manpower Overhead and Casual Wages (Programme Coordinator, Programme Consultant, OA Teachers & Assistants)	328,250.00
02.	School Expenses (Food and Beverage for students and Cleaning Supplies)	62,424.85
03.	Monthly Pre-School Supervision (Travel, Accommodation, Food and Beverage)	16,176.28
04.	Training for OA Teachers (Accommodation, Food and Beverage, Trainer's Fee, Travel and Training Supplies)	50,176.96
05.	Advocacy and Awareness (Events and Materials)	2,274.00
06.	OA School Maintenance, Repairs and Upgrade	70,720.60
07.	Development of Materials, School Syllabus, Educational Tools and School Supplies	33,074.26
08.	Savings Plan for E2T Teachers	10,800.00
09.	Mother tongue Syllabus Development Workshop	10,800.00
10.	Project Warisan	36,722.22
11.	School Events	10,800.00
Total Yearly Programme Cost		632,219.17

How You Can Help

If you would like to support our E2T programme and journey with the Orang Asal preschools, consider becoming a sponsor today to make a difference in the lives of Orang Asal children. You can also volunteer to help out in our E2T programme, either with the preparation of packing school materials for the yearly school delivery, syllabus development and Project Warisan camps.

Acknowledgements

SUKA Society would like to extend our gratitude and appreciation the BAC Education Group, DKSH Holdings (Malaysia) Berhad, Nokia Malaysia, OSK Foundation, Andrew Tan, Azreen Tee, Evelyn Cham, Himin Ng, Muhammad Zafri, Tan Boon Nge, Vision of International Children Endeavours (VOICE), and Wong Pei Phing for your support towards the E2T programme.

Contact Details

For more information regarding the E2T programme, get in touch with us at enquiry@sukasociety.org.



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