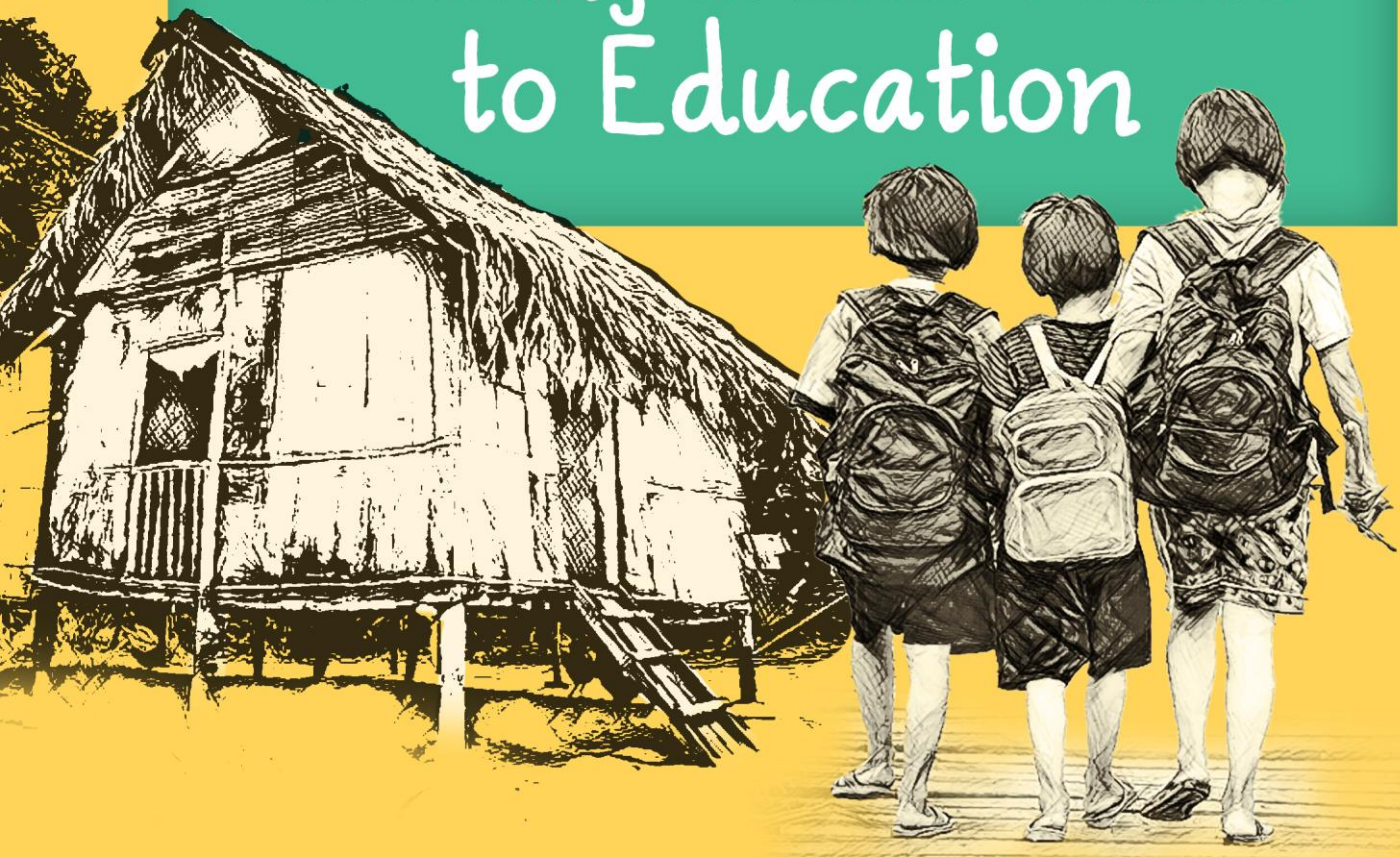




# Creating Greater Access to Education



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 2024-2025.



# E2T 2024 INFOGRAPHICS



13 Orang Asal  
Preschools



29 Teachers  
trained



78% Total  
average student  
attendance



228 Orang Asal children  
attending preschool



86% Average  
preschool  
assessment results



2 rounds of Project  
Warisan camps-  
99 campers  
139 school uniforms  
distributed



1 New preschool  
built



4 Rounds of Joint  
Teachers Training

2 Rounds of On-  
the-job training



44 Students  
graduating to  
Primary One



6 Bahasa Ibunda  
themes launched





## 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.

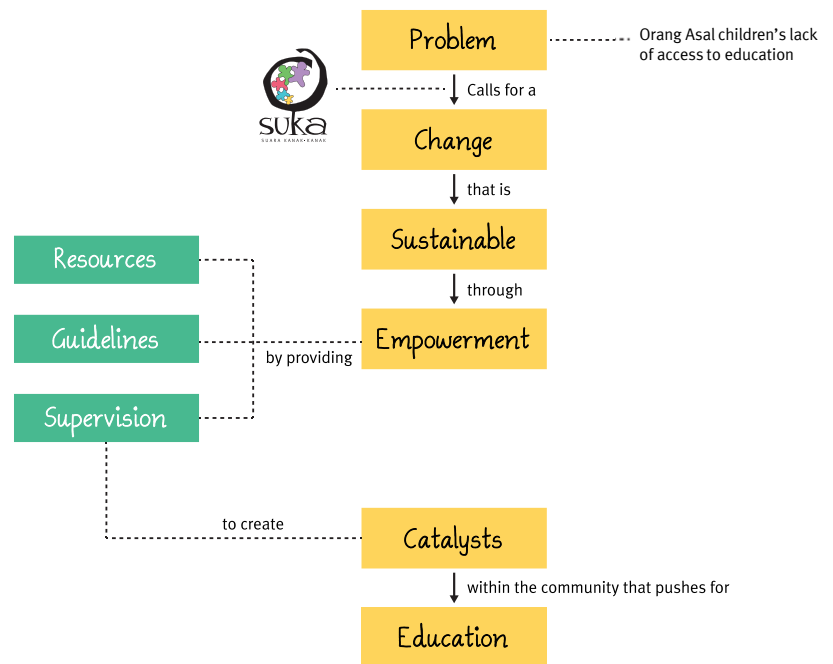
The programme plays an empowering role in providing the tools needed for Orang Asal teachers to serve as a catalyst for education and development in their respective villages. The programme prepares indigenous children for primary education by teaching them how to read, write, speak, and count. The programme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



Hezrell receiving a graduation gift from his teacher, Dinah at Kelas Komuniti OA Kampung Sungai Poh.

Hezrell has improved a lot in his studies and we're very proud to see how far he's come. He always practices his Malay and English at home. He'll ask us questions in Malay and talks out loud in English.

His friends are always impressed to hear him speak English and it makes him proud. But he also makes sure to help his friends who are weaker in their studies. At school, he shows them how to write their letters, practice their numbers and pronounce syllables.

As parents, we help Hezrell with his studies when we have time, even if it is just for an hour. We're also very grateful to his teachers; Dinah, Sarmia and Rabikki.

**Rias and Hani, Parents of Hezrell,  
An E2T Graduate of Kg. Sg. Poh**

TESTIMONIAL



## Foreword

The year 2024 marks the eleventh anniversary of our Empowered2Teach programme. The programme began with five preschools in September 2013. Since then, the number of E2T preschools has grown to thirteen, reaching remote villages in Peninsular Malaysia and Sabah.

This year, we were extremely proud to develop the Mother-Tongue Syllabus, which includes a teaching toolkit in the Semai, Temiar and Jakun indigenous languages. It has long been our vision to help preserve Orang Asal culture and pass it down to future generations through our education program. Introducing this as part of the preschool syllabus was a key step in achieving that vision.

The teachers were proud to see the Mother-Tongue Syllabus come to fruition. As the project trainer, it was a privilege to be involved in its production. The journey of learning the culture and languages was enriching, as it involved engaging with teachers and listening to their experiences. The teachers themselves have inherited knowledge from their parents and grandparents, making this syllabus a meaningful bridge between generations. We hope it will continue to be passed down to future generations.

In 2025, we aim to introduce six more themes. By 2026, this project will expand to include the production of mother-tongue translations for our Sabah schools.

**Marie Selvasegaram**  
E2T Programme Consultant and Trainer





## Executive Summary

Empowered2Teach is a programme that aims to create greater access to education for Orang Asal (OA) preschool children. At the start of 2024, the programme supported 13 indigenous preschools located in remote villages across Slim River, Gopeng, Tapah, Kuala Rompin, and Gua Musang in Peninsular Malaysia, as well as Penampang, Keningau, Telupid, Tongod, and Kota Marudu in Sabah, East Malaysia. A total of 228 students, aged three to six years old, attended preschool classes regularly.

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

Firstly, our biannual joint teachers' training focuses on equipping teachers with tools and skills to teach effectively and help students transition smoothly into primary school. This year's training emphasized special needs education and first aid training. We were grateful to have an experienced team of doctors, clinical psychologists, therapists and specialists from Hospital University Malaysia, Sabah, who volunteered their time to conduct these sessions. Our E2T teachers expressed their gratitude and were inspired to apply these new skills and knowledge in their schools.

Secondly, we ensure consistent monthly supervision through school visits and video calls by our programme facilitators, Nora, Rufina and Regia to keep teachers on track with their syllabus, monitor student attendance, and ensure their commitment to their teaching roles. Additionally, on-the-job training is conducted throughout the year for the Peninsular school teachers, allowing teachers to gain hands-on experience in a classroom setting under the guidance of our programme's On-the-Job Trainer, Dinah, at her preschool in Kampung Poh, Gopeng.

Thirdly, we conduct biannual assessments to gauge each student's academic progress. These assessments enable teachers to track students' development and share insights with parents during parent-teacher meetings.

This commitment to education for the OA community over the past eleven years has enabled graduates to excel in their studies at their local primary schools. In 2024, Project Warisan (Legacy Programme) organized three Holiday Camps with our E2T graduates. These camps help strengthen connections and provide ongoing support to both parents and students throughout primary school. We hope this programme will continue to provide educational opportunities for indigenous communities in Malaysia.

We are deeply grateful to our supporters, volunteers, corporate partners, and individual donors whose contributions have ensured the continued success of Empowered2Teach. Your support strengthens our teachers, sustains our preschools, and opens the door to brighter futures for Orang Asal children.





## Launching of Mother Tongue Syllabus

On 17<sup>th</sup> August, we successfully launched the Mother Tongue Syllabus, consisting of six educational themes in the Semai, Jakun and Temiar languages. This syllabus comes with a teaching toolkit containing teaching materials such as lesson plans, student workbooks, art and crafts, songs, storybooks, and posters. All Peninsular schools have started using the syllabus, and it has been well received by the students.

## HIGHLIGHTS

### New School in Sungai Siput

On 5<sup>th</sup> August, we started a new school in Kampung Gentes, located in Sungai Siput, with 11 students. Two teachers from the community, Nor Aznani and Normakila, attended teacher training in April, followed by a second training in November 2024. Construction of the school began in July and was completed within a month. The school was well received by the community. We hope that this school will continue performing consistently in 2025.



### E2T 10<sup>th</sup> Year Anniversary

The year 2024 marked the 10th anniversary of the E2T programme. We celebrated this milestone with a special programme which included a floral decorating workshop, games, a song presentation by the teachers and a prize giving ceremony. We also honoured two teachers who had been with us since the beginning: Dinah from Kampung Poh and Haini from Kampung Jader. The programme ended with a fellowship dinner strengthening the relationships and bonds we've made.



## Overall Preschool Assessment Results

The following results have been collected from 215 students aged three to six years old from twelve preschools in 2024. 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).

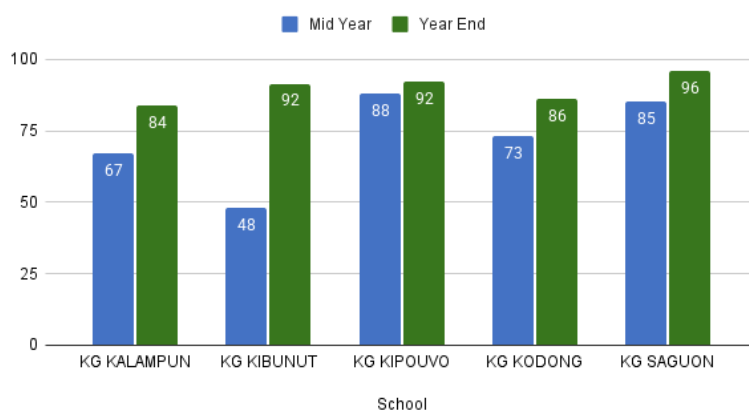
This year, the six-year-old students from the Sabah preschools were assessed using the Level 3 assessment test.

The overall Nursery Level, Level One, Level Two and Level Three results (see tables below) show an average percentage score achieved by 12 schools for their mid-year and year-end assessments in 2024. 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 five preschools in Sabah that have three-year-old students. It is encouraging to see the excellent results achieved in all five schools in their year-end assessments. Teachers shared that by the second term, students had settled into the school routine and were ready to learn with joy and enthusiasm. The Nursery Level syllabus is taught using hands-on activities and thematic-based learning. Teachers need to be creative in their lesson plans to capture children's attention and sustain their interest, especially at the nursery level.

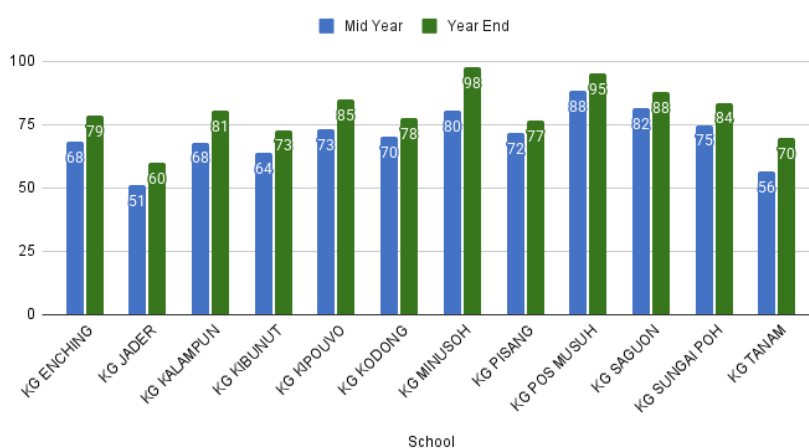
% OF OVERALL PRESCHOOLS 2024 RESULT (NURSERY LEVEL)



### LEVEL ONE

For Level One, overall school performance has increased by 10% from mid-year to year-end with results in the excellent category. Community Learning Centre (CLC) Kampung Minusoh and Kampung Pos Musuh 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.

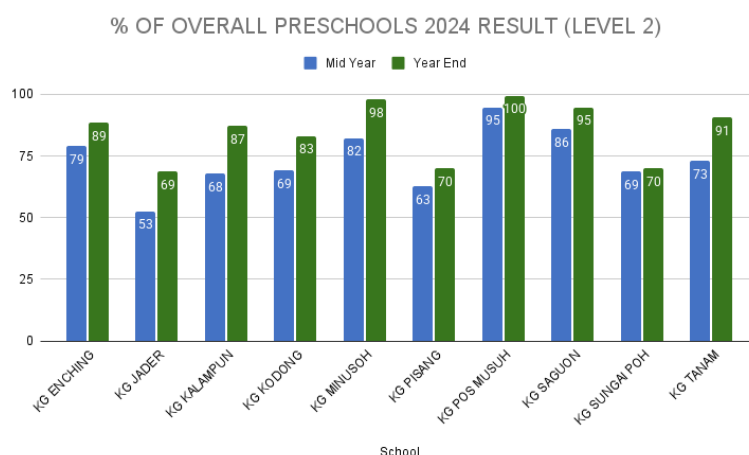
% OF OVERALL PRESCHOOLS 2024 RESULT (LEVEL 1)





## LEVEL TWO

For the Level Two year-end final assessment, all schools recorded improvements, with the overall school performance increasing by 13%. The year-end assessment results showed that the schools achieved an average score of 80% across all three subjects. These students entered their second year at the school, demonstrating their readiness to advance in learning due to the foundation they received when they were four years old.

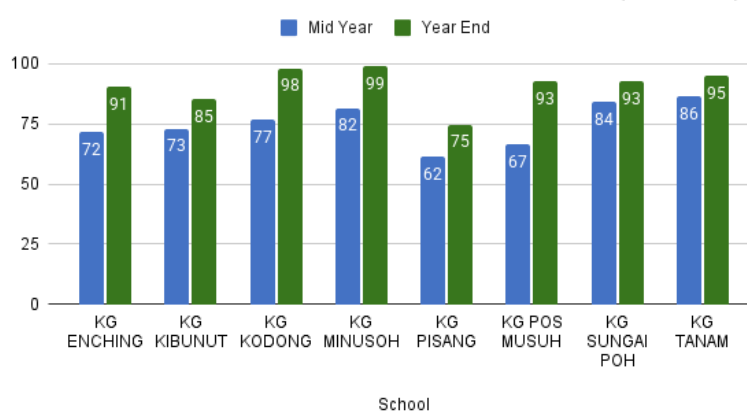


## LEVEL THREE

The Level Three overall school performance resulted in a 15% increase from mid-year to year-end. It is encouraging to see that in the year-end assessment, there was a 24% increase in Malay and 22% increase in English for both language subjects.

It is important that the students perform well in these language subjects so that communication will not be a barrier when they enter the local primary school.

% OF OVERALL PRESCHOOLS 2024 RESULT (LEVEL 3)

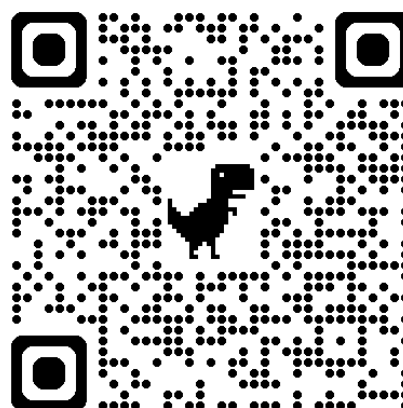


Overall, there have been positive improvements in the results from mid-year to year-end across all four levels of assessment. These are very encouraging signs for the E2T programme, as they show that the community classes are driving change in the literacy and numeracy levels of children in these villages.

The objective of the E2T programme 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. Indeed, the community has the ability to develop their own children from a young age, prepare them for formal schooling, and guide them toward a brighter future.



For a detailed report on the 2024 assessment review, please scan the QR code here:







A parent sending her child to the community preschool at Kampung Pisang, Slim River.



## KAMPUNG ENCHING, GUA MUSANG

## TEACHER

Sponsored by:  
Yayasan Haji Zainuddin



There are six Orang Asal students attending Kelas Komuniti OA Kampung Enching. The school attendance recorded an average percentage of 73% in 2024. Teacher Nabila regularly organizes monthly school compound clean up with the help of the parents. Parents continue to support the school by sending their children to school daily and inform the teacher when they are unwell and unable to attend school. Towards the end of the school year, the average attendance increased to 84%. The school's special events for the year was also well attended and participated by the parents and their family members.



**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.

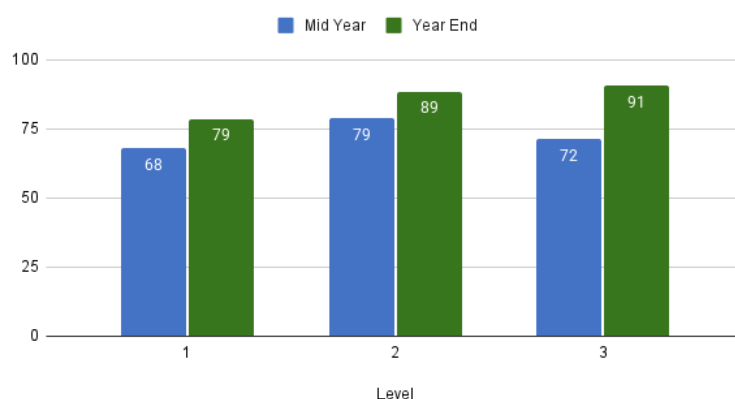
## PERFORMANCE

For the Level One year-end final assessment, the school achieved an overall result of 79% in the good category. Every month, their development in each subject is recorded so that the teacher is able to prepare action plans to improve on the weaker subjects.

For the Level Three year-end final assessment, the results showed a significant increase in their overall result of 91% in the excellent category. Teacher Nabila spent time revising and ensuring that these students are able to perform well before entering Primary School in 2025.

Number of Students	
Level 1	2
Level 2	1
Level 3	3
Total Students	6

## % OF OVERALL KG ENCHING 2024 RESULTS (LEVEL 1-3)



World Indigenous Day was celebrated by the students and their families with activities such as making traditional head gear and bracelets with seeds.



The children sang one of the theme songs from our newly launched Mother Tongue Syllabus in August 2024.



In June, our Project Warisan coordinator Soo Aun met with 16 parents and explained the support we could offer in regards to their children's education.



World Children's Day was celebrated with song presentation by the children, water colour printing activity and games followed by presentation of gifts for the children.

## KAMPUNG JADER, GUA MUSANG

There are six Orang Asal students attending Kelas Komuniti OA Kampung Jader. The school recorded an average attendance of 76%. The school attendance was greatly affected by poor health, in particular because two of her students suffer from stomach issues. Haini regularly advises the parents to send their children for medical check up whenever the hospital medical team comes into the village. One of her six-year-old students passed away in March due to severe prolonged health issues.

Haini continues to engage with the parents to send their children to school on time and stresses the importance of good hygiene and a balanced diet.

## TEACHER

Sponsored by:  
DKSH Foundation  
& VOICE



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.

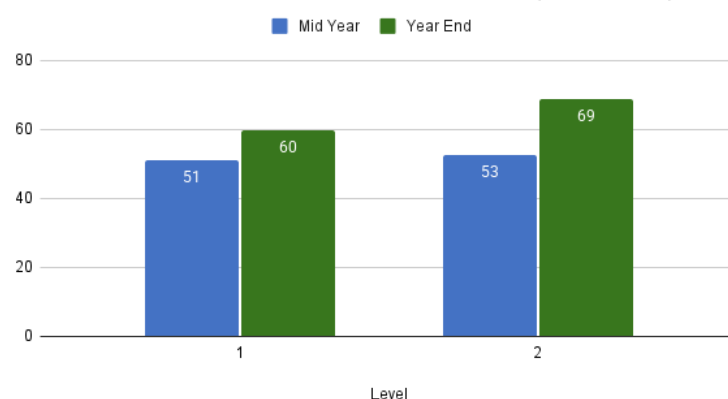
## PERFORMANCE

The overall results show an increase in the average percentage for both levels from the mid-term assessment and the final year assessment. In the final assessment, both levels scored above 60% in the good category. In May, Haini could see improvement in the students' writing and counting skills. Nevertheless, she continued to give them exercises to improve their handwriting and recognition of alphabets and numbers. By October, Haini observed progress in the four and five-year-old students as they were able to read simple Malay phonetic words, count confidently and recognize more letters of the alphabet.

### Number of Students

Level 1	2
Level 2	4
Total Students	6

### % OF OVERALL KG JADER 2024 RESULTS (LEVEL 1-2)



Haini received a reward of recognition for her 10th year service as a teacher in her community.



The children parading their outfits made by their mothers during the World Indigenous Day celebration at the school.



The mothers preparing accessories for their children during the weaving competition with the parents.



The children performed a song item and played sports games during World Children's Day event.

HIGHLIGHTS



## KAMPUNG KALAMPUN, KENINGAU

Community Learning Centre (CLC) Kampung Kalampun is situated 45 minutes from the town of Keningau. It is one of the bigger schools that has 25 students. The school recorded an average attendance of 74%. Monthly attendance was affected mainly due to poor health. The school regularly receives care and support from parents and the community during special events. They regularly hold parent meetings and a school-wide clean up activity every month. Jessica meets with her team of teachers daily after school to review the school's session and duties for the next day.

## TEACHERS



**Jessica  
Murut Paluan  
Tribe**  
Main Teacher



**Melania  
Murut Paluan  
Tribe**  
Co-Teacher



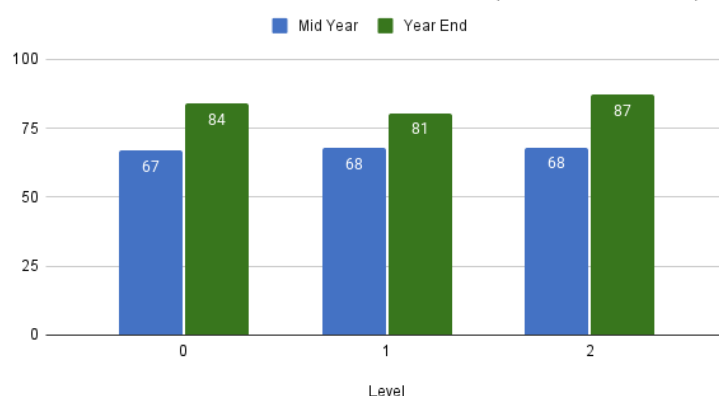
**Jilly  
Murut Paluan  
Tribe**  
Co-Teacher

## PERFORMANCE

For all three levels in the year-end final assessment, students achieved an overall score of 85% in the excellent category. Nursery students received full marks in the language subject, Malay. At Level 1, students excelled in Malay and Maths, achieving grade A. In English, the average percentage score increased by 27% in the year-end assessment. By November, students had become more confident in reading sentences from the "Peter and Jane" readers.

Number of Students	
Nursery	2
Level 1	7
Level 2	16
Total Students	25

% OF OVERALL KG KALAMPUN 2024 RESULTS (NURSERY - LEVEL 2)



Omniraise visited the school in October to run fun activities, enjoy lunch with the students and presented gifts to all the children.



Sports Day games held during the Children's Day celebration.



Students' parents participating in the tele-match games held during the Children's Day celebration.



Gardening activities with the students were regularly held throughout the year.

## KAMPUNG KIBUNUT, PENAMPANG

## TEACHER

Community Learning Centre (CLC) Kampung Kibunut offers both day care and schooling to the children from the village within the age range of infants to six-year-olds. There are 7 students in this school. The school recorded an average attendance of 71% in 2024. At the beginning of the first school term, the students faced challenges in recognizing alphabets and counting. Every month, the teacher records the development of each child so that she is able to help the students improve on areas which they are weak in. Towards the second semester, the teacher could see the students improving in their counting skills and alphabet recognition.



**Suzan**  
Dusun Tribe

Suzan is from the Dusun tribe. She took over as the main teacher at the start of the school year in February. Art and craft is her favorite subject to teach in class.

## PERFORMANCE

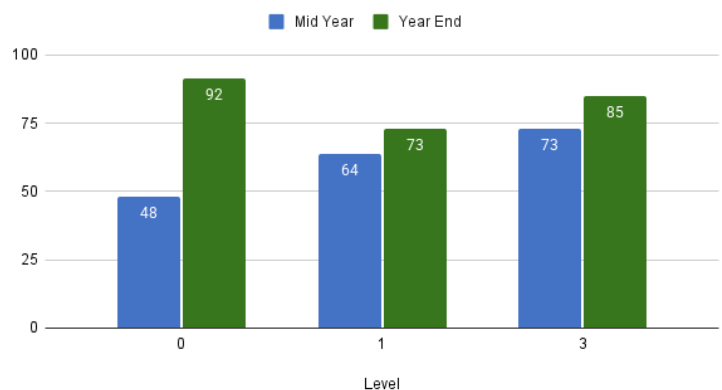
For the Nursery Level, Abner Daniella performed better in Mathematics and English in the year-end assessment. For the Level One year-end final assessment, the school achieved an overall result of 73% in the good category. The students performed best in Mathematics with an overall result of 91%.

For Level Three year-end assessment, the school achieved an improvement with an overall result of 85% in the excellent category. Mathematics is still the best performing subject. The English and Malay subjects improved in the year-end assessment with a 16% and 28% increase respectively.

### Number of Students

Nursery	1
Level 1	4
Level 3	2
Total Students	7

% OF OVERALL KG KIBUNUT 2024 RESULTS (NURSERY - LEVEL 3)



Students posing together while dressed in their traditional costume during the Harvest Day celebration.



The students displaying the Hari Raya greeting cards which they made.



A student enjoying the Art and Craft activity, which is held every Friday.



Combined celebration with CLC Kampung Kipouvo for the Children's Day event in November.



## KAMPUNG KIPOUVO, PENAMPANG

The Community Learning Centre (CLC) in Kampung Kipouvo offers daycare and schooling for children aged three to four years old. The school recorded a strong attendance rate for the year, with an average of 84%. This mother-and-daughter team demonstrates great passion and commitment in their efforts to provide education and care. Camilla hopes to train Angeltha to take on a leadership role in the school. The school regularly meets with parents on a monthly basis and organizes school compound clean-ups and gardening activities. Some parents also help in preparing crafts and teaching aids alongside the teachers.

## TEACHERS



**Camilla**  
Dusun Tribe  
Main Teacher



**Angeltha**  
Dusun Tribe  
Assistant Teacher

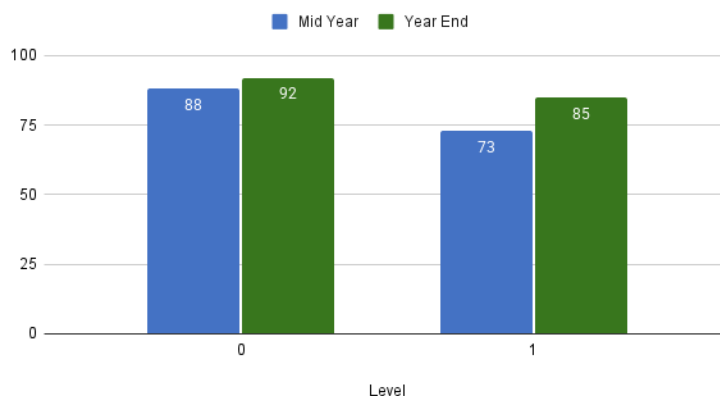
## PERFORMANCE

In the year-end assessment, three-year-old student Quinntessa achieved an overall score of 92% in the excellent category. By September, she was able to recognize her own name, identify and count numbers up to 10.

For the Level One year-end assessment, students achieved an average score of 85%, reflecting a 12% improvement from their mid-year assessment. By the second term, some students were able to write their own names and read the Malay reader "Sara" fluently. The teachers were very proud of the children's achievements.

Number of Students	
Nursery	1
Level 1	10
Total Students	11

% OF OVERALL KG KIPOUVO 2024 RESULTS (NURSERY - LEVEL1)



DKSH team held a CSR event at the school on 22<sup>nd</sup> November. They donated food supplies, toys and a Smart TV. They also provided lunch and had fellowship with the children.



The children doing gardening together at the school compound.



The children all dressed up for their Talent Show.



Prize giving on Sports Day during Children's Day event in November.

## KAMPUNG KODONG DAN KANDANG, PITAS

Community Learning Centre (CLC) Kampung Kodong and Kandang is situated one hour from the town, Pitas. There are 14 students attending the preschool regularly. The school recorded an average attendance of 65%. During July to September, attendance was in the low category with 48%, due to poor health among students, including two who contracted Hand, Foot and Mouth disease.

The school regularly receives generous support from the parents with help during the monthly school clean up as well as donations and gifts in the form of food supplies, fruits and vegetables. Parents are very grateful for this community preschool and parents of ex-students promote the importance of school to new parents, even encouraging them to send their children to CLC Kodong and Kandang.

## TEACHERS



**Hani**  
Rungus Tribe

Main Teacher



**Marsela**  
Rungus Tribe

Co-Teacher

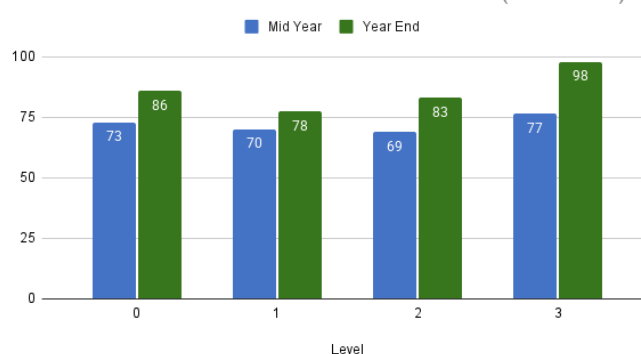
## PERFORMANCE

The overall average results in all three levels show an increase from the mid-year to year-end assessment. The teachers were encouraged to see improvement in results for all three levels. Level 1 students showed improvement in number and alphabet recognition in second term. Level 2 student, Ellen was able to read short sentences from the "Peter and Jane" readers during the graduation ceremony. Level 3 student, Arlyvshon excelled in the year-end assessment achieving 98% total average results. Both Ellen and Arlyvshon parents were also diligent in guiding their children's studies and homework. Teachers were greatly encouraged by the parents' commitment in their children's education and support for the school.

### Number of Students

Nursery	2
Level 1	8
Level 2	3
Level 3	1
<b>Total Students</b>	<b>14</b>

### % OF OVERALL KG KODONG 2024 RESULTS (LEVEL 0-3)



The students, parents and teachers celebrating the Harvest Festival in May.



Students celebrating their schoolmate's birthday with cake and food.



Teacher Hani meeting with a parent during the Parent-Teacher Year-end meeting and sharing the child's progress.



Celebrating the 2024 graduates of CLC Kodong and Kandang on the last day of school.



## KAMPUNG MINUSOH, TONGOD

Community Learning Centre (CLC) Kampung Minusoh is situated one hour from the town of Tongod. This is the largest school with 37 students attending the preschool regularly. The school recorded an excellent and consistent average attendance of 90%. This school is very active with the parents' engagement and support 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

The overall average results across all three levels show an increase from the mid-year to the year-end assessment, reaching the excellent category. All three levels also achieved excellent results in all three subjects, with average scores exceeding 90%.

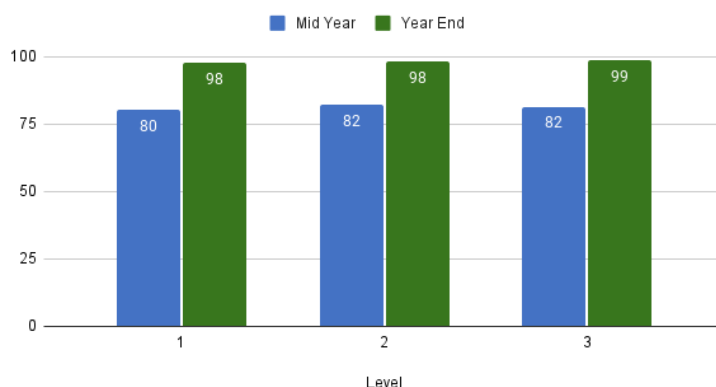
The teachers were encouraged to see that some special needs students, who faced learning challenges at the beginning of the year, showed progress in the year-end assessment and performed well in all three main subjects.

The team of teachers remains diligent in creating a positive learning environment by decorating classrooms and regularly developing teaching aids to help students learn more effectively.

### Number of Students

Level 1	14
Level 2	21
Level 3	2
Total Students	37

### % OF OVERALL KG MINUSOH 2024 RESULTS (LEVEL 1-3)



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



Parents participated in the competition to make traditional clothing during Harvest Day celebration.



Teacher Elisna teaching her class of excited and enthusiastic four-year-old students.

## KAMPUNG PISANG, SLIM RIVER

Kelas Komuniti OA Kampung Pisang has 30 students attending the preschool regularly, with an average attendance of 86%. Attendance dropped during the fruit season as children accompanied their parents to work and frequently fell sick due to overeating and spending long periods playing in the river. The teachers engaged with parents to encourage cooperation and action in addressing these issues. At school, they also took steps to ensure students stayed well-hydrated and were educated about healthy habits.

## TEACHERS



**Umi  
Semai Tribe**

Main Teacher



**Aziga  
Semai Tribe**

Co- Teacher



**Wah Virio  
Semai Tribe**

Co- Teacher

## PERFORMANCE

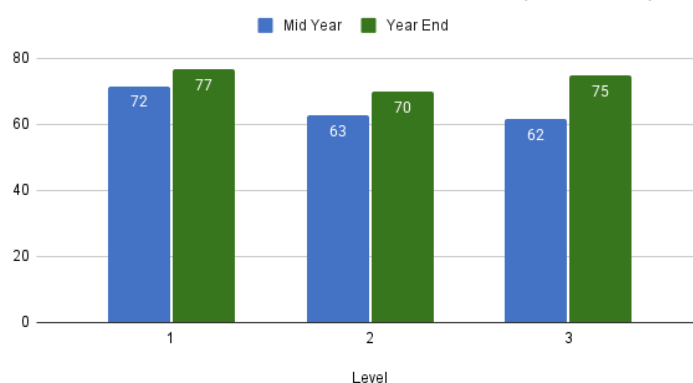
In the final assessment, all three levels scored above 70%, placing them in the "good" category. Level One students performed well in the year-end assessment for both Malay and Mathematics, achieving a total average above 80%. Level Two students scored above 70% in their total average results for the second semester. Level Three students showed a 13% improvement in overall school performance from mid-year to year-end. Mathematics was the highest-performing subject, with a total average of 86%, placing it in the "excellent" category.

The teachers regularly prepare homework for the students and conduct revision sessions with those who arrive early to school. Umi and Aziga continue to provide after-school tuition to assist former students who wish to receive extra coaching.

### Number of Students

Level 1	10
Level 2	12
Level 3	8
Total Students	30

### % OF OVERALL KG PISANG 2024 RESULTS (LEVEL 1-3)



The team from DKSH held a CSR event at Kg Pisang on 11th July, organizing games and crafts with the children and providing gifts to both the children and the school.



The outdoor walls receiving a fresh coat of paint and DKSH painted a beautiful mural.



The students performing a song from the Mother Tongue Syllabus during the World Indigenous Day celebration with parents and the community in August.



Umi presenting graduation certificates to the six-year-old students on the last day of school.



## KAMPUNG POS MUSOH, TAPAH

Kelas Komuniti OA Kampung Pos Musoh has 15 students attending the preschool regularly. The school recorded an average attendance of 80%. Salbina visits the students at their homes when they are absent for more than three days to check on their recovery. The school has the support of the headmaster of Sekolah Kebangsaan Pos Musoh LZ where the preschool is located, and the preschool is regularly invited to participate in the school's festive celebration events. The preschool also receives great support from parents during special events and parent-teacher meetings. After school, the teachers spend time brainstorming interesting activities to incorporate into their lesson plans for the next day. They've found these activities useful for capturing students' attention and helping them focus, especially after weekends and long school breaks.

## TEACHERS



**Salbina  
Semai Tribe**

Main Teacher



**Norazelin  
Semai Tribe**

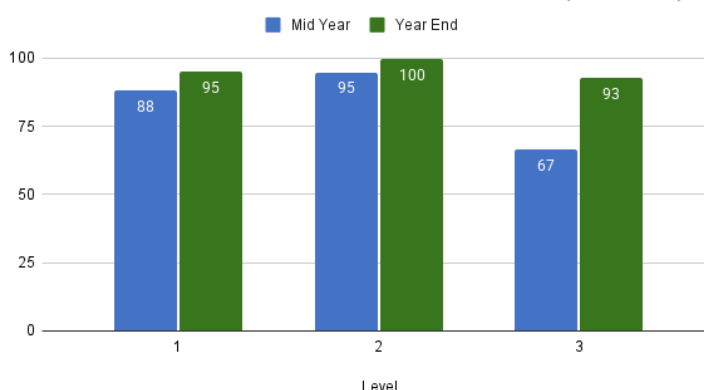
Co-Teacher

## PERFORMANCE

Overall, the total average results showed improvement from the mid-year to the year-end assessment, placing them in the excellent category. Level One students achieved 100% marks in the year-end assessment for Malay and Mathematics. In the second semester, the Level Two students were able to improve in their handwriting, reading and counting. Level Three demonstrated excellent improvement in the year-end assessment for all three subjects, scoring above an 80% total average. In the second semester, Salbina prepared extra homework and conducted daily revision with the six-year-old students at the start of each day, hoping to prepare them for entry into primary school the following year.

Number of Students	
Level 1	2
Level 2	3
Level 3	10
Total Students	15

% OF OVERALL KG POS MUSOH 2024 RESULTS (LEVEL 1-3)



Students performing during the celebration of World Indigenous day event in August.



Teachers helping their students with the Art and craft weaving activity during the World Indigenous day celebration.



Children participating in games during Children's Day event in November.



Teacher Salbina giving out graduation certificates on the last day of school to the six-year-old students.

## 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 recorded an excellent and consistent average attendance of 86%. Some of the challenges faced at the beginning of the first semester involved students who didn't speak and struggled to listen and pay attention in the classroom. Norizah and her team of teachers had to develop different methods and activities to help them settle down and learn to communicate their thoughts and actions positively. The teachers observed encouraging improvements in the second half of the year. Parents in this community are also active in supporting the school's special events, contributing food, assisting with festive decorations, and providing water relief during shortages at the school.

## TEACHERS



**Norizah**  
**Sg Makiang**  
**Tribe**  
Main Teacher



**Meglinah**  
**Sg Makiang**  
**Tribe**  
Co-Teacher

## PERFORMANCE

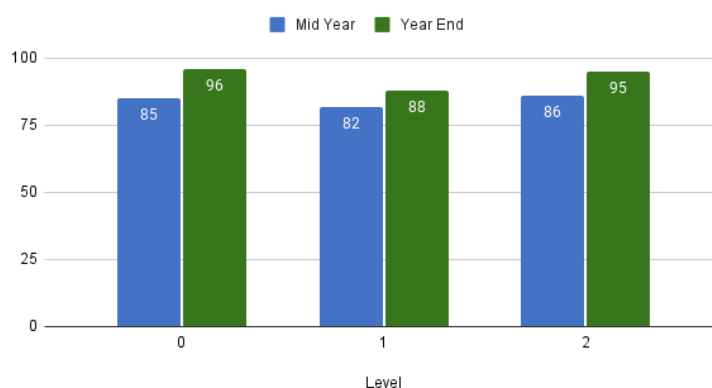
The students performed well in their year-end assessments, scoring in the excellent category for all three levels. Nursery-level students scored 100% in the Malay and English language subjects. For Level 1, students improved by 18% from the mid-year to the year-end assessment, reaching the good category. For Level 2, students achieved an average score above 80% in the excellent category for all three subjects.

The teachers regularly prepare extra homework to help students improve in weaker subjects. They also spend extra time revising with students in the morning before class starts. Additionally, teachers use the IT syllabus for revision and as reinforcement for learning.

### Number of Students

Nursery	7
Level 1	7
Level 2	3
Total Students	17

### % OF OVERALL KG SAGUON 2024 RESULTS (LEVEL 0-2)



Parents demonstrating the process of harvesting rice during the Harvest Day celebration.



Celebrating Children's Day in November with cakes generously gifted by the parents in appreciation and support for this special event.



A student posing after receiving his prize on graduation day.



Students showing off their outfits during last day of school.



## KAMPUNG SUNGAI POH, GOPENG

Kelas Komuniti OA Kampung Sungai Poh has 28 Orang Asal students attending the preschool regularly, with an average attendance of 85%. 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 telephone reception in the village. This school is also used for the on-the-job teachers training taught by Dinah.

## TEACHERS

Sponsored by:  
RedONE Network Sdn Bhd

redONE  
back to basics



**Dinah  
Semai Tribe**  
Main Teacher



**Sarmia  
Semai Tribe**  
Co-Teacher



**Rabikki  
Semai Tribe**  
Co-Teacher

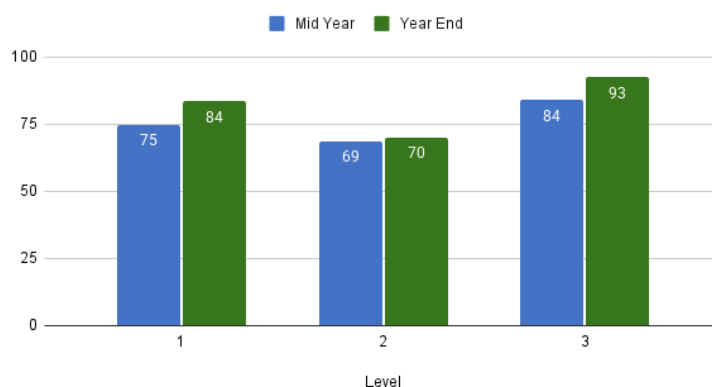
## PERFORMANCE

The students performed well in their year-end assessments, scoring in the excellent category for all three levels. Level One students improved by 11% from the mid-year to the year-end assessment in their total average results. They were able to recognize most of the alphabet and numbers during the year-end assessment. Level Two had the largest number of students this year. They scored well in the good category for all three subjects, with a total average of 60% and above.

Level Three students achieved excellent results, scoring 93% in the year-end assessment. They performed exceptionally well in all three subjects. We are proud that these students will graduate to primary school with a strong foundation.

Number of Students	
Level 1	7
Level 2	14
Level 3	7
Total Students	28

% OF OVERALL KG SG POH 2024 RESULTS (LEVEL 1-3)



RedONE Mobile gave the school a fresh coat of paint, help set up the Smart TV they sponsored and brought souvenirs and toys during their visit to Kg Poh in April.



The students following the teachers during their morning exercise and enjoying the outdoors.



Children performing a song in Semai during the World Indigenous day celebration in August.



A student showing his craft made during the Children's Day celebration in November.

HIGHLIGHTS

## KAMPUNG TANAM, KUALA ROMPIN

Kelas Komuniti OA Kampung Tanam has 20 students attending the preschool regularly. The school records 73% average attendance. One of the main reasons for low attendance during the rainy season is poor health. Siti finds that this disrupts the continuity of learning, making it difficult for students to retain what was taught. Nevertheless, she and the teachers have set aside extra time to coach them and help complete their workbooks.

This year, five new six-year-old students joined Level Three. They had to quickly grasp the basics of the Level One syllabus while transitioning to the Level Three syllabus by the end of the year. Fortunately, Siti's experience as a teacher enabled her to support these students effectively, ensuring they were prepared for the year-end assessment.

## TEACHERS



**Siti Noraini  
Jakun Tribe**

Main Teacher



**Norwani  
Jakun Tribe**

Co-Teacher

## PERFORMANCE

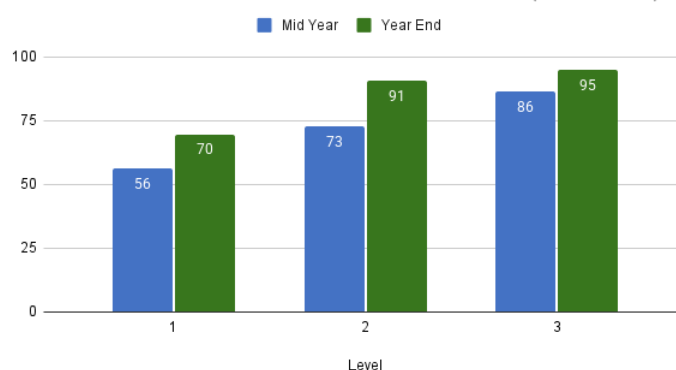
The students performed well in their year-end assessments, showing improvement across all three levels. Level One students improved by 14% from the mid-year to the year-end assessment, reaching the "Good" category. However, the three four-year-old students had irregular attendance and often fell sick.

Students in Levels Two and Three excelled in all three subjects, achieving an "Excellent" category with total average scores above 80%. Mathematics was the strongest subject for both levels.

We are encouraged by the teachers' efforts to develop strategies to overcome the challenges students face in their learning.

Number of Students	
Level 1	3
Level 2	6
Level 3	11
Total Students	20

% OF OVERALL KG TANAM 2024 RESULTS (LEVEL 1-3)



Kids listening to Siti during circle time as she shares about Hari Raya.



Students competing in the tele-match games during the Children's Day celebration in November.



Siti reading a storybook from the new Mother Tongue Syllabus written in Jakun to the students.



Last day of school and graduation ceremony for the six-year-old students.



## Training

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 16th to 20th September for the Sabah teachers and 28th October to 1st November for the Peninsular teachers. The year-end trainings were held on 3<sup>rd</sup> to 7th February 2025 for the Sabah teachers. New teachers training was held on 22<sup>nd</sup> to 26<sup>th</sup> April for the potential new schools in Sungai Siput and Gua Musang.

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



"The special needs training session was very useful for me to recognize the delay in each characteristics of child development in my students and has given me ideas to help them"

Hani, Teacher at CLC Kampung Kodong Kandang, Pitas, Kota Marudu

"I found the first aid training very useful, in being able to help during an emergency in school or at home."

Aziga, Teacher at Kelas Komuniti Kampung Pisang, Ulu Rasau, Slim River



Dr. Janefer Voo and team from the Emergency and Trauma Department, Hospital University Malaysia Sabah (HUMS) gave First Aid and CPR training to our Sabah teachers during the Year-End Teachers' Training in Sabah.



Shaida Salwi, an educator and community education advocate conducted an English Learning class with the teachers. She introduced the use of the Drawing Club to connect with young children in the classroom setting.



Programme Trainer Marie Segaram conducted new teachers' training in Peninsular Malaysia for the potential teachers in Kampung Gentes, Sungai Siput and Kampung Langsat, Gua Musang.

## Training (cont'd)



Clinical psychologist, Andrea and her team from Child and Adolescent Mental and Physical Health (CHAMP), HUMS conducted a Special Needs workshop during the mid-year teachers' training in Sabah.



We celebrated E2T's 10th Year Anniversary with all our OA teachers, and awarded Teacher Dinah and Teacher Haini to commemorate their 10 years with the E2T program as teachers in their own communities.

“

Our team from Hospital UMS were excited to work with SUKA Society in bridging the gaps between the support services we offered in Kota Kinabalu to other rural areas in Sabah. Sabah's rural areas still face a lot of challenges when it comes to access, education, and skills in supporting our children with special needs and learning differences, even in linking to support from the capital city. The Empowered2Teach program allowed us to task shift some of our work by training teachers to identify signs of struggling children, adapt some of their teaching based on the children's needs, and to link to professional services where needed. It was eye-opening and meaningful to meet the teachers, understand their specific struggles faced in the community, and brainstorm ways to navigate them. We hope efforts to bridge the urban-rural divides even in Sabah's communities continue in the future!

**Andrea Wong**  
CHAMP, Hospital University Malaysia Sabah

I have been working as a preschool teacher in my village for 10 years. Looking back, I feel very happy and grateful. Without realizing it, ten years have passed. I am proud to provide early childhood education to the children in my village, ensuring they have a strong foundation and do not drop out when they enter standard one in primary school.

**Haini a/p Badon**  
Teacher at Kampung Jader, Gua Musang



Haini and Dinah, our preschool teachers who have been with the E2T programme for a decade.

”



# 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

- School 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

- In August 2024, we launched a six-themed Bahasa Ibunda syllabus in accordance with our E2T preschool curriculum. This initiative aims to develop an Orang Asal syllabus that introduces the culture of Orang Asal communities to preschool children.
- 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. Most of our preschools have access to electricity. However, due to their remote locations, the electricity supply is often unstable, and outages can last for several days. All schools have access to clean water and their main source is from the nearest river. But, during dry season, the 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 their regular attendance in school.

The Bahasa Ibunda Syllabus Launch was a meaningful event that highlighted the importance of preserving and promoting mother-tongue languages. It was inspiring to see the dedication of educators and community members to ensuring the value of linguistic diversity. I'm grateful to have been part of the event!

**Kamielia**  
SUKA Society Intern





# Project Warisan

Sponsored by:  
FBS Market Inc.

FBS

Project Warisan was initiated in 2022, with the intention of following up with Orang Asal children who have gone through SUKA's E2T programme. Our goals include encouraging the children to continue 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.



In 2024, we began our year by providing school uniforms and shoes for 150 children registered into Project Warisan. On 31<sup>st</sup> Jan, while delivering school supplies, we also met up with parents from Kampung Jader, Gua Musang to explain what Project Warisan was about.

Warisan Camp 3.0 was held on the 2nd and 3rd of March with 47 children from Pos Musuh, Tapah. We had 13 volunteers join our staff for 3 days and 2 nights in the remote Sekolah Kebangsaan Pos Musuh LZ. This time, we were also joined by 18 parents as we initiated our Adults Class in response to their request for English lessons.

In June, we visited Kampung OA Enching and got to meet up with 16 parents to explain Project Warisan to them and discuss how we could support them with regards to their children's education.





## Project Warisan (Cont.)

From 5th to 7th July, together with 15 volunteers, we ran Warisan Camp 4.0 for 49 children and 30 parents from Kampung Sg Bill and Kampung Pisang in Slim River. The camp was held at RISDA Eco Park, while the Adult Classes were held in the respective kampungs.

Finally, in September, Warisan Camp 5.0 was held from 20th to 22nd at SK Kedaik K9 in Kuala Rompin. Catering to a smaller group of 12 children, the 7 volunteers together with 4 staff had a meaningful time together. We also had 8 parents for the Adult Class.

We currently have 185 children registered with Project Warisan and look forward to more engagement with them and their families. We are exploring avenues to monitor and reward children for improvements in school.



“ One of the most memorable moments from volunteering at Project Warisan 5.0 was working with the adults. Seeing their faces light up as they expressed themselves through their participation was heartwarming. It reminded me of the power of connection and creativity.

By the end of the camp, I felt a profound sense of fulfilment. Not only had we made a tangible difference in the community, but I had also formed lasting friendships and gained valuable life skills. This experience reaffirmed my commitment to volunteering and inspired me to continue seeking ways to give back. I left the camp feeling empowered and grateful for the opportunity to be part of something meaningful.

**Sivarubinee**  
Adult Class Facilitator  
(Project Warisan Holiday Camp 5.0, Kuala Rompin)





# Mother Tongue Syllabus Launch

Sponsored by:  
OSK Foundation



On 17th August 2024, SUKA Society successfully launched the Mother Tongue Syllabus at Perpustakaan Raja Tun Uda in Shah Alam. This syllabus aims to provide Orang Asal preschool teachers with a curriculum that preserves the Semai, Temiar, and Jakun cultures and languages.

Our goal is to publish high-quality indigenous mother tongue tools and syllabus that educators and parents can use in early childhood education. The syllabus consists of six themes specifically designed for preschool learning. Each theme is created to stimulate interest and foster holistic learning among children. By exploring these themes, children will be guided to understand the world around them and develop essential skills such as self-identity, family relationships, and environmental awareness.



I feel very happy because it has been very difficult when there were no book materials for teachers to teach the mother tongue subject in school. After the completion of these six themes, it will be easier for teachers and there are worksheet activities for students to learn easily.

**Nora**  
E2T Programme Facilitator



TESTIMONIAL



**PROGRAM PELANCARAN SILIBUS  
BAHASA IBUNDA DALAM BAHASA  
SEMAI, TEMIAR DAN JAKUN  
"Mewujudkan Peluang Pendidikan"  
17 OGOS 2024**



Our group of E2T teachers at our Mother Tongue Syllabus launch.



## Mother Tongue Syllabus Launch

Some objectives of this project include increasing understanding and appreciation of indigenous identity and culture through the learning process, empowering indigenous educators by enhancing their teaching skills in ways that reinforce linguistic and cultural uniqueness, and fostering a sense of pride in cultural identity, which contributes to greater self-esteem and self-confidence among children.



The launch was officiated by Anderson Selvasegaram, Executive Director of SUKA Society, and Zulaika Zulkifli, Manager of OSK Foundation. During the event, guests were invited to experience the syllabus through interactive booths. Additionally, our E2T teachers performed songs and stories from the syllabus. Seeing the syllabus come to life in their own language filled the teachers with pride, giving them the opportunity to share their identity and culture with others.



“ At OSK Foundation, we firmly believe in the transformative power of education. As we recently celebrated the International Day of the Worlds Indigenous Peoples on 9<sup>th</sup> August, we are proud to have the opportunity to help bring accessibility of the various Orang Asal languages to the Malaysian community as a way to bring awareness to, and preserve their rich cultural heritage and identity.

Ms. Cheryl Ong,  
CEO of OSK Foundation

”





## Acknowledgements

SUKA Society would like to extend our deepest gratitude and appreciation to all our partners and supporters for their commitment towards the Empowered2Teach programme. We are especially thankful to our corporate and foundation sponsors DKSH Holdings (Malaysia) Berhad, OSK Foundation, RedONE Mobile, FBS Trading, Yayasan Haji Zainuddin, En Compass Sdn Bhd, Vision of International Children Endeavours (VOICE), FBS Markets Inc., and LSEG Foundation for sponsoring community schools, contributing to school refurbishment projects, and strengthening the programme through essential resources.

We would also like to acknowledge The Alice Smith School Parent-Teacher Association for their partnership and support.

Last but not least, our heartfelt thanks go to our individual sponsors, Andrew Tan, Azreen Tee, Evelyn Cham, Himin Ng, Muhammad Zafri, Tan Boon Nge, Rizal Ahmad, Christopher Cooper, Adrihani Abd Rashid, Jeanee Liew, and Wong Pei Phing for making a difference by sponsoring students and providing programme materials.





# Programme Expenses for 2024

Empowered2Teach

No	Details	Total (MYR)
01.	Programme Manpower Overhead and Casual Wages (Programme Coordinator, Programme Consultant, OA Teachers & Assistants)	543,792.00
02.	School Expenses (Food and Beverage for students and Cleaning Supplies)	62,860.00
03.	Monthly Pre-School Supervision (Travel, Accommodation, Food and Beverage)	17,992.00
04.	Training for OA Teachers (Accommodation, Food and Beverage, Trainer's Fee, Travel and Training Supplies)	48,895.00
05.	Advocacy and Awareness	10,879.00
06.	OA School Maintenance, Repairs and Upgrade	26,991.00
07.	Development of Materials, School Syllabus, Educational Tools and School Supplies	93,316.00
08.	Savings Plan for E2T Teachers	15,400.00
09.	Mother tongue Syllabus Development Workshop	9,357.00
10.	Project Warisan	36,841.00
11.	School Events	10,450.00
<b>Total Yearly Programme Cost</b>		<b>876,773.00</b>

## 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.

## Contact Details

For more information regarding the E2T programme, get in touch with us at [enquiry@sukasociety.org](mailto:enquiry@sukasociety.org).

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