

SALAM Children's Home Newsletter July 2007

Firstly an exciting bit of news: we have been nominated by the Indonesian Social Department for the award: Best Children's Home in Bali!.. Well the last two months have just flown by and we are now about to head into a new school year. Vacation is almost over and the kids are getting ready to get back to their studies. We have 11 new children joining us this year so there is a lot of work that will need to be done to prepare the new kids for their life here at the Children's Home.



As of right now we have 4 out of these 11 kids sponsored and the government wants to place another child in a desperate situation with us as well. This would make a total of **12 new kids here at SALAM this year**. If you would be interested in sponsoring one of these new children please contact us. The cost associated with keeping one child well fed, clothed and educated at SCH is 450 000Rp per month (approximately \$60.00AUD/ less than \$50.00 USD).

We are proud to say that all of our kids passed their final exams. This means that the prayers for our ten graduating kids were answered. Thank you so much for your support that allowed these kids to graduate from high school and have a fair chance in life. This would have been unimaginable to them before they came here for assistance.

Almost all of our kids ranked in the top 10 of their class. Three of our kids made it into the top 3 of their class. Yogi placed 3rd in his 5th year elementary class, Wayan placed 1st in his 11th year high school class and Fitri placed 1st in her 7th year middle school class.

Just last week Bali had it's annual State Sports Competition in Klungkung. Anybody who is a resident of Bali can partake in the events and they have a chance at winning some great cash prizes. Seven of our kids entered into the competition - 5 in boxing, 1 in Mountain Climbing, and 1 in the 10km and 5km



aces. This year Mike took home a 3rd place trophy in Boxing. The kids have already started training for the upcoming 2009 competition right here in Tabanan.

Also in sporting news Adam won 3rd place in the 5km run with the state school competition in June. He was very excited about it and is getting ready to go to Java to participate in athletics there.

The kids had a taste of the fish from our aquaponics system and have now been eating away at the chillies! It seems the system is a big hit. We planted some tomato seedlings last month and they are already over a meter high now and starting to fruit. We have had a few new additions on the agricultural side. We have taken on a couple of pigs to help us deal with waste from the kitchen as well as some chickens to help clean up the rice and all the bugs.

Please continue to pray for the process of restructuring our non profit status license as it is a real challenge to do these types of tasks in this country. Conflicting information causes huge problems.

As was stated in our last newsletter our most pressing need as always is for increased funding to SALAM Children's Home. The price of petrol has almost trebled in Indonesia within the last two years, so groceries, utilities and almost everything else has increased in price. Food, education and medical expenses make up a huge percentage of Indonesians' annual income as compared to that of people in the west. SCH is not exempt from these costs. Please spread the word about our need for sponsorship. (See our website's link on sponsorship for more information).



Warmest regards,

Jonathan and Meri Ford (onsite operations), and Matthew and Alicia Trevatt
for SCH Steering Committee.

Please visit our website at www.salambali.com for bimonthly updates on SCH
If you do not wish to receive this newsletter please send us an email and we will have you removed from our contact list.