



• OCTOBER - DECEMBER 2019 •

DEEDS OF LIGHT

CAHAYA SURYA BAKTI (CSB)

END OF YEAR MESSAGE FROM CSB HEAD TEACHER

2019 has been a busy year with many changes and as we come to the end of the year, it is a good time to reflect on what we have achieved.

Firstly, I would like to take the opportunity to thank all students for their hard work, good behaviour and achievement in 2019. I'd also like to thank the teachers and volunteers for their dedication, time and effort towards our school and students. Special thanks to our parents who attended PTM (parents teachers meeting) and showed their interest and contribution in their children's studies.

Our students had so many opportunities this year to explore nature and had fun camping outside which couldn't be possible without our cooperative and amazing partners. So, thanks to our partners who are always there for these refugee kids.

Our students have showed outstanding growth and improvement in their studies and we are hoping to have our first batch of students (Year 11) to sit for their IGCSE exam at the end of 2020.

For teachers/volunteers who left CSB in 2019, I wish them all the best of luck for their future and will continue to remember them in our prayers. Lastly, I'd like to dedicate a quote to all contributing towards CSB:

"Let's do what we love, and let's do a lot of it."

- Marc Jacobs

With Thanks,
Lubna Ali, CSB Head Teacher

lubna@cahayasurya.org



EMPOWERING REFUGEE EDUCATION

Cahaya Surya Bakti (CSB) is a registered Malaysian Society founded with the vision of providing community-based support and assistance to the refugee population in the state of Johor, Malaysia.

**PERTUBUHAN KEBAJIKAN
CAHAYA SURYA BAKTI (CSB)
PPM-001-01-21082017**

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Celebrating Star Students

After revising and sitting for their final exams, it was time to celebrate the hard work of our Primary and Secondary students with end of year prize-giving ceremonies. Congratulations to all students (and their parents) to committing to their studies in 2019 and particular congratulations to our top students. Great to see you shine!

A special thank you to every single teacher who has helped CSB on its journey to provide Secondary education to refugee children in Johor.

Volunteer Teacher Ms Mariam and Head Teacher Ms Lubna present our top Secondary CSB students with their Achievement certificates (right).



Head Teacher of the Lower School, Ms Lulu and Executive Director, Mdm Soraya presenting top Primary student awards at CSB Learning Centre, Kempas (left and above).



TOP SECRET

Sssssshhhh!!! A small army of volunteers will be coming to **CSB** Kempas during the school holidays to give the walls a much needed paint job, ahead of the new school year. Thank you in advance to Ms Joyce, her daughter Angelina and their friends for coming from Singapore to volunteer their time to brighten-up our school. What a surprise it will be for the children!



EXTRA CURRICULAR: ENGAGEMENT & ENRICHMENT

Extra-curricular activities are very important for children's development and growth. CSB is very fortunate to have the support of many organisations that enable us to further enrich and engage our children. We are always working on new collaborations so as to expand on our program.



CSB is very grateful to **Madrasah Irsyad Zahari Al-Islamiah** for sponsoring another fun-filled trip to the **UK Farm** (above).

CSB children enjoyed visiting many different types of animals during a day trip to **Johor Zoo** (below). Thanks to all volunteer Teachers and helpers who made the trip possible.



Fun in the Sun with Ecofieldtrip Schools...

Ecofieldtrips hosted several engagement trips with International Schools from Hong Kong including, **Kellett School, South Island School and King George V School**. Our children had a fantastic time camping overnight at Sedili Besar. These engagements enable our students to bond with children from different backgrounds, develop communication and social skills as well as having plenty of fun! Thank you to **Ecofieldtrips** for their ongoing support of **CSB**.
www.ecofieldtrips.com.sg



Book Boost from UWC

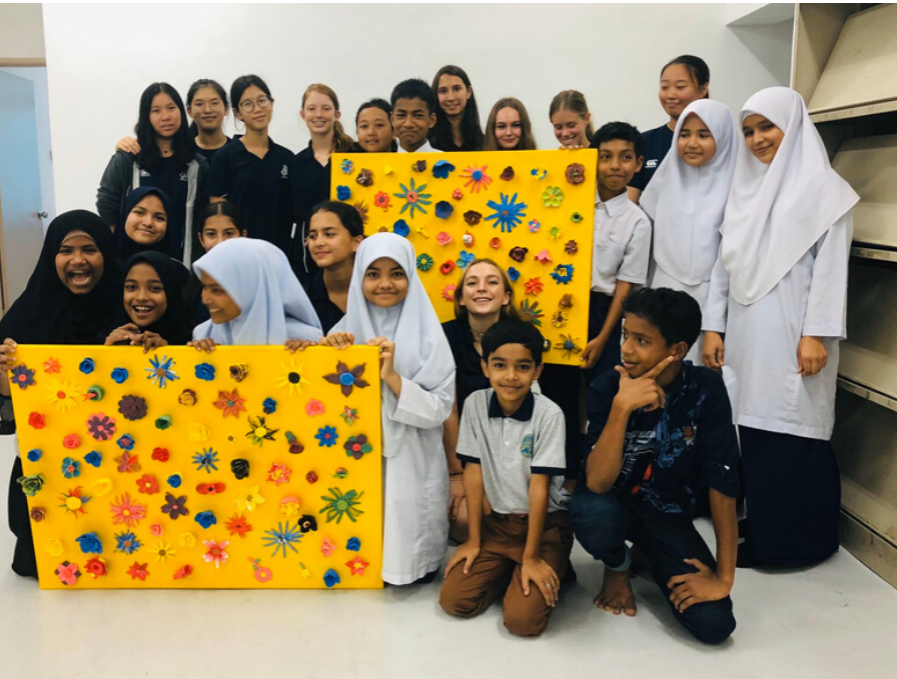
Thanks to all parents, teachers and children from **United World College South East Asia** for their donation of books for our **CSB** Kempas school library. Particular thanks to Rachel Blewitt as well as Jacqueline Villa Evanko and her family (pictured right) who made a visit to the school to donate the books and spent a lovely morning engaging with the Primary students. We are so grateful for your support! www.uwcsea.edu.sg



Desaru Day Out

To help mark United Nations World Children's Day on 20th November, children from **CSB** Kempas were fortunate enough to be invited for a fun day out at the newly opened **Hard Rock Hotel** located at Desaru Coast. The children had a blast and enjoyed a delicious lunch. Thank you to **Hard Rock Hotel Desaru** for your kind generosity.
www.hardrockhotels.com/desaru-coast

Art Project blossoms with Marlborough College



The walls at **CSB** Kempas are a little brighter thanks to a Art Workshop hosted by **Marlborough College Malaysia Outreach**. Senior Art Teachers, along with students who volunteer with **MCM Outreach**, facilitated two Art Workshops on Saturday 9th & 16th November. After initial instructions, **MCM** and **CSB** students worked together to create individual pieces that, once combined, formed beautiful canvas pieces that can be mounted on the wall. Special thanks to Ms Helen Dalton and Ms Ruth Gallagher for leading the Workshop and to Ms Amy Church for organising and facilitating.

Marlborough College Outreach students and CSB Kempas students with some of the completed art canvases.

Marlborough College spread festive cheer

CSB was a lucky recipient of some festive cheer with **Marlborough College Malaysia** donating over 100 gift boxes. Led by Ms Poppy Donaldson (pictured third left below), **Marlborough** students were encouraged to donate items to the boxes such as art and craft items, toys, stationery and personal care products. Student volunteers then collated all the items, packaged, wrapped and labelled them according to age. **CSB** is so grateful to be a recipient and will distribute amongst the refugee population in Johor. Thank you to all students, parents and teachers at **Marlborough College Malaysia** who collaborated on this project. www.marlboroughcollegemalaysia.org





VOCATIONAL TRAINING

Vocational Training Plans with UTM

CSB Executive Director, Mdm Soraya and Head Teacher, Ms Lubna Ali recently attended a meeting with Senior Management from **University of Technology Malaysia (UTM)** to discuss a potential program whereby refugees could be provided with Vocational Training at the **UTM** campus in Johor. The program will help equip them with skills such as air conditioning repairs, electrical works, construction management, hospitality management and fashion design amongst other technical training courses. Thank you to **UTM** for hosting **CSB** and we look forward to discussing this program further in 2020. www.utm.my



CSB Head Teacher Ms Lubna and Executive Director Mdm Soraya met with Dr Abdullah Nawi and Dr Zainuddin from UTM



LIVELIHOOD & EMPOWERMENT

Moving forward with empowering refugee women in Johor

Singapore organisation, **Reyna Movement** is planning on opening a Women's Empowerment Centre in Johor. The Centre would focus on specialist skills training such as sewing to refugee women to help provide a means towards a safe livelihood. Ms Whitney Tan (pictured right) facilitated an initial briefing session to gauge the level of interest amongst women. We look forward to the commencement of the program in early 2020.

www.reynamovement.org





UNHCR Johor Visit

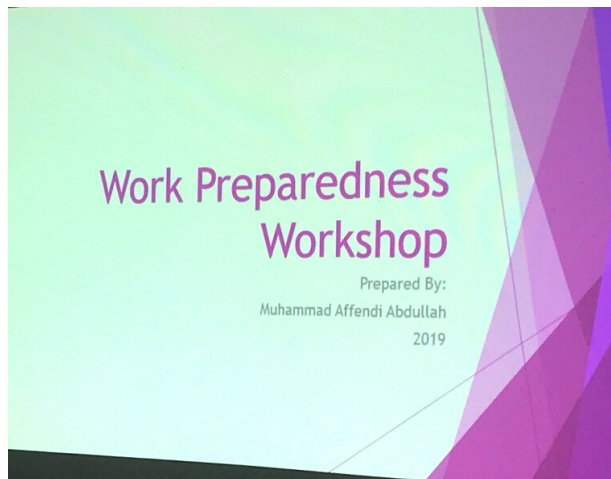


Incoming **UNHCR** Representative, Mr Thomas Albrecht (pictured far left), made a visit to **CSB** Kempas Learning Centre along with his colleagues on 20-21 November. Mr Albrecht met with stakeholders in Johor and also hosted a briefing session with the Johor refugee community. **CSB** looks forward to working with **UNHCR** on an exciting project coming soon to Johor. Thank you to Mr Albrecht and **UNHCR** team for making the visit.

www.unhcr.org/en-my

Preparing for Refugee Work Rights

In Malaysia, refugees have no legal status as there are no laws that define what their rights are. As a result of this, mothers and fathers cannot work legally to support their families. They find work in the informal sector, where the work is dirty, dangerous and difficult and where they are subject to exploitation. **UNHCR** has been advocating for refugee work rights for many years and in anticipation that employment may be legalised in the future, has funded a series of 'Work Preparedness' workshops for Rohingya refugees. **UNHCR** Partner, **JREC**, hosted the workshop at **CSB** Kempas from 6-7 December. As Rohingya refugees have never been included in the formal workforce, neither in Myanmar nor Malaysia, the workshops aim to deliver a basic understanding of Malaysian culture, and general rules, requirements and expectations of participating in formal employment.



"We need to stop thinking about refugees as people with needs and start talking about them as people with rights."

- Joanna Zimmerman
IIE South East Asia



Thank you to Fendi (pictured above left) from JREC for facilitating to the Workshop and to former CSB student Zaid (pictured above right) for his role as interpreter.



"Girls are one of the most powerful forces for change in the world: When their rights are recognized, their needs are met, and their voices are heard, they drive positive change in their families, their communities, and the world."

- KATHY CALVIN, UNITED NATIONS FOUNDATION PRESIDENT & CEO

Lasting Impact of Learning

To be successful in educating refugee children, it is essential to communicate and connect with their parents. When forced to flee conflict, education is usually impossible and thus non-existent. Once in a new country, finding employment is the priority. Over the years, **CSB** has formed close bonds with the refugee community in Johor and slowly parents are understanding the long-term benefits of prioritising education for their children's future, despite the obstacles. For **CSB** an important part of this process is holding Parent/Teacher meetings to share the children's progress and to showcase their learning. Founder and Executive Director, Mdm Soraya, shares a recent story: 'After closing for the school break, a student's father came by the school and asked for his school books so his son could revise during the school holidays. I was floored - I can see the mindset changing before my eyes. It's so wonderful to see our hard work having an impact amongst the community.'



Head Teacher of the Lower School, Ms Lulu Alkaff (right), meets with Parents during Parent/Teacher meetings.