

ISKUL SAMA DILAUT OMADAL

*To build young leaders among the local community
(Malaysian citizen and stateless) through holistic education*



Iskul E-News | July 2023

Dear <<First Name>> ,

Greetings from Iskul!

The path to the future on Omadal, is largely supported by you. A recent article in The Star highlights our story; check it out [here!](#)

We continued first aid services and made progress towards sustainable waste management practices. A new source of income for Iskul and stateless families has been piloted. For marine training, Reef Check focused on sustainable tourism, and diving courses were conducted. One of our funders visited to meet our ground team. Our co-founder spent two-weeks on Omadal to check in with students and the team and paid a courtesy visit to the District Officer. Keep reading for a more detailed look into all these activities!

Here's a rundown of what we've been up to

- As a community health initiative, we continue providing first aid attention. The students get cuts from seashells or fall over. This is one of the only medical resources available to stateless communities.



- Regarding waste management efforts, students now voluntarily bring trash from their homes to Pondok Iskul, which we dispose of during our biweekly grocery trips to Semporna. This habit is an important first step to sustainable trash management practices on the island.



- As a source of income for Iskul and students' families, mats are woven and turned into name tags to be sold. We are training one of our former Mastal Arikik for leadership in this initiative. She was involved in the logistics and accounts, training that empowers stateless women, letting them rely on themselves for income. Gratitude towards our partners Yayasan Gamuda and Wanita Pulau Omadal (WAPO).



- In the first week of July, our 4th Marine Module Training with Reef Check focused on sustainable tourism. This training teaches the rights and responsibilities of the tourism industry.



- On the 19th of July, we hosted two visitors from the National Democratic Institute (NDI). Their grant funds our mental health and marine training modules. They talked to our team and



- Marine knowledge continued with Open Water Diving Courses for Iskul staff and students. Our teachers and 9 students underwent certification, learning the basics facilitated by professional instructors. There was a theoretical lesson before moving into the waters with equipment. All four team members and three students passed the course. We are proud of them!



Our co-founder, Ee Chia spent two weeks on Omdal, where there were team building activities and conversations with our ground team.

However this visit served to discuss a larger purpose. Our team paid a courtesy Visit to the District Officer, Tuan Alexander Liew, who was welcoming our initiative.



During a meeting with relevant stakeholders, local authorities pointed out that we do not have the building permits, or paperwork from the Ministry of Education to run a school. As such, we have had to put a pause on our daily lessons.

Iskul is a community centre that serves stateless families, so students still gather every day for non-educational activities, and meals.

Here's to hope of quick recovery from this problem, and a brighter future for us all!

We at Iskul are working hard to rectify this issue, and any form of assistance from you, our donors, would be greatly appreciated. If you or anyone you could help us hasten the application process to the Ministry of Education, or have any legal expertise that would be useful, please do not hesitate to reach out to us.

We look forward to writing to you soon with more updates; thank you for being with us on this journey!

We thank you for your time and support. Magsukul!

The grants that support our operation and activities end by December this year. If our work resonates with you, please consider making a contribution to keep us going.

To build young leaders in Omadal, you can transfer to:

Bank: Public Bank

Account Number: 3-2165146-31

Account Name: Persatuan Pendidikan Bajau Laut

Please email a transfer receipt to info@iskul.my to let us know! Every bit of help makes all the difference to us!

With gratitude,
Iskul Team

Follow our social media for more real-time updates!



Copyright © 2023 Iskul Sama diLaut Omadal, All rights reserved.

Want to change how you receive these emails?
You can [update your preferences](#) or [unsubscribe from this list](#).

