

## Back-to-school cheer for three schools in Engkilili

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(From left) Rotary Club Kuching Central IPP Ng Yaw Hua, chairman of JKKK Langkang Ili TR Ruekeith Jampong, William Nyalau, Dr Johnical Rayong, Louis, James Andrew Janggi of District Education Office and Principal of SK Ijok Rabling during the handover ceremony of 'Back to School' items at SK Ijok.

KUCHING: The Year of the Monkey (2016) is almost ending and as the new year approaches for the school-going, this means it is time to go back to school.

As part of the 'Back to School' 2016 programme, Rotary Club Kuching Central (Rotary International District 3310) in collaboration with Yayasan Sime Darby has distributed brand new school items to about 130 primary school students of three schools SK Ijok, SK Basi and SK Merbong in Engkilili on Dec 18.

"The total cost for the 'Back To School' programme was RM80,000 and it was fully funded by Yayasan Sime Darby. We are the local partner in implementing this project," said service project chair of Rotary Club Kuching Central Louis Yong after Rotary Club Kuching Central's weekly meeting at Riverside Majestic Hotel here on Dec 24.

The school items in Engkilili were presented during an officiating ceremony of SK Ijok school hall cum pre-Christmas celebration officiated by Engkilili assemblyman Dr Johnical Rayong Ngipa and Lubok Antu MP Datuk William Nyalau.

The programme is part of Yayasan Sime Darby's Sinar Harapan community programme in the form of sustainable assistance projects to help students in rural communities.

Besides the three schools in Engkilili, the 'Back To School' programme also benefited 802 students from 18 different schools in Sarawak.

"All 18 schools from rural areas were chosen by our club whereby this project is to help less fortunate parents with their children's school needs," said Louis, adding that among the items given to students included uniforms, shoes and socks, bags and stationery.

Among the schools that have received the 'Back To School' items programme are 10 schools in Sarikei, two in Simunjan, two in Serian and one school in Bau.

The 'Back To School' 2016 programme was the second project by the Rotary Club Kuching Central in Engkilili District, the first one being the solar lighting system for the longhouse Rh Amut at Langkang Ili in 2015.

According to Rotary Club Kuching Central president Clarence Yong Tze Hien, they will be making a visit to SJK Chung Hua Keranji on Dec 29 which is among the 18 schools under the programme to hand out school items to students.

To continue helping students of rural communities, Louis added that the Rotary Club Kuching Central will be organizing a charity run on Feb 26 next year to raise funds to provide school kits for selected students from poor families of urban as well as rural communities.

Besides that, the fund collected will also be used to supplement their numerous activities in 2017 such as cataract remedy or operations for low income-group in Sarawak rural areas in association with the Ministry of Health's Ophthalmology Department and also providing solar lighting system for rural longhouse and communities in Kanowit and Bintulu areas.

The run aimed for a total registration of 300 participants where each will receive a designed dry fit 'Ultron' t-shirt upon signing up and a medal upon completion of the run.

Registration fees for the 2km and 5km run are RM50 and RM80 for 8km. Those interested may register online at <http://www.kuchingcentralrotary.org/rotaryrun2017>

In line with its objective of "Doing Good In The World," Rotary Club Kuching Central has completed several projects in the past years including 400 cataract operations costing RM180,000, renovating community halls in three villages in Simunjan areas worth RM135,000 and organizing numerous youth camps and international youth exchange programmes.

Chartered on Dec 23 1986, RCKC celebrated its 30th anniversary on Dec 23.



(From left) Past president of the Rotary Club Kuching Central Thomas Ngu, Clarence, assistant governor of District 3310 Leslie Phuan and Louis showing the Charity Run poster. This service is provided on BorneoPost online standard [Policies and Conditions](#). Copyright 2010-2015 BorneoPost Online. All Rights Reserved.