

Message from Dato' Seri Kalimullah Hassan

Chairman
ECM Libra Foundation



I would like to express my sincere thanks to Mr Peter Yap, Chairman of Yayasan LaSallian Kuching for according me this honour to pen my message for this column.

I am pleased to note that ECM Libra Foundation has been a partner with YLK since 2010 and through this partnership we have been able to touch the lives of many through the tuition and learning programmes conducted by YLK. We are happy to note that our contribution has made a difference to these school going children.

As 2014 is drawing to a close, it is a good time to reflect on the past 12 months, on what we have done well and what next to aim for.

We are very pleased to note that YLK through the leadership of Peter and the committee has not only increased its outreach in 2014 with the opening of new centre at Entubuh, but has also been working hard to strengthen the daily operation of the centres, through every active and continuous contact with the individual centres and also bringing experts to Kuching to inspire the teachers. We also noted that new approaches have been explored using new techniques to enhance effectiveness of the children's learning.

It is also our belief that education should not be confined to just getting good grades and confined to the classroom. A good education system we think is one that encompasses the development of a person's leadership potential. We believe that leaders are made and not born and leadership skills can be built starting from young.

To this end ECM Libra Foundation has collaborated with Leaderonomics and Epsom College Malaysia to run a new leadership camp called the SPARK Leadership Programme starting this December and to be run on a yearly basis. This is a 10-day camp designed to provide leadership development to 100 under-privileged Malaysian youth from across the country. The participants, composed of youth aged 13-26 will be selected from all over Malaysia. All participants will be fully sponsored by ECM Libra Foundation and will be accommodated at Epsom's boarding houses in the outskirts of Kuala Lumpur during the duration of the programme. The leadership programme run by Leaderonomics will be experiential in nature and will help the participants develop their self-awareness, critical and creative thinking, communication skills and confidence.

As mentioned in our earlier dialogues, we are keen to help YLK students succeed beyond their primary school education. We are pleased to note that YLK has already reported successful students that have moved on to tertiary education and also delighted to hear that many students have come back to help other students in YLK's learning centres. We hope to welcome YLK students into the SPARK Leadership Programme in the near future and we also look forward to helping deserving students through their tertiary education through our ECM Libra Foundation student loans programme.

In conclusion, we hope that ECM Libra Foundation and YLK will continue to have a fruitful relationship to do our part for the underprivileged youth in this country. I would like to end my message by wishing all of you at YLK, all the students, their parents and teachers all the very best for 2015. We wish you every success and hope it will be another meaningful year ahead for all of you; Merry Christmas and Happy New Year.



ECM Libra Foundation celebrated its 10th Anniversary on 25.9.2014. Mr Peter Yap (Left) was invited to share how the financial and moral support from this foundation had benefited the students of YLK centres. After more than 10 years of educating the needy students in rural villages, now many of them are able to attend tertiary education locally and overseas. He thanked ECM Libra Foundation for its continual support.

YLK will continue to open up new centres to reach out to the marginalised students particularly in the remote area and at the same time not to lose sight of the importance of enriching and strengthening its manpower. More courses will be organised in order to empower them to educate students to live a holistic life.

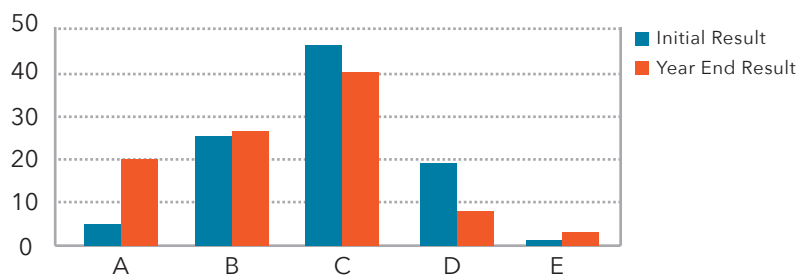
UPSR 2014 RESULTS OF YLK STUDENTS

2014 was another fruitful year for our UPSR students. The table and charts clearly show the improvement achieved in each subject.

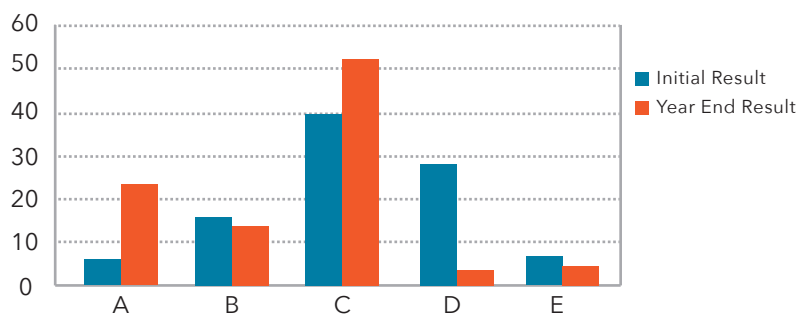
OVERALL ANALYSIS OF UPSR RESULTS 2014

Improvement in Grade	Subjects		
	English	Maths	Science
E to D		1	
E to C		3	2
D to C	8	20	12
D to B	1	5	3
D to A		1	
C to B	12	6	13
C to A	1	6	
B to A	11	7	6
Total no. of students who improved in Grades	33	44	36
Total no. of students who sat for UPSR	82	80	68
Percentage of improvement	40.24%	55.00%	52.90%

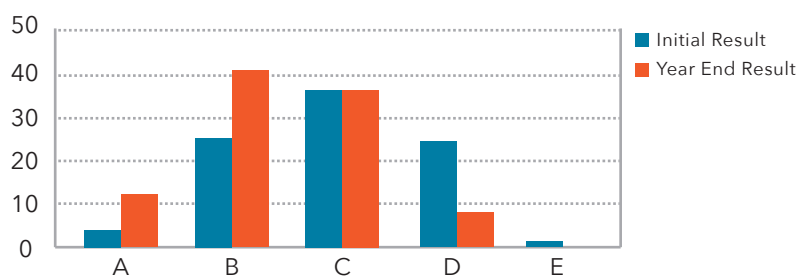
English



Maths



Science



Later Salle Centre, Mujat for 2015!



On 21.11.2014, Mr. Peter Yap and committee members held a dialogue with the Headmaster, Mr Juni Madi, the staff of SK St. Raymond Mujat, and members of JKKKK Kampung Mujat. With the co-operation given by the school, the Ketua Kaum and the local teachers, it becomes possible for YLK to render service to the needy students in this remote padi and oil palm village close to the border between Sarawak and Kalimantan.

On 8.6.2014, Ms Jill Salleh, one of our voluntary and zealous workers, was called home by the Lord. May her soul rest in peace.



Sarawak Timber Association (STA) has set aside RM1.39 million as financial contribution for scholarship, environmental care, community services this year. On 1.7.2014, Datuk Christopher Sim, Advisor of YLK and Mr Peter Yap, Chairman of YLK, were invited to witness their Presentation Ceremony. YLK was one of the recipients in the ceremony. Mr Peter Yap, received a mock cheque of RM15,000 from Pemanca Datuk Wong Kie Yik, the chairman of STA.



Advisor and committee members of YLK made a courtesy visit to our benefactor, Mr. David Goh (right). He is an old boy of Sacred Heart School who played rugby with Br Albinus during his good old days in school. Besides expressing gratitude for the opportunity to brief him on the progress of YLK, the Committee members also thanked him for his continuous support for YLK to help the poor and marginalised students to study more effectively.



Early July, Ms Malinda from LaSallian Foundation, Australia together with Bro Rogers visited our La Salle Centres. We believe that there are many areas which we can work hand in hand to benefit both the voluntary teachers and students.



2nd LaSallian Family Day on 08.11.2014 at a Kampung Stass



On 8.11.2014, a Saturday morning, two hundred participants comprising students, teachers, parents from all the La Salle Centres, Ketua Kaum and YLK committee members assembled at Dewan Serbaguna Kampung Stass to celebrate the 2nd annual LaSallian Family Day. The day started with the National Anthem followed by a welcoming dance performed by Stass' students. In between, we had speeches, English storytelling, entertainments, lucky draw and it ended up with a communal meal.



This year, Mr Stephen Lijong, Supervisor of La Salle Centre, Stass gathered the parents and teachers for a Gotong-Royong project which was very successfully carried out. (Photo on the Left) Mr Stephen welcoming the participants.

Mr Peter Yap, the chairman, stressed that YLK had gained the trust of the donors. Future development for YLK would include the provision of LCD projectors in our centres. Besides, YLK would provide guidance to help the needy to apply for scholarship. He anticipated a fruitful year based on the UPSR results. YLK will continue to work hand in hand with well-wishers and local villagers to operate more tuition centres to benefit the marginalised particularly in the remote villages. Last but not least, he expressed his gratitude to all those who made this day a success.



The LaSallian spirit burns brighter in this second annual family fellowship. Parents and teachers, with cheerful hearts, busy playing the role of mothers, preparing lunch for the big family.

Story-Telling Competition



Eliz Olivea telling a story entitled "Hard Work Brings Success"



Thresa Martina acting out the story, "The Boastful Mosquito"



The judges, headed by Mdm Tiong Siew Ing and assisted by Mr Taka and Mdm Rose Chua.



The story-telling competition was entertaining.



(Photo on the left) Student from each Centre who had improved the most in every field was given an award.

(Photo on the right) Students from La Salle Centre, St. Joseph's entertaining the crowd with songs.



Senator Datuk Professor Dr. Sim Kui Hian, an Old Boy of St. Joseph's, also found his way to the Family Day, gave a generous donation. (Photo below)



Happy moment for many who were the winners of the Lucky draw.



On 22.11.2014, our voluntary workers, Ms Dora Ak Athan and Agnes held sharing session with our facilitators. Their rich knowledge, experiences and humour had drawn much laughter and had benefited the participants. We believe that our facilitators are gaining more understanding on the world of our different learning ability students who are most of the time neglected in the school due to various reasons.



Before Br. Albinus' passing, he had invited Dr Jeffrey, a prominent Catholic Theologian, to conduct Christology course for YLK members and voluntary workers. He believed that the single mindedness of Christ to serve mankind at the cost of His life is the spirit which all voluntary workers had to acquire. This is the source of strength which can empower them to serve selflessly and unceasingly the needy in the field of education.

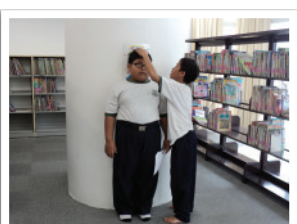
This year, Dr Jeffrey with his wife Angie managed to allocate part of their tight schedule to give a twelve lecture course on Christology to sixteen participants from April to September.

Pictures on top left to right: At the end of the course, on behalf of the attendees, Mr William Chong thanked them for their contribution; Ms Edwina Tham represented the class to give a token to Dr Jeffrey and Angie.



On 10.10.2014, YLK was invited to attend Sacred Heart School Alumni Kuching Annual Dinner. Pictures from left to right show 1) YLK voluntary workers and students sharing their wonderful experiences in La Salle Centres, 2) Mr. Joseph Chuo, President of the Alumni handing over donation to Mr Peter Yap, and 3) Voluntary workers helping to promote DVD pre-sale on the life & works of the late Br. Albinus.

Some interesting activities in La Salle Centre, St. Joseph's



On 29 September 2014, a group of 11 students and 5 facilitators went on their first exposure trip to the DBKU City Library. The students were briefed on the different sections of the library namely the fiction and the non-fiction books. They were divided into groups and were given worksheets to look for answers in the library. They were able to discuss and work together excitedly in groups.

They also learnt how to prepare a refreshing lime juice drink and enjoyed their own drink.

Then on 30 October, they had a mini tea party to mark the 4th anniversary of La Salle Centre, St. Joseph's and also the closing for this year's session.

Yayasan LaSallian Kuching (49-03-15)

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Educating the Least, the Lost and the Last; irrespective of Race, Creed and Religion.