

OCBC BANK STAFF RAISE RM120,000 TO REFURBISH 95-YEAR-OLD ALOR GAJAH SCHOOL

Alor Gajah (Melaka), 13 August 2019 – About 150 OCBC Bank staff from both Malaysia and Singapore recently made their way to Melaka to help upgrade a 95-year-old school in Alor Gajah that was in urgent need of refurbishment.

The Bank staff raised RM120,000 through food fairs and personal contribution before putting on their worker's suits and getting their hands dirty, literally, in their quest to upgrade the school, SJK (C) Peng Min. SJK (C) Peng Min's students come mainly from lower income families.

In previous years, the Bank staff got together to upgrade other schools in various parts of the country.

Led by senior management staff Mr Lim Khiang Tong, Head



OCBC Bank staff volunteers painting the school walls

of Group Operations & Technology, OCBC Group; and Mr Lim Yau Seong, Head of Operations and Technology, OCBC Bank (Malaysia) Berhad, the bankers set out on their annual community development initiative with little construction know-how but plenty of enthusiasm.



As part of OCBC Bank's growing emphasis on environmental-friendliness and sustainability, its staff volunteers were eager to plant trees at the school compound

The staff volunteers, who were guided by professionals, contributed their labour by working to improve the school's facilities including repainting of the school walls, doors, grills, courts, and canteen tables and benches.

Other upgrading works included replacing the roof of the school's canteen as well as structures that were damaged by termites, cleaning the store room and repairing the cement floors.

Among the items contributed by the Bank to the school and its students were desks and chairs, sports equipment, cabinets as well as stationery.

Commenting on the initiative, Mr Lim Yau Seong said it had become an annual exercise for him and his colleagues to help to upgrade schools in dire need of refurbishment.

“I’m pleased to say my colleagues worked hard for the betterment of the school children here with a conscious aim to make the school compound more conducive for learning. The biggest reward is always in seeing the school look so different following our efforts and the smiles on the faces of the students,” he said.



The 150 OCBC staff who joined the CSR programme

In thanking OCBC Bank for its efforts, SJK (C) Peng Min principal Mr Yoong Choong Shen said the school is grateful to the Bank for not just raising the funds to make the facilities improvement programme possible but also putting in the efforts personally.

“We are thankful to the OCBC Bank staff who came in large numbers to help us upgrade the school and make it a much better place for us to conduct lessons,” he said.

Mr Lim Yau Seong added that he felt blessed seeing the staff working closely together as a team as they immersed themselves in activities unfamiliar to most bankers.

“Some of us came with some experience in building-related projects through our annual OCBC Operations & Technology community development activities in other locations such as Bandung (Indonesia), Kota Bharu, Sepang, Bentong and Pulau Betong in Penang, Sitiawan in Perak but we all still have a lot to learn and that includes the finer points

of collaboration, teamwork and understanding that goes into getting things done well at settings like this. At the end of the day, it was all truly worthwhile and we certainly had lots of fun amidst the hard work,” he added.

About OCBC Bank

OCBC Bank is the longest established Singapore bank, formed in 1932 from the merger of three local banks, the oldest of which was founded in 1912. It is now the second largest financial services group in Southeast Asia by assets and one of the world’s most highly-rated banks, with an Aa1 rating from Moody’s. Recognised for its financial strength and stability, OCBC Bank is consistently ranked among the World’s Top 50 Safest Banks by Global Finance and has been named Best Managed Bank in Singapore by The Asian Banker.

OCBC Bank and its subsidiaries offer a broad array of commercial banking, specialist financial and wealth management services, ranging from consumer, corporate, investment, private and transaction banking to treasury, insurance, asset management and stockbroking services.

OCBC Bank’s key markets are Singapore, Malaysia, Indonesia and Greater China. It has more than 570 branches and representative offices in 19 countries and regions. These include about 300 branches and offices in Indonesia under subsidiary Bank OCBC NISP, and over 90 branches and offices in Hong Kong, China and Macau under OCBC Wing Hang.

OCBC Bank’s private banking services are provided by its wholly-owned subsidiary Bank of Singapore, which operates on a unique open-architecture product platform to source for the best-in-class products to meet its clients’ goals.

OCBC Bank's insurance subsidiary, Great Eastern Holdings, is the oldest and most established life insurance group in Singapore and Malaysia. Its asset management subsidiary, Lion Global Investors, is one of the largest private sector asset management companies in Southeast Asia.

OCBC Bank offers Islamic banking products and services in Malaysia through its wholly-owned subsidiary, OCBC Al-Amin Bank Berhad.

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