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# New equipment enhance training

**HOLISTIC EDUCATION:** Teachers and students at SM Pendidikan Khas Vokasional Indahpura benefit from the Caltex Fuel Your School community campaign

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“WE cannot use the chalk-and-talk method with hearing-impaired students,” said SM Pendidikan Khas (SMPK) Vokasional Indahpura language department senior teacher Najiha Jimirin, who’s clearly passionate about giving the best to her students.

“An interactive white board in the classroom will let students communicate better with the teacher during lessons,” she said after receiving the white board for her project in the language category, entitled Teacher I Love You in Cycle 2 of the Caltex Fuel Your School community campaign.

In the science category, Noorazah Razali received two units of LCD projectors, two units of digital microscopes and a printing machine for her class in the Constructive Science project.

A host of equipment including desk mercury sphygmomanometers (blood pressure measuring equipment), digital microscope, stethoscopes and an LCD projector was presented to Rohaya Mohd Hatta for her Little Clinic project.

Funding for projects came from the Caltex Fuel Your School Fund where Caltex had pledged RM1 for every purchase of RM40 or more at Johor’s 69 participating Caltex stations, up to a minimum of RM315,000 last month.

The public was also invited to contribute directly to classroom projects of their choice by donating online at [www.mykasih.com](http://www.mykasih.com) or emailing to [CaltexFYS@mykasih.com](mailto:CaltexFYS@mykasih.com)

Caltex Fuel Your School, a social investment initiative by Caltex, in collaboration with MyKasih Foundation, is endorsed by the Ministry of Education.

Based on the success of the pilot project in schools in Penang, the campaign had been expanded to schools in Johor and Kedah, where teachers were encouraged to engage students who excelled in core subjects in innovative projects.

Educators in both the states submitted proposals and requested for materials and resources worth up to RM5,000 to enhance students’ competency in Science, Technology, English and Mathematics (STEM).

In this community campaign, RM210,000 in funds were allocated to public schools in Johor for 42 projects and RM105,000 for 21 projects in Kedah.

To encourage greater community participation,

some of the classroom projects were posted on the Caltex Fuel Your School Facebook page and awards for the projects were given out in weekly cycles based on the highest number of Facebook “Likes.”

In each cycle, only 12 schools in Johor were shortlisted and the teachers of SMPK Vokasional Indahpura were overjoyed when the three projects they submitted were selected.

Situated in Kulajaya, the school is the 32nd special education school to be established in the nation for disabled students from all over the country to be given holistic education to hone their skills not only in their chosen vocation but also in music, sports and religious studies.

It is a Pusat Bertauliah, a centre commissioned to teach Sijil Kemahiran Malaysia or SKM vocational courses in computer graphic designing,

and hair and facial beauty care to the hearing impaired, foot reflexology to the visually impaired, and hotel room housekeeping, hotel laundry, kitchen help, hairdressing and beauty care skills to the disabled.

The course content includes vocational training, visual arts as well as computer literacy and academic subjects, and all graduates are evaluated by Pegawai Pentaksir Luar or External Appraisal Officers.

School principal Mariani Mohd Saad congratulated her teachers for their creativity and successfully participating in the project.

She said the students’ learning process will be greatly enhanced with the use of the new equipment.

Senior administrative assistant Zaidah Mahadi said the teachers and students thanked Caltex and MyKasih Foundation and enclosed photos of them making use of the equipment in their lessons.

In a tour of the school premises, Caltex and MyKasih Foundation staff had a glimpse of the Reflexology Edu-Tourism One Stop Centre to trained students in foot reflexology, facial, hairdressing, manicure and pedicure.

Students were given the opportunity to practice their skills and manage the centre as business enterprise. This is to train them to manage their own businesses after they graduate if they chose to do so. The centre is open to the public from 8am to 2pm on Thursdays and Fridays and it is by

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appointment only.

Upstairs, several classrooms have been converted into deluxe rooms and suites with en suite bathrooms resembling a hotel for student to practice cleaning the rooms and making up beds.

A fully-functional laundry allows students to take in laundry from customers.

The school equips youths with disabilities with

marketable and social skills and teach them to live independently as they gain confidence during their training.

The school welcomes visitors from government departments and non-governmental organisations. For more details and enquiries, call 07-662 5625/22, fax 07-662 5623, or visit [www.smp-kvip.blogspot.com](http://www.smp-kvip.blogspot.com)



*SMPK Vokasional Indahpura students at the equipment presentation event.*



*Music teacher Mohd Ddzyauddin Md Yusoff (in a blue shirt) guiding a gamelan band during a practice session.*



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*Najiha Jimirin (standing, fourth from right) with the interactive white board which will improve the learning process of hearing-impaired students.*



*Caltex and MyKasih Foundation staff with SMPK Vokasional Indahpura teachers and students at the Caltex Fuel Your School award event.*



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**A hair-dressing student washes the hair of a dummy.**  
 Pix by Peggy Loh



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Student **beauticians** set up their workstations together.



Students with **learning disabilities** attending a beautician course.



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*A teacher helps hearing-impaired students to follow the event better using **sign language**.*



*Students attending to customers at the **Reflexology Edu-Tourism One-Stop Centre**.*