Positive SLP activities key to schools’ success

Minister visits Datu Ahmad Primary School

By Jamsie Kari

This week, Minister of Education was on an inspection tour of schools nationwide to ensure that they are up to the mark. The minister visited the School Leadership Programme, which promotes excellence in teaching and learning. He also visited Datu Ahmad Primary School in Sembilan, where he encouraged the students to continue their good work.

Raya cheer for orphans

Over 2,000 receive donations in 3 districts

By Rosnah Matnun and Liza Mohamed

The Minister of Education visited the students demonstrating the push and pull factor in a science classroom.
GCA looks to support 2035 education mission

By Danial Norjidi

GROUP Colleges Australia (GCA) Sydney has voiced its intention to help strengthen Brunei’s private sector through human resource development by focusing and investing in the education infrastructure.

The announcement was made during a press conference organised by the Australian Trade Commission (Austrade) at the Australian High Commission yesterday.

Mr Gerard Newcombe, Marketing Director of GCA Sydney, echoed the recent Titah of His Majesty the Sultan and Yang Di-Pertuan of Brunei Darussalam, which called for improvements to be made in the aforementioned field through the investment in education infrastructure.

Mr Newcombe is here in Brunei on a two-day visit facilitated by Austrade to explore various options in equipping Bruneian students with the vital skills and knowledge sensitive to the needs of society.

“GCA is here to support and assist the country in providing the appropriate human resource training and development and to assist the country in providing the appropriate human resource training and development in order to produce educated and highly skilled Bruneians, which will in turn open up more job opportunities in the private sector and thus realise the nation’s 2035 education mission for quality education towards a developed, peaceful and prosperous nation,” he said.

“GCA is a well-established, professional Registered Training Organisation (RTO) that provides support services to educational and associated institutions, such as Marketing, Financial and Technological support services,” Mr Newcombe explained.

For more than 33 years, GCA has been launching careers and playing host to 5,000 Australian and International students from Southeast Asia, the Middle East, South America, Central Europe, Pakistan and India.

According to Austrade, GCA is an education consortium consisting of three major colleges: UIC Sydney, Central College and Metro English College, all of which provide quality education to both international and domestic student markets in Australia.

Courses offered at these colleges include academic and general English courses, IELTS preparation, certificates, diplomas and advanced diplomas for vocational education such as information technology, tourism, accounting business and multimedia, and Bachelor degree programmes in accounting and business are also offered.

During the press conference, Mr Newcombe also highlighted its ‘Moodle’ online learning platform, electronic library facilities and learning systems that are accessible to students at their own convenience.

“It is essential for all students to have easy access to information as we are in constant pressure to acquire the most recent information in order to be abreast in the competitive work environment,” he said.

“GCA differentiates itself from other colleges by providing tailored programmes specific to student needs.

“In fact, students are offered supplementary courses such as Business Ethics, Business English and CV preparation free of change in order to provide them with practical tools to face actual work environments,” he added.

Last Monday, Mr Newcombe, accompanied by Austrade Senior Business Development Manager Josie Abdullah, had a meeting with the Ministry of Education (MoE).

According to Mr Newcombe, the MoE expressed interest in engaging with GCA to conduct IELTS preparation courses for Vocational and Technical Education instructors who want to strengthen their English language proficiency for further career development.

He said that in line with the new requirement of the Brunei government to have IELTS at a score of 6.0 or above, GCA can offer a means of achieving such a target by having the students do their IELTS either in Australia or online.

Mr Newcombe has also met with key education providers as well as private institutes to seek their interest in possible education collaborations in the near future.

He said one of the possible collaborators/private institutions was Laksamana College of Business and several education agents.

Mr Wes Knight, the Acting High Commissioner of Australia, was also present at yesterday’s press conference.

This is Mr Newcombe’s first visit to Brunei and he said that he was awed by the peaceful serenity of the country as well as the friendliness and politeness of its people.

RBPFS awards top notch students, hands over Raya gifts to departments

By Azlan Othman

THE offspring of Royal Brunei Police Force personnel who passed their recent major examinations with flying colours were yesterday acknowledged in a ceremony that coincided with the handing over of Raya gifts to departments, formations, stations and units of the force.

Commissioner of Police Pehin Orang Raya Haji Endro Alam Dato Paduka Siti Hj Hafiz bin Dato Paduka Hj

GERARD GRAHAM

Mr GCA looks to support 2035 education mission