

ISKUL SAMA DILAUT OMADAL

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



Iskul E-News Issue 7 || 3 July 2020

Dear <<NAME>>,

How Are You Adapting to the New Normal?

Iskul has returned to our routine with the new normal after on pause for 3 months! Read about how we prepare our Pondok Iskul and students for the new normal and new learning experience in the first part of this issue.

In this issue, we will also be sharing our reopening experience plus a throwback on the joy of celebrating our first batch students' graduation. Then we have a look at Iskul's impact evaluation 4 years on and end with an impression from Cikgu Jefry on his experience in the community during COVID-19 lockdown.

We hope you will enjoy reading this issue!

New Normal During RMCO: Iskul Reopens With COVID-19 SOP in Place

26 - 28 June 2020

As Malaysians usher into the **Recovery Movement Control Order (RMCO)**, Iskul rejoiced at the announcement that learning centres may reopen starting 24 June. Of course, we are not oblivious of the need to abide by the Standard Operating Procedure (SOP). Equipped with the official guidelines, the team in Omadal Island considered the steps that Iskul has to prepare to adhere to.



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The day before the classes, the team gathered to clean up the Pondok Iskul. This includes the classes, the kitchen, and the assembly space. The team is our full-time teacher, Cikgu Jefry, Field Coordinator

(FC), Khairul, Mastal Arikik (MA) Enidah and Delah, as well as Darwisa. Darwisa is one of our chef who prepares meals for students.

They also marked the spacing our students will need to adhere to at all times during lessons with tapes. With limited space within Pondok Iskul, we make the best we can to ensure our students and teachers' safety.

On the first day of class, our students queue up to sanitize their hands, before entering Pondok Iskul. We also ensured that the students are not feeling unwell. When gathered in the assembly space, the students were informed of the SOPs that has taken effect. We requested the students to stay within the marked boxes during lessons in Iskul. The chefs, who are the family member of our students, were also informed to ensure extra cleanliness at all times when preparing students' meal. Students were taught the proper method to wash hands before and after meals as well as after using the toilet.



The 2-day weekend classes had commenced very well as the students returned with the same enthusiasm and eagerness to learn. Cikgu Jefry, FC Khairul as well as MA Enidah and MA Delah were also very happy to welcome the students back. The mornings in Iskul is again filled with gaiety from our students!

Check Out Our Facebook Updates!

Throwback Pre COVID-19: Iskul's 1st Students' Convocation & Mastal Arikik's Appreciation Ceremony

23 February 2020

We have successfully organised our very first students' convocation and teacher appreciation ceremony, on the night of 23 February 2020. (*Majlis Konvokesyen Pelajar dan Penghargaan Mastal Arikik Iskul Sama DiLaut Omadal 2020*)

We celebrated 18 students who have completed their basic literacy learning. We also celebrated their parents who ensure that they attend classes every weekend. We are very proud of them for making learning a priority despite living in poverty!

For the first time, we held our official ceremony in a formal school, SK Pulau Omadal. Many thanks to its headmaster for allowing us to use their solar panel hall. What a spacious environment for our inaugural graduation ceremony! The MPKK of Pulau Omadal, Tn Hj Jimlan officiated our ceremony. As always, he encouraged our students and their parents to learn and be literate. He also continues to remind our students to avoid glue-sniffing addiction.



Our heart warmed when our student representative, Enidah courageously say a short sentence of gratitude in Bahasa Malaysia. She is currently one of our Mastal Arikik. Enidah also sang a song entitled, "Cinta Luar Biasa" during the closing performance. Oh, our hearts!

[Read the Blog & Watch the Performances here!](#)

Help us establish an:
EMPOWERMENT FUND FOR YOUTHS FROM THE STATELESS COMMUNITY
 RM 300/PAX/MONTH
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4 Years On: How Did Iskul Impact the Community?

After Iskul's [first assessment visit in 2016](#), we strived to collect yearly data. This is to measure the improvement and impact of these weekend lessons for our student. Our Field Coordinators are our main operation members ensuring that classes are conducted and test results are compiled accordingly. Otherwise, we would not have been able to produce this brief evaluation analysis.



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FIELD COORDINATOR IN TRAINING

ALLOWANCE: **RM 600/MONTH**

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We evaluated the progress of the 16 students who have joined Iskul since the beginning for 3 consecutive years from 2015-2018. The 16 students were given Test 1 in September 2016, Test 2 eight months after, followed by Test 3, a year later (March 2018).

Based on our observation, Iskul students have mastered basic numeracy. They are still weak in the Bahasa Malaysia language. Nonetheless, most of them have no problem understanding and engage in basic conversation in Bahasa Malaysia. Overall, we are pleased with the result considering the time they spent on learning. The actual time our 16 students spent on a normal schooling period is only less than 4 months. The greatest outcome is that two of our students from this test have now become Mastal Arikik (MA). They now teach the new batch of students.

[Find Out How Our Students Improved Over the Years!](#)

Reflection from the Field: Cikgu Jefry Musa

Just one month into his commencement in Iskul, our full-time teacher, Cikgu Jefry's teaching experience took a different meaning as Malaysia was placed under Movement Control Order (MCO) starting 18 March 2020. Classes were postponed until recently and for the three months spent living in Omodal Island, he has a first-hand understanding of the reality on the ground for the local community, especially the stateless community in Omodal Island.

Cikgu Jefry made home visits to observe the dire situation of the community who lives from hand to mouth. He has hosted a few students who came starving because their parents have run out of money to purchase food supplies. This stateless community is not eligible for any government aids and is expected to feed for themselves in times of the global health crisis.

Coming into the RMCO, he has penned down personal thoughts.

[Read About Cikgu Jefry's Experience during MCO](#)



Help us support Cikgu Jefry:

FULL-TIME TEACHER

EDUCATION & TRAINING EXECUTIVE

ALLOWANCE: **RM 1,600/MONTH**

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[Read Iskul's Brief Report on COVID-19 Relief Distribution](#)

Last but not least, this global health crisis that hit hard on many of us have allowed us to further reflect on our approach in serving these marginalised community. We learned to find opportunities to assist the community despite facing implementation challenges. The stateless community has no privilege to amenities such as healthcare, sanitation and government aids. These are now an even more urgent issue to tackle.

Iskul will continue to ensure that we provide literacy to the stateless children and we are also looking into bringing improvement to the state of living of the stateless community. The team has reflected on the plans forward and is working to gather resources to make things happened.

In the meantime, stay tuned as we hope to return with positive news to share!

#KitaJagaKita

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