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Eco-Schools Programme Malaysia Newsletter

Editor's Welcome

Rabi'ah Ghazali

We are excited to present you with the very first edition of the Eco-Schools Programme Malaysia Newsletter! The newsletter is an important way for us, as the coordinating body, to share news, events, tips and developments related to the programme with registered eco-schools, members of the National Eco-Schools Committee, and anyone else interested in environmental education in Malaysia.

The programme has indeed gotten off to a great start. SMK Lanchang was the first school to register and effectively became the first eco-

school in Southeast Asia. As of June, there are now ten registered eco-schools from different parts of the country. To facilitate communication and collaboration between schools, we have provided the contact details of the registered schools on the last page of the newsletter.

In this edition, we feature three schools that have been actively running the programme in the past few months. We are keen to hear from more schools, and welcome contributions from other eco-schools with open arms. Till we meet again in the next edition! ☺

Kata Alu-aluan dari Editor

Rabi'ah Ghazali

Dengan amat berbesar hati, kami menampilkan edisi pertama "Eco-Schools Programme Malaysia Newsletter" ini. Ia merupakan wadah yang penting dalam usaha kami, sebagai badan penyelaras program, untuk berkongsi berita, tip dan perkembangan berkaitan dengan program "Eco-Schools". Risalah ini ditujukan kepada "eco-schools" berdaftar, ahli Jawatankuasa Eco-Schools Kebangsaan, dan pihak-pihak lain yang berminat dengan pendidikan alam sekitar di Malaysia.

Program ini sedang berjalan lancar, dengan pendaftaran sepuluh buah sekolah sejauh ini. SMK Lanchang

merupakan sekolah berdaftar yang pertama, menjadikan ia "Eco-School" pertama di Asia Tenggara. Untuk mengalakkan kerjasama dan meningkatkan komunikasi antara "eco-schools", senarai alamat dan nombor telefon setiap sekolah disediakan pada halaman terakhir.

Dalam edisi ini, kami mengengahkan tiga "eco-schools" yang telah giat menjalankan program ini selama beberapa bulan yang lepas.

Kami menjemput mana-mana "eco-schools" yang berminat untuk menyumbangkan gambar dan laporan tentang aktiviti "eco-school" di sekolah masing-masing. Hingga bertemu lagi di edisi hadapan! ☺

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Spotlight on eco-schools

“Our school chose the Yellow Bell Tecoma Stans species for its attractive yellow flowers and vitality, in the hope that the students would emulate the strength and endurance of the tree...”



Photo: ©SMK Muhibbah

The bright yellow flowers of the Yellow Bell Tacoma Stans are attractively rendered in this student's painting

This month, we put the spotlight on SMK Muhibbah, SK Convent Kajang and SJK(C) Sin Hwa. SMK Muhibbah participated in the global tree-planting campaign, Green Wave. SK Convent Kajang pupils learnt about turtles and carried out an environmental review of their school in a programme organised by WWF-Malaysia's formal education system team in collaboration with the school's PTA and teachers. SJK(C) Sin Hwa held a launch event for its Eco-Schools programme. Below, we feature a selection of reports, photos, comments and creative-works to highlight each of the schools' events. [↗](#)

REPORT: SMK MUHIBBAH MADE WAVES ACROSS THE UNIVERSE

*By: Mohamad Hafizan Addli bin Lamin,
Class 5S, SMK Muhibbah*

The Green Wave is a multi-year global campaign that enables children and youth to make a difference – one school, one tree, one gift to nature. This year, the campaign brought the students of SMK Muhibbah together with youth around the world to raise awareness about biodiversity and the need to protect it. Our school chose the Yellow Bell Tecoma Stans species for its attractive yellow flowers and vitality, in the hope that the students would emulate the strength and endurance of the tree despite the elements.

Thanks is due to our school Principal, who had encouraged us to join an international environmental program without having to fly 200 students overseas. The program was organised by 40 students of Form 5 and 6. It was facilitated by teachers - Mr Hamzah, Mdm Hatijah Saleng, Mdm Chang Man Chu, Mdm Asiah Tahir, Mdm Salamiah Nordin and Mdm Shim Lhi Shwo.

Our first meeting and brainstorming session was held on the 12th May. Datin Noorazizah, the Senior Assistant of the school, gave a briefing on what Green Wave is and a committee was set up from among the students. We were then divided into groups, each assigned to different tasks from researching to writing and drawing; planning and organising to implementing and reporting. There was also a group of students who looked into

taking photographs, writing a report and contacting the media. Another group was asked to register the tree on the Green Wave website.

On the 13th May, a drawing and colouring competition was held among the special Education students. Chia Chee Hin, the chairperson and Stephanie Clare a/k Nyipa, the secretary of the program prepared the action plan for the tree planting ceremony and letters of invitation were sent out on the 16th May. The second meeting was held on the 18th May in which we edited our work and had a final touch up on the launching ceremony.

On the 20th May, witnessed by almost 200 students. The tree planting campaign was launched by Yang Berhormat Au Kam Wah, Elopura Assemblyman. The highlight of the ceremony was of course, the tree planting ceremony. The four Tecoma Stans seedlings were planted each by Yang Berhormat Au Kam Wah, Mr Sharif Mahada, the District Education Officer, Chia Chee Hee, (representative of Form 6 students) and Mohd Musa Adivijaya (representative of Form 5 students).

The guests were then brought to visit the school's nursery. Visitors had the chance to see the process of making cement pharoh as demonstrated by students taking the Landscape and Nursery vocational subject. Visitors

Nursery vocational subject. They were



... cont. from previous page

were also entertained by the Gamelan team, which performed some traditional Malay, Chinese and Kadazan musical pieces. The guests went home with a potted plant each as a token of appreciation. The pots of plants were grown by our very own students.

Students who participated in the event went back to school on the 22nd May to water the plants. A schedule on taking care of the plants was drawn up to enable students to take turns in maintaining them. Some of the students stayed back that afternoon to upload the report and pictures to the Green Wave website.

Indeed, this program has taught students the value of responsibility and stewardship. We had a valuable hands-on experience in organizing an important event which involved inviting the stakeholders and media, arranging the stage and backdrop, preparing the program for the important day, getting some students to recite a poem, getting the refreshment ready for everyone involved, editing pictures and text and uploading them to the web.

It was very educational too, as we learnt from our research and the chairperson's speech that "a tree in the rainforest gives homes to various species such as birds, insects, mammals and epiphytic plants. By planting just one tree, we are able to create a habitat for various species, provide food for fauna and humans. On top of that, a tree acts like the lungs of a human being when it absorbs carbon dioxide and release oxygens." A tree gives us life. It is of utmost importance that we preserve the forest and make our planet greener by planting more trees in order to reduce the green house effects and global warming. ☺

"It is of utmost importance that we preserve the forest and make our planet greener..."

Gallery



The "reporters" writing an article for the media



Mohd. Musa, Form 5 representative, planting the last seedling



Teacher showing students how to format pictures for uploading onto the Green Wave website



Making cement pharaohs

Photos: ©SMK Muhibbah

"Biarapun kau lahir di
Chile Atlanta,
China dan lain
benua,
Kau tidak asing dan
sepi di sini."



Creative works by SMK Muhibbah students in conjunction with the Green Wave Campaign

1) 'Nature' by Nadia Aishah Binti Jamal, Class 5S, SMK Muhibbah

She sits on a fell tree
and looking around to appreciate God's gift
the 'Nature'.

She remembers about her
memories at this field
Running and chasing with her friends,
plucking the yellow stars,
that are never bored
to keep blossoming.

She smiles and deep inside her heart,
She is wondering,
How would the world look like without
you
'YELLOW BELL'. ☺

2) 'Kehadiranmu Yellow Bell' oleh Ardian Sha Bin Ali Rahman, Kelas 6A Ekonomi SMK Muhibbah

Tecoma Stans . . .
Namamu unik, namamu
asing di bumi ini
Biarapun kau lahir di
Chile Atlanta,
China dan lain benua,
Kau tidak asing dan
sepi di sini,
Kawan-kawan bunga
lain menerima kehadiranmu,
Lapang hati, setia dan
damai di sini . . .

Kuningmu . . .
menyalurkan daulat seni,
Kuningmu . . .
Menampilkan wajah seni,
Kuningmu . . .

Menyaji setia hati,
Kuningmu . . .
membina warna hati,

Adaptasimu di sini . . .

Mendidik kami erti
eksplotasi diri,
Kesaksianmu mengajar
kami,
Erti kebesaran cita-cita
diri,

Kehilanganmu
merialisasikan kami ,
Sebahagian warisan
hijau yang mencorak flora
dunia . . .
Kemarau yang bersilih
gerimis,
Hujan lebat berganti kabus
pagi,
Angin sepoi yang berlalu
pergi,
Kau di sini menatap alam
yang cerah dan kelam.

Kulihat . . .
Kau teguh menanti,
Siapsiaga menghadapi
suhu, air, alam panas
Dan debu kemarau . . .

Kau saksi segalanya,
Kau tetap utuh,
Tabah bak raja,
Kental bak mahkota,
Sabar bak anbia,
Waspada bak naga . . .

Nyatanya kau penyeri
kami
Kami bangga kau di
sini, di sisi
Mengajar kami tentang
ambisi dan visi
Yang bakal kami isi
Di medan ilmu ini . . . ☺

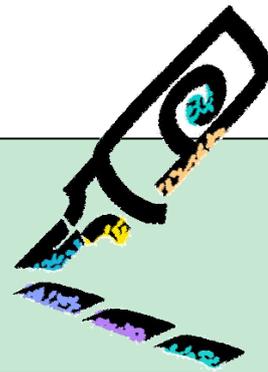
3) "Buat Yellow Bell" oleh Nurani Syamini binti Yusof, Kelas 5S1, SMK Muhibbah

Salam buat bunga Yellow
Bell
yang setia menebar harum
dan mengukir senyuman
membentuk bibir-bibir manis

keindahannya yang kecil
bersinar di setiap sudut

Cinta buat bunga Yellow Bell
dengan tulus menabur
sayang
yang tidak pernah keletihan
mengesat air mata yang
menitis
menampilkan wajah yang
riang

Sayang buat bunga Yellow
Bell
tatkala masa terbenti nanti
si kecil yang dah dewasa
pasti terang hatinya
dengan sinar cinta Bell
yang mengindahkan alam
sekitar. ☺



In Our Own Words:

On Fri, 27 May 2011, Pupils at SK Convent Kajang participated in an activity, run by WWF-Malaysia's Formal Education System team to raise awareness about turtles. They also carried out a simple environmental review of their school. Here, they tell us, in their own words, what they thought about the events of the day. 🐢

I enjoyed the colouring activity.

Sofea Izzaty,
Class 4 Ros

I enjoyed the presentation about the turtles and learned that turtles must be protected from extinction.

Zara Sofea, Class 4 Ros

I liked the presentations and learned a new knowledge about the turtles.

Chan Poh Yih,
Class 4 Melur

I gained knowledge about how to protect the turtle from extinction.

Rinesya, Class 5 Kekwa

I learned that we must stop eating the turtles egg.

Shobita,
Class 4 Melur

I liked the group discussions activity and learned that we must save our environment.

Leong Wei Teng,
Class 4 Ros

I learned how to take care of our environment.

Wong Wee Yau,
Class 5 Kekwa

I enjoyed the presentation about the turtles and learned that turtles must be protected from extinction.

Levyani,
Class Ros

I enjoyed to know about the turtles life cycle.

Najla Alisya,
Class 5 Ros

I enjoyed the colouring activity the most.

Ng Xiao Jun,
Class 5 Kekwa

Photo: ©WWF-Malaysia/Nor Shidawati Abd. Rasid



SK Convent Kajang students enthusiastically participating in the activities

Majlis Pelancaran Eco-Schools Programme di SJK(C) Sin Hwa Tawau

SJK (C) Sin Hwa Tawau melancarkan program “eco-schools” nya pada 27 Mei 2011. Majlis pelancaran tersebut dimeriahkan dengan kehadiran dif-dif jemputan sekolah, iaitu ahli Lembaga sekolah, Persatuan Penyayang Iubapa , Persatuan Alumni Sekolah dan penasihat dari Tadika Sin Hwa.

Penglibatan dif-dif jemputan seperti ibu-bapa, persatuan alumni sekolah dan penasihat dari tadika Sin Hwa menunjukkan keiltizaman semangat dan sokongan jitu dari semua pihak ini terhadap program “eco-schools” SJK(C) Sin Hwa Tawau

Photo: ©SJK(C) Sin Hwa Tawau



Dif-dif jemputan menekan butang khas untuk melancarkan majlis dan menandakan keiltizaman semangat dan sokongan jitu daripada semua pihak dalam usaha mencapai kelestarian

Di majlis tersebut, Guru Besar, Puan Vera Voo Mui Yin, memberi pengenalan tentang Program “Eco-Schools” serta badan penyelarasnya, World Wildlife Fund for Nature Malaysia (di Malaysia) dan Foundation for Environmental Education (di peringkat antarabangsa). Rancangan sekolah dalam usaha mempertingkatkan kesedaran warga sekolah melalui program itu juga dibentangkan. Antara lain, ini termasuk penghasilan enzim kitar semula, tanaman sayur cara vertical, pokok Mother In-law’s Tongue dan aktiviti-aktiviti lain. Perkembangan ahli Pengerak Cinta Alam turut dilaporkan di majlis tersebut. ☺

Photos: ©SJK(C) Sin Hwa Tawau



Puan Vera Voo (berjaket putih) memberi Enzim Kitar Semula yang dihasilkan oleh warga sekolah sebagaicenderahati kepada semua tetamu jemputan bagi menyebarkan kegunaan enzim kepada masyarakat

TIPS AND IDEAS

Some ways to reinforce environmentally friendly behaviours amongst the school community include:

- Putting up attractive posters around school
- Putting up signs that serve as reminders (e.g.: a note over every light switch to remind users to switch off the lights when they leave the room)
- Offering rewards and incentives for positive behavior

The Ministry of Environment of Ontario, (Canada), through its Make Every School

Day Earth Day initiative, has prepared lots of resources to help schools in precisely those ways.

Amongst the resources, that are made available for free download on the Ministry's website, are attractive posters encouraging waste reduction, labels for rubbish bins, and recognition certificates to motivate teachers and pupils.

Check out these resources yourself at the website:

http://www.ene.gov.on.ca/environment/en/industry/standards/ici_waste_reduction/school/STDPROD_084158.html ↗



RESOURCES AND IDEAS

ECO-CALENDAR

You may want to structure your eco-schools action plan around the observance of environment-related events. If so, the calendar below is a useful reference. Look out for the October-December Calendar in our next issue! ↗

July-September 2011

| Month | Day | Event | Website |
|-----------|-----|---|---|
| July | 11 | World Population Day | http://www.un.org/en/events/populationday/ |
| September | 8 | International Literacy Day | http://www.unesco.org/new/en/education/themes/education-building-blocks/literacy/ |
| | 16 | International Day for the Preservation of the Ozone Layer | http://ozone.unep.org/Events/ozone_day_2010/index.shtml |
| | 17 | International Coastal Clean-Up Day | http://www.oceanconservancy.org/our-work/ |
| | 22 | World Carfree Day | http://www.worldcarfree.net/wcfd/ |
| | 25 | World Rivers Day | http://commons.bcit.ca/worldriversday/ |
| | 28 | Green Consumer Day | http://www.daysthat speaks.com/world/sep/green-consumer.html |

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We're on the Web!

See us at:

<http://eco-schools.wwf.org.my/>

About the Eco-Schools Programme

Eco-Schools is an international initiative designed to guide schools in implementing a whole-school approach towards environmental and sustainability education. Internationally, it is run by the Foundation for Environmental Education (FEE). Its holistic, participatory approach and combination of learning and action make it an ideal way for schools to embark on a meaningful path for improving the environments of schools and their local communities. Currently, the programme is being implemented in over 50 countries around the world, involving more than 40,000 schools. WWF-Malaysia became an associate member of FEE in 2010. It also became the national operator for the Eco-Schools Programme in Malaysia. The implementation of the programme is also supported by a National Eco-Schools Committee, made up of members from certain ministries, government agencies, universities and organisations. ♻️

Registered Eco-Schools in Malaysia

| No. | School | Contact details |
|-----|--|---|
| 1 | Sekolah Kebangsaan Sri Kelana (Petaling Jaya) | Teacher in-charge: En. Ong Kien Eik, Ph.: 03-78770943 |
| 2 | Sekolah Kebangsaan Ba' Kelalan (Lawas, Sarawak) | Teacher in-charge: Nicholas Umtam Ph.: 08-5796040 |
| 3 | SK Convent Kajang | Teacher in-charge: Cikgu Rosyidah Ibrahim Ph.: 03-87366493 |
| 4 | SMK Lanchang (Pahang) | Teacher in-charge: Puan Rohana Abd. Rahim Ph.: 09-2805236 |
| 5 | Sekolah Menengah Kebangsaan Muhibbah (Sandakan, Sabah) | Teacher in charge: Lam Tee Jye Ph.: 08-9214491 |
| 6 | SMK (A) Mohamad Ali Ranau (Ranau, Sabah) | Teacher in-charge: En. Aziz Muji Ph.: 08-8876215 |
| 7 | SMK Bahang (Penampang, Sabah) | Teacher in-charge: Puan Judy Lian Ph.: 08-8723087 |
| 8 | SJK (C) Chi Hwa (Sandakan, Sabah) | Teacher in-charge: Yong Nyuk Kan/Liew Lee Yin, Ph.: 08-9212744 |
| 9 | SJK (C) Sin Hwa (Tawau, Sabah) | Teacher in-charge: Mdm Chong Pei Ling Ph.: 08-9771018 |
| 10 | Sekolah Methodist Wesley Kuala Lumpur | Teachers in-charge: Pn Mazni and Pn Norasimah, Ph.: 03-40425863 |

The Eco-Schools Programme is also supported by the following organisations:

