

PHUKET HAS BEEN GOOD TO US



Newsletter

April 2025



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LOOKING BACK ON AN INCREDIBLE SCHOOL YEAR

As the Thai 2024-2025 school year comes to a close, let's take a moment to reflect on everything we have accomplished together. It has been a year filled with learning and growth. None of which would have been possible without you, our incredible supporters.

In **Kamala School**, our dedicated team of four teachers worked tirelessly to provide English lessons to all students from Primary Years 1 to 6. Beyond the classroom, we continued to run Coconut Club, our extracurricular programme designed especially for the children who live at the school during term time due to family circumstances.

At **The Chicorée Foundation Kalim School**, thanks to the generous sponsorship of the Chicorée Foundation, our two teachers ensured that English education reached students across all Kindergarten and Primary years, from ages 2 to 14. This ongoing support has been instrumental in helping these young learners build strong language foundations that will serve them well in the future.



These achievements would not have been possible without the collective efforts of our donors, volunteers, sponsors, and supporters. Your kindness, generosity, and belief in our mission have made a real difference in the lives of these children. We are truly grateful for every contribution, whether big or small.

As we look ahead to the next school year, we remain committed to ensuring that these disadvantaged children continue to have access to quality English education. Thank you for being part of this journey with us—your support is changing lives, one lesson at a time.

We urge you to continue to support our work, we can not do this without you!

UPDATE FROM KAMALA SCHOOL

A Fond Farewell

Teacher Mint will be leaving Kamala School at the end of this term, and we want to give a huge shoutout to her for her dedication and hard work since joining us during COVID. She has made a lasting impact on our students, and we are incredibly grateful.



"I started working at Phuket Has Been Good To Us in 2021, during a time when the world was still struggling with COVID-19. Despite the uncertainty, I found joy in helping with the Coconut Club, an after-school program where I spent precious moments with the children. Their laughter, kindness, and willingness to share warmed my heart. A year later, I became an English teaching trainee, a role that changed my life. Teaching them wasn't just about lessons—it was about connection, growth, and love. The foundation became my second home, and from my first day to my last, I felt truly happy".

Showcasing Skills and Building Confidence

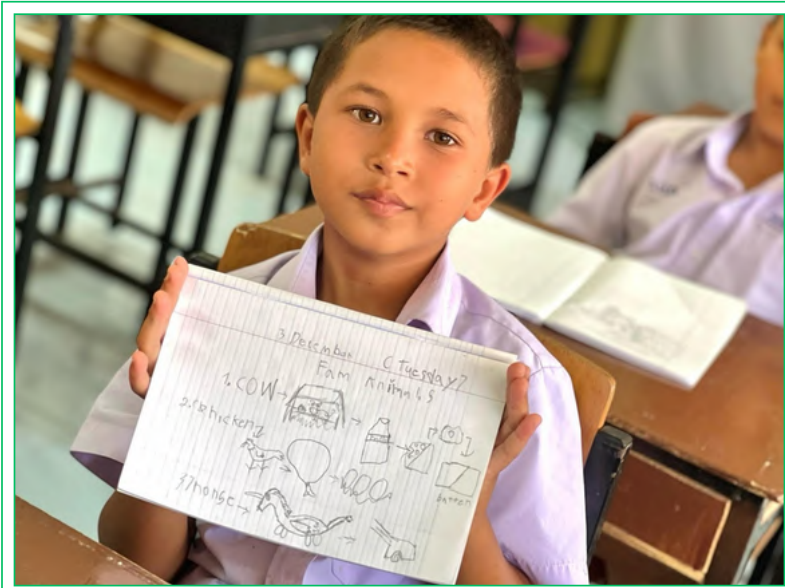
Some of our students had the incredible opportunity to make a presentation about the PHBGTO Foundation in English to a large audience of visiting VIPs. Moments like these are invaluable in helping them showcase their abilities and further develop their potential.



The effort they put in was truly inspiring—proving to them that the more they try, the closer they get to achieving their goals. It was wonderful to see the students nervously practice their presentations and then shine for the VIPs. A great confidence building experience.

Kamala School Lower Primary Years (P1 - P3) Update

This semester the students, aged 7 to 9, explored the world of animals—learning about pets, farm animals, and wildlife, including their habitats, diets, and how to care for them. They also discovered different places in a city, such as banks, supermarkets, and hospitals, while improving their understanding of prepositions of place. They also built on their English number vocabulary.



A collaborative approach is essential for our little learners, as it enhances their critical thinking and social skills through shared discussions. Applying their knowledge in this way deepens their understanding, moving beyond mere recall to analysis and evaluation—key processes in the development of their cognitive skills.



With a strong focus on phonics, listening and speaking skills, students made great progress in sounding out words and confidently expressing themselves in English. Interactive games, storytelling, and group activities kept them engaged, while role-plays and class performances highlighted their creativity and growing language skills. It has been inspiring to see their enthusiasm and development throughout the semester!

Kamala School Upper Primary Years (P4 - P6) Update

Our Upper Primary students, aged 10 to 12, have made impressive progress in reading, listening, and vocabulary development, becoming more fluent readers and confident communicators. Their enthusiasm for learning shines through in class discussions, where they eagerly ask questions and share insights with their PHBG TU teachers and classmates.



This term, students explored the "Amazing Animals" unit, learning about unique species, animal needs, and the importance of animal welfare. They also studied travel, delving into essential vocabulary, UNESCO sites, and cultural awareness. Activities like group debates and hands-on projects helped reinforce their learning while building teamwork and critical thinking skills.

Beyond the classroom, students participated in scout camp gaining valuable real-world learning experiences. Their teamwork and resilience were evident during the school Sports Day. Some residential students exhibited their growing independence as they helped to manage the school booth at Kamala's weekend beach market.



The Chicorée Foundation Kalim School PHBG TU Kindy Classes

This semester, our Kindy students made great progress in their English learning. They recognized most alphabet letters and sounds, with a few needing extra support due to attendance gaps. They confidently identified numbers, colors, shapes, sizes, and fruits. Lessons on rooms and household objects were well received, though some struggled with object names.



In developmental areas, they showed strong learning interest, improved social interactions, and took greater responsibility for their work. Most demonstrated good emotional development, with one student needing extra support. Their fine motor skills also improved, with better pencil control and writing abilities.

The Chicoree Foundation Kalim School PHBG TU Primary Classes



Our Primary students have made great strides in their English learning this year. Through the use of Jolly Phonics, Year 1 and 2 students showed strong progress in blending sounds, improving their ability to read simple words and sentences with confidence. Year 3 worked hard to overcome learning gaps, making steady improvements in both reading and speaking in front of the class.

In Years 4, 5, and 6, students demonstrated increased confidence in using English, actively participating in discussions, presentations, and classroom activities. With continued support and targeted learning strategies, we aim to build on this success and further enhance their language skills next year.

KAMALA SCHOOL COCONUT CLUB

Sharing is Caring

The children's kindness and generosity truly touches our hearts. Even though they have so little, at their Coconut Club Christmas party the children happily shared their snacks. Moments like these make us so proud to witness their growth and the strong bonds they are building.



A huge shoutout to Friends of the Foundation Kevin and Mimi for the party treats!

Origami Animal Faces

One of the Coconut Club favourites is arts and crafts. Here the children are learning about the world of origami by crafting adorable animal faces! The students were thrilled to learn the folding techniques and let their imaginations run wild as they decorated their creations with unique and colorful designs.



Rice Balls in Sweet Coconut Milk (Bua Loi)

Cooking Club, as you can imagine, is another firm favourite! The children had a blast using their creativity to shape and mold their own colorful Bua Loi pieces. After crafting their unique creations, they enjoyed the best part—eating their handmade treats! It was a fun-filled, delicious Club full of smiles and sweet memories.



Learning through play is such a powerful way to grow!



FUNDRAISING

International Women's Day Lunch 2025 - 7th March

180 guests gathered at the Courtyard by Marriott Phuket Town for a truly inspiring afternoon. We were honored to have Kirsten Fletcher, Australian Consul-General to Phuket, welcome guests to the event, with Sue Ultmann, Chairperson, Board of Managers, PHBGU & Executive Manager & Director of Marketing Baan Rim Pa Restaurant was our MC for the day.



Here are the inspirational speakers who shared their journeys and insights:

- Anicha Phanchalard – Customer Service & Operations Manager, 5 Star Marine
- Kridtiya Kaewsonpipapha – Assistant Director of Rooms, Courtyard by Marriott
- Voravee Kongreun – Chief Experience Curator & Founder, Voravee Hospitality
- Jacqui Kuter – Business Relationship Manager, Finnway International School



Guests enjoyed a delicious lunch and many took home fabulous prizes, all made possible by our incredibly generous donors. Thanks to the generosity of our guests and supporters, we exceeded our fundraising target, raising **฿480,000!**

The success of this fundraiser ensures we can continue to employ an English Teacher at Kamala School for another year and purchase teaching supplies, making a lasting impact on the lives of disadvantaged children.



FUNDRAISING

A heartfelt thank you to everyone who contributed to making the International Women's Day fundraiser such a resounding success. Your support is truly life-changing!

69 Slam

Anantara Vacation Club Mai Khao

Andara Resort & Villas

Auntie's Cookies

Baan Rim Pa Restaurant

Bangkok Hospital Network in Phuket

Bangkok Hospital Phuket

Bangkok Hospital Siriroj

Bartells

BDMS Wellness Clinic Phuket

Bumrungrad Hospital

Chem Hair Salon

Class Act Media

Courtyard by Marriott Patong Beach

Courtyard by Marriott Phuket Town

Dibuk Hospital

Fe2crystals

Fira Phuket

Four Points by Sheraton Patong

Indochine

JW Khao Lak

JW Marriott Phuket

Keemala

Kootel Khao Lak Isara Casa

Le Meridien Khao Lak

Le Meridien Mai Khao

Le Meridien Phuket

Millionaires Burger

Oasis Spa

Pam Ong

Physio First Phuket and TCM

Renaissance Phuket

Saii Phuket Laguna

Seeds of Change

STAY Wellbeing & Lifestyle Resort

SUAY

Taste Yamu

Terra Italian Restaurant

The Bangkok Hospital Network

The Boathouse Phuket

The Naka

The Pace Phuket Resort

Tom and Ted

Venuste

VitalLife Scientific Wellness Center



DONATIONS

Austrian Asian African Association

A big thank you to the Austrian Asian African Association (AAAA) for sponsoring **Euro 5,000** of school equipment and supplies. This will enable our teachers to enhance learning by making it more interactive and engaging, while also fostering a positive classroom environment that boosts student confidence and participation.



A huge thank you to Daniel Mair and colleagues at AAAA for supporting the children's education.

If you'd like to help in any way
PLEASE contact Tina Hall at: tina@phukethasbeengoodtous.org



@phukethasbeengoodtous



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info@phukethasbeengoodtous.org

DONATIONS



Superyacht Rendezvous

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 2024, with funds raised from silent auction.

From Australia with Love

A huge thank you to long term Friends of the Foundation Mike and Kim McGrath for continuing to send us the most wonderful parcels of fantastic goodies from Australia, and to Shaun and the team at 5 Star Marine for collecting them for us. We appreciate you!



Special visitors

We are always delighted to welcome special visitors to Coconut Club. Recently Amy and Blair returned for a second year and joined in Loomband Fun at the Coconut Club - thank you for donating essential school supplies from our "Wish List" (see page 14 for a list of items our teachers are requesting).

Your generosity brought so much happiness to the little ones, and we couldn't have done it without you.

DONATIONS



Family Generosity

We would like to express our heartfelt gratitude to Liora and her family for their generous donation of gifts for the children and their enthusiastic participation in the Coconut Club Computer Lab session.

Your support made a meaningful difference in our students' learning journey!

Inspirational Gifts

A heartfelt thank you to Gail Clarke for her generous donation of these wonderful books! Although they had minor binding issues and couldn't be sold, they are absolute treasures. Gail's beautiful stories and illustrations are sure to captivate and inspire the children.

We can't wait to see their imaginations take flight!



Supportive Slate Hotel

During the festive season, we were hugely grateful to The Slate who kindly displayed a donation box in their hotel lobby to benefit Phuket Has Been Good To Us Foundation and Good Shepherd Phuket Town. Additionally, during their wonderful Christmas Brunch event, they featured a donation station.



If you'd like to help in any way
PLEASE contact Tina Hall at: tina@phukethasbeengoodtous.org

DONATIONS

Bratsvo Brotherhood

We are deeply grateful to Bratstvo.club for their generous donation of school supplies. This thoughtful contribution makes a significant difference for both our teachers and students, providing them with the tools they need to succeed.

Your kindness and support inspires us.



Muay Thai Angel

We are immensely grateful to Gladys for visiting us and for her incredible generosity! She kindly donated **฿25,000** from her winnings in a Muay Thai competition — what an amazing gesture! Her visits were filled with laughter and fun as she shared Muay Thai techniques with the little ones.



Friend of the Foundation Kevin

The Coconuters are always excited to see Kevin who visits us whenever he is in Phuket. They know that Kevin, his family and friends donate supplies for their English classes and Coconut Club. They also know he'll always have time for them and will bring some sweet treats too!

Thank you Kevin!



The children would not have these great opportunities without your support.

PLEASE HELP US HELP THE CHILDREN - MAKE A DONATION

Phuket Has Been Good To Us receives no government funding and relies solely on the generosity of businesses and kind individuals. WE NEED YOUR HELP to continue providing quality English education for FREE to orphans and children from low-income families.



It is now easier than ever to donate to PHBGTO Foundation.
There are four ways to contribute:

- 1) Scan the QR code
- 2) Go to our website page:
<https://phukethasbeengoodtous.org/monetary-donations/>
and donate via WISE
- 3) Send a cheque (Thai baht only) to our office at Phuket
Has Been Good to Us Foundation, 80/14 Moo 3, T. Kamala,
A. Kathu, Phuket, 83150, Thailand
- 4) Make a bank transfer to our Thai baht account:
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

If you kindly make a donation via scan or bank transfer,
please contact Tina and let us know the amount and the
date of your transfer Tina@phukethasbeengoodtous.org



รับเงินได้จากทุกธนาคาร



If you'd like to help in any way
PLEASE contact Tina Hall at: tina@phukethasbeengoodtous.org



PHBG TU WISH LIST



TEACHING ESSENTIALS:

- ☐ A4 PAPER FOR PHOTOCOPYING
- ☐ EPSON INK REFILL FOR PRINTER
- ☐ HEAVY DUTY ELECTRIC SHARPENERS
- ☐ PENCILS
- ☐ RUBBER ERASERS
- ☐ A5 TRIPLE-LINE NOTEBOOKS
- ☐ BLACKBOARD DUSTER/ERASER
- ☐ DUSTLESS CHALK (WHITE)
- ☐ AAA BATTERIES
- ☐ SPRAY BOTTLE (FOR CLEANING)
- ☐ DETTOL MULTI-USE LIQUID DISINFECTANT



BOOKS:

- ☐ BOB BOOKS FIRST STORIES (12 VOLUME SET)
PUBLISHER: SCHOLASTICS (US) [ISBN: 9780545734097]
- ☐ BOB BOOKS SET 1: BEGINNING READERS (12 VOLUME SET)
PUBLISHER: SCHOLASTICS (US) [ISBN: 9780439845007]
- ☐ BOB BOOKS SET 2: ADVANCING BEGINNERS (12 VOLUME SET)
PUBLISHER: SCHOLASTICS (US) [ISBN: 9780439845021]
- ☐ BOB BOOKS SET 3: WORD FAMILIES (10 VOLUME SET)
PUBLISHER: SCHOLASTICS (US) [ISBN: 9780439845090]
- ☐ BOB BOOKS SET 4: COMPOUND WORDS (8 VOLUME SET)
PUBLISHER: SCHOLASTICS (US) [ISBN: 9780439845069]
- ☐ BOB BOOKS SET 5: LONG VOWELS (8 VOLUME SET)
PUBLISHER: SCHOLASTICS (US) [ISBN: 978043865418]



COCONUT CLUB:



- ☐ STAPLERS AND STAPLES (SIZE 10)
- ☐ MAGNETIC DISPLAY BOARD A4 SIZE
- ☐ LIQUID HAND WASH
- ☐ PAPER PLATES



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FRIENDS OF THE FOUNDATION

We'd like to take a moment to express our heartfelt gratitude to ALL our amazing Friends of the Foundation. THANK YOU to everyone who has contributed - through donations, volunteering or attending fundraisers. Your generosity is transforming the lives of these children and opening doors to a brighter future.



A VERY SPECIAL THANK YOU TO OUR SPONSORS



If you would like to find out how you can help
PLEASE contact Tina Hall at: tina@phukethasbeengoodtous.org