

PHUKET HAS BEEN GOOD TO US



Newsletter

May
2024



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- Thank you to our sponsors



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UPDATE FROM PHUKET

At the beginning of May, as Thai schools prepare to open for the new academic year, we look back on the last term. In RPG 36 Kamala School, our qualified teachers continued to teach English classes together with integrated Mathematics and Science in English for FREE to disadvantaged students aged 7 to 12 in Primary Years 1 to 6.



Without our support, none of these children would have access to an English-speaking teacher.

Our teachers and volunteers also continued to run the afterschool Coconut Club at Kamala School for children aged 6 to 18 who have to live at school during term time due to their family circumstances.

In 2023 the Chicorée Foundation funded extensive renovations to Baan Kalim School which were completed in November 2023. Since then, the Chicorée Foundation has sponsored two PHBGU teachers to teach English to all 280 students aged 2 to 12 in Kalim School: Teacher Melody has been teaching Primary Years 1 - 6 and Trainee Teacher, Pearl, has been teaching Kindy 1 – Kindy 3.

We are hugely grateful to Thomas Brack and the Chicorée Foundation, founded by Mr Jörg Weber and his family, for their commitment to the children's education. We are delighted to return to Kalim School where, thanks to the support of Baan Rim Pa Restaurant, PHBGU had taught English from 2005 until the pandemic in 2020.

**If you are able to help support our work
PLEASE contact Tina Hall at: Tina@phukethasbeengoodtous.org**



CLASSROOM UPDATES



Primary Year 1

The changes for these students as they transitioned from Kindergarten to Primary Year 1 are enormous. Just last school year in Kindy 3 they were sitting on the floor and having afternoon naps. Now, in P1 they are being asked to sit at a desk and focus from 8.00am to 4.30pm and how well they have adjusted! Their PHBG TU teachers are delighted with their maturity and progress; we know they have bright futures ahead of them!



Primary Year 2

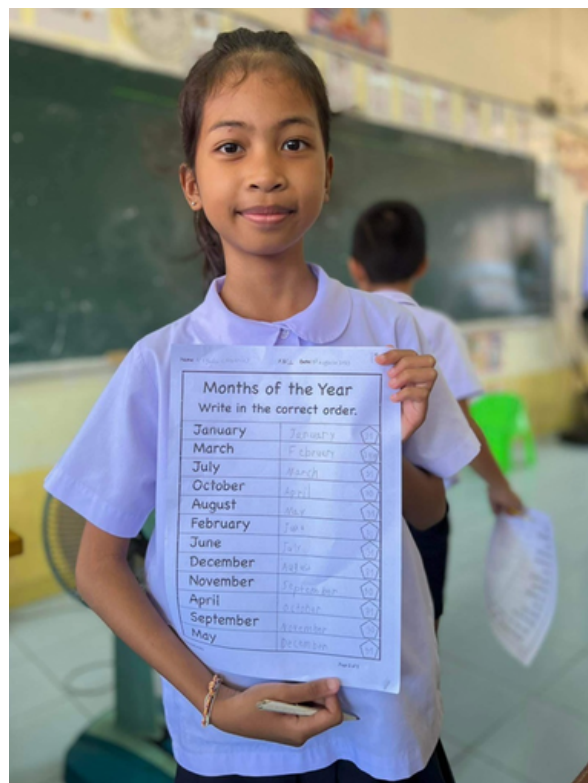
These 8 year old students are tackling their tasks with a competitive spirit, aiming for both speed and accuracy. It's incredible to see their determination in action. One of the most challenging concepts we introduced them to in their PHBG TU English classes last term was the importance of punctuation. This is difficult for Thai students to grasp, as written Thai has no punctuation or capitalization. However, the students embraced this new learning enthusiastically, demonstrating their adaptability and commitment to enhancing their language skills. We can't wait to see the amazing things they will accomplish next academic year!



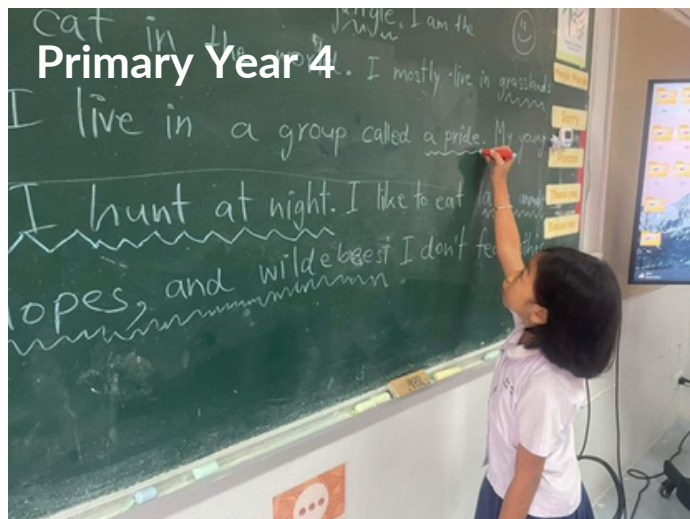
Primary Year 3



The Primary Year 3 students enjoyed interactive lessons last term. With the aid of songs and actions they learned how to use "in" "at," "on," "of," and "to". They also expanded their English vocabulary to include months of the year, forms of transportation and hobbies. By practicing blending words their reading improved a great deal. They upgraded their writing abilities and can now write simple sentences about themselves and their classmates. They practiced conversations with their peers and their confidence and ability to speak in English progressed significantly.



Primary Year 4



The P4 students have focused on enhancing their communication skills by incorporating new vocabulary into their daily conversations. They have shown increased confidence in initiating conversations and actively engaging in discussions. Their exploration of topics, such as wild animals and sports, has sparked their curiosity. We have had thoughtful discussions about the impact of human activities on animals' habitats and the significance of sports in their lives. This intellectual curiosity, together with an ability to connect past learning, demonstrate significant improvements in their critical thinking skills.



We were thrilled to see how eager and engaged our P5 students were last term, learning important topics like how to properly use a dictionary. They enthusiastically dived into the world of geometry, with their geometry sets in hand thanks to kind donors! The students also had engaging lessons on subjects such as various forms of energy and ways they can contribute to helping the planet.



P6 students showed a new maturity in their English classes last term. A key factor contributing to their success has been their innate curiosity and growing confidence in actively searching for solutions independently before seeking help, strengthening their independent thinking abilities and stimulating their imagination. They enhanced their English language skills and learned interesting topics such as different weather patterns and worldwide destinations. They also explored directions, learning outside the classroom with compasses in hand thanks to kind donors. At the end of term, they enjoyed a trip to the Marine Biological Center at the Hyatt Regency Phuket Resort, learning about the diverse ecosystems surrounding Kamala Beach and why we need to reduce plastic waste to protect marine animals. Their PHBG TU teachers are confident that these students are prepared for a smooth transition to high school.

COCONUT CLUB

Our after-school Coconut Club is open to over 250 residential students who have to live at school during term time due to family circumstances. Coconut Club offers a safe and creative environment, where the children can build self-confidence and practice their spoken English. The Club gives their PHBGTOU teachers the opportunity to establish a stronger rapport with the students outside the classroom. Their teachers are able to understand their needs further, allowing them to help them more effectively with their studies.



The children enjoy outdoor sports sessions with skateboarding and badminton as well as skipping competitions and Twister. Coconut Club Cooking is lots of fun; the children showing their creative skills with cupcake decoration and pizza and sandwich making. English number BINGO continues to be a firm favourite thanks to the kindly donated prizes. It is wonderful to see the children enjoying themselves and developing social and artistic talents.



Thank you to our volunteers for joining the weekly sessions, friends of the Foundation for continuing to give birthday gifts and school supplies, Mike and Kim for the monthly parcels from Australia and so many kind supporters for giving pre-loved clothing, books, LEGO and badminton equipment.



PLEASE HELP - SPONSOR A CHILD

An annual donation of just THB 10,000 provides the funding for one student to receive a full year of English education and fun Coconut Club activities!



Umareen

There are over 250 students aged 6 to 18 living at Kamala School. Umareen, (nickname Khaomao) is one of those children. She misses her mother, but the school provides a safe environment for her to live and study. Khaomao works hard in class and is doing well with her English studies. She also loves to attend PHBG TU's after-school Coconut Club. Sports, number bingo and computer lab are top of her favorite sessions. Your sponsorship can help to give Khaomao and her friends a brighter future.

PLEASE HELP - MAKE A DONATION

Bank name: Siam Commercial Bank - Patong Branch

SWIFT Code: SICOTHBK

Savings A/C Name: Phuket Has Been Good To Us Foundation

Savings A/C #: 601-2-71944-7



PLEASE HELP - PURCHASE SUPPLIES

- Large strong standing fans for class
- A durable laminator
- Ink for after-school computer lab: Epson 001 M, C, Y & BK
- Future board and card stock
- A4 photocopy paper
- A5 lined workbooks
- Electric pencil sharpeners

If you would like to help offer children like Umareen a better future, please contact Tina Hall at: Tina@phukethasbeengoodtous.org



WE RUN TWO FUNDRAISING EVENTS A YEAR

The Melbourne Cup Brunch - 7th November 2023

The Hyatt Regency Phuket Resort kindly hosted a fabulous brunch and fashion show at Casa Boho. Attended by 50 elegantly dressed guests.

There were Live Auction prizes kindly donated by 5 Star Marine, InterContinental Maldives Maamunagau Resort and The Orchards Niseko by MnK Resorts as well as silent auction and raffle prizes from our kind donors listed below:



Silent Auction Prizes

Andara Resort & Villas	1 night in a 2 bedroom Terrace Suite for 4 inc breakfast
Albatross Cafe and Terrace at Laguna Phuket	A 1,500 baht voucher
Avista Grande Phuket Karon - M Gallery	3 course dinner for 2 at CHARD Grill at Avista Grande Karon
Banyan Tree Phuket	1 night in a Banyan Pool Villa for 2 inc breakfast
Cape Siena	2 nights in a Deluxe room for 2 inc breakfast
Coach Handbag	Kindly donated by Celia Garcia
Danny B Creative Intuition	Handmade necklace with fresh orange water pearls and Murano crystals
Endless Summer by Mona	Raya Dress and Pakarang Necklace
Hyatt Regency Hua Hin & The Barai	2 nights in a Hyatt Guestroom for 2 inc breakfast at Figs Restaurant
Hyatt Regency Phuket Resort	1 night for 2 inc breakfast
InterContinental Hotel Phuket	2 guests receive 1 night in a Classic Room for 2 inc breakfast
Le Meridien Phuket Beach Resort	2 nights in a Deluxe Ocean View Room for 2 inc breakfast
Millennium Hilton Bangkok	2 nights in an Executive Room with lounge access for 2
My Beach Resort Phuket, Panwa	1 night in a Premier Seaview Room
Novotel Phuket Kata Avista Resort & Spa	2 nights in a Superiour Garden View Room for 2 inc breakfast
Ornamental Vases	Kindly donated by Carol and John Dux
Ourvillas.co	3 days 2 nights in a Beachfront Residence 2-bedroom pool villa exc breakfast
Ourvillas.co Apsara Spa	A Rejuvenating Package voucher
Paresa	A 2,500 baht voucher for Talung Thai Restaurant
Park Hyatt Siem Reap	1 night in a Park View Room for 2 inc breakfast
Pizza on Fire at Canal Village.	A 1,500 baht voucher
Pullman Phuket Arcada Karon Beach Resort	2 nights in a Delux Room for 2 inc breakfast
Seeds of Change	A handmade XL Elephant
Sole Mio Boutique Hotel & Wellness	2 nights in a Deluxe Room for 2 inc breakfast
Sole Mio Clinic	A 5,000 baht voucher
The Kee Resort & Spa	1 night in a Seaview Suite for 2 inc breakfast
The Slate	3 days 2 nights in a Pearl Bed Suite inc daily breakfast at Tin Mine Restaurant and a dinner at Black Ginger
Zsiska	Colourful handmade jewellery for mature women

Casa Boho Fashions on the Field

Best Hat - A 3,000 baht Spa voucher for Hyatt Regency Phuket
 Best Dressed Lady - A 2,000 baht voucher for Baan Rim Pa Restaurant
 Best Suited Gentleman - A 3,000 baht F&B voucher for Hyatt Regency Phuket
 Best Dressed Couple - A Sunset tour for 2 with La Moet & Phuket Champagne Cruises

Raffle Prizes

2Birds Co Ltd	A 1,000 baht discount on your next tour booking
69 Slam	2 x a 4,000 baht voucher
A&B Cafe	A jar of gluten free cookies
Andamanda Waterpark	2 complimentary passes
Avista Hideaway M Gallery	3 course chefs special dinner for 2 at Indian restaurant Tambu
Baan Rim Pa Restaurant	3 x a 1,000 baht voucher
Burasari Phuket Resort & Spa	1 night in an Elite Room for 2 inc breakfast
Chem Hair Stylist	10 x a hair cut or treatment
El Goucho Argentinian Steakhouse	2 x a 2,000 baht voucher
Garcinia Tea from Kamala	6 x Garcinia and Butterfly Tea
Good Drop Water	2 guests receive a bottle of wine
Handmade and Home Decoration	5 x a 2,000 baht voucher
La Moet & Phuket Champagne Cruises	The Cruise tour for 2
Mid-Air Circus Arts	5 x Double vouchers for Flying Trapeze Lessons
Millionaire Burgers Surin Beach	4 guests each receive a voucher
Ourvillas.co	5 x 3,000 baht vouchers for Four Seasons Coconut Chicken Meal
Ourvillas.co Apsara Spa	5 x Relaxing Spa Package vouchers
Ourvillas.co Apsara Spa	4 x Rejuvenating Package vouchers
Ourvillas.co Apsara Spa	5 x 120 min Apsara Hot Oil Massage
Tops Wine Cellar Laguna	A voucher
Yoga Republic	A 5 class pass voucher
Zsiska	2 x colourful handmade jewellery for mature women

Thanks to our generous donors, the event raised THB 400,000.



FUNDRAISING EVENTS CONT.

International Women's Day Lunch
Everyone Everywhere can Inspire Inclusion
8th March 2024

Courtyard by Marriott Phuket Town

Over 170 guests attended the lunch at the Courtyard by Marriott Phuket Town. Supported by the Australian Consulate General Phuket and Marriott Worldwide Business Councils, guests enjoyed the presentations immensely. There were many fabulous Live Auction and Mystery Table prizes thanks to a huge number of kind donors listed below:



Live Auction Prizes



A **5 Star Marine** VIP Private Captain's Choice Charter with your itinerary designed by the experienced captain and crew on the day of your tour. For up to 15 guests to islands within 1 hour of Phuket. Valid to 31 December 2024.
Value 34,000 THB
 Does not include lunch, national park fees, or transfers.

3 days 2 nights in a **Paradise Koh Yao** Plunge Pool Deluxe Studio including breakfast and shared speedboat transfers. Valid to 20 December 2024. (excluding 12-17 April 2024)
Value 37,000 THB



2 nights in a Junior Suite room at **The Boathouse Phuket** including breakfast for two. Valid to 30th November 2024
Value 50,000 THB

2 nights in a **Six Senses Yao Noi** Ocean Pool Villa One Bedroom including breakfast for 2 and shared land and boat transfers to and from Phuket Airport. Valid to 30th March 2025 (excluding 25 March - 17 April, 19 December - 10 January, 1 - 28 February.)
Value 120,000 THB



First Mystery Table Prize Draw

One (or more!) of these prizes sits in a gift bag in the center of your table.
The more tickets you purchase, the greater your chances to win!

Prizes donated by Marriott Southern Thailand Hotels

Courtyard by Marriott Phuket Town	2 nights in Family Room inc breakfast for 2 adults and 2 children 1 x voucher for 2 adults and 2 child for Market Place Buffet
Renaissance Phuket	2 nights in a Deluxe Room with Phuket's best breakfast
JW Marriott Phuket	2 Nights in a Garden View with breakfast for 2
Le Meridien Mai Khao	2 nights in a Deluxe Guestroom Pool View with Breakfast for 2
Phuket Marriott Resort and Spa, Nai	2 nights in a Pool Access Room, inc breakfast for 2 adults and 2
Phuket Marriott Resort & Spa, Merlin	1 night in a Guest Room Pool View including breakfast for 2 1 night in a Guest Room Pool View including breakfast for 2
Le Meridien Phuket Beach Resort	1 night in a Deluxe Room including buffet breakfast for 2 1 night in a Deluxe Pool View Room including buffet breakfast 1 night in a Deluxe OceanView Room including buffet breakfast
Four Points by Sheraton Phuket Patong	1 Night in a Superior Room with Breakfast for 2 1 Night in a Superior Room with Breakfast for 2
Courtyard Phuket, Patong Beach Resort	1 night in a Guest Room Pool View including breakfast for 2 1 night in a Guest Room Pool View including breakfast for 2
Westin Siray Bay	2 nights in a Deluxe Seaview Room including breakfast
Le Meridien Khao Lak	1 night in a Guest Room Pool View including breakfast for 2 2 night in a Guest Room Pool View including breakfast for 2
JW Marriott Khao Lak	2 nights in a Deluxe Room with breakfast for 2

Lucky Door Prizes

Women's wellness vouchers with a total value of 47,360 THB
 Bangkok Hospital Phuket, Bangkok Hospital Siriroj and Laguna Wellness

We would like to sincerely thank all of our incredibly generous donors, with their support, the event raised THB 300,000.

FUNDRAISING BY FRIENDS OF THE FOUNDATION

One of our long-term supporters, **Kata Rocks Phuket**, kindly selected **Phuket Has Been Good to Us** as charity of choice for their annual **Superyacht Rendezvous** in December 2023, with guests donating **THB 385,000** at their “Back to the Eighties” private party!



Tuesday 5th March 2024, 100 Russian-speaking guests celebrated **International Women's Day** at **Banyan Tree's Lagoon Deck**. They heard from inspiring speakers and bid on stunning prizes. Congratulations to **Ksenia Kukonos** who organized and spoke at this fantastic fundraiser, raising **THB 200,000** for **PHBGU**.

In April 2024, **Cafe del Mar** invited students from **Kamala School** and friends of the Foundation to a special ceremony. At the ceremony, we were presented with a giant cheque for **THB 50,000** donated from their ‘Be Kind Beverage’ initiative (last year their mixologist created a delectable espresso-based drink and a proportion from each sale is donated to **PHBGU**). Moving forward, **Café del Mar** wishes to give further support for disadvantaged children’s education, and to that end we signed a **MOU** to formalize and strengthen our relationship.



SPECIAL THANKS TO OUR SPONSORS



MARRIOTT
WORLDWIDE
BUSINESS COUNCILS
THAILAND



Australian Consulate-General

Phuket, Thailand

**AND ALL OUR FRIENDS WHO CONTINUE TO SUPPORT US
THANK YOU!!**

If you would like to find out how you can help PLEASE contact Tina Hall at:

Tina@phukethasbeengoodtous.org