AY 2023-24

ISMILE ALAM ATELIER CHRONICLE

THE WRAP-UP



THIS IS THE HEART OF ALAM



From My Family to Yours

Dear Paolo,

Wow. I don't know how to start.

It is with mixed emotions that I write this letter. After five fulfilling years of calling Alam my home, I can hardly believe that it is now time for me to go and grow somewhere else. While you know how this decision has been a challenging one for me, I am comforted by the knowledge that I am leaving our beloved Alam into your loving care.

I know you share my view that Alam is a special place – founded on the love, respect and celebration given each child and family that enters our gates. I know how you have seen the magic that happens when we nurture our young learners by being their guides – as they lead their own learning with agency and a thirst for discovery. And I know you also see how special the Alam community is – from the teachers and staff down to the children and their families. I think I will miss this wonderful community that is so loving, generous, and always ready to help one another most of all.

It has been one of the greatest honors of my life to be part of this incredible journey of Alam. Now, I am so excited for you to experience that same fulfilment. And I am confident that you will lead with the same great work ethic, passion and dedication that have defined your teaching journey thus far.

I have only one tip to give, the one thing that helped me through challenges and brought the school its triumphs, and it is this:

Respond in Love. Always.

Beepsie



Dear Beepsie,

You are an inspiration and the best role model any educator can have. It is my honor to accept the leadership of a strong and solid team because of you and the great example you have set. Your unwavering dedication, kindness, and passion for education have left an indelible mark on all of us. I have big shoes to fill and a long journey ahead, but with your guidance and love, I know we will have successful years ahead of us.

As we embark on different paths and conclude this chapter of your story here at Alam Atelier, your legacy will continue to inspire and guide us. The impact you have had on this school and the countless lives you have touched with your love and wisdom will remain in our hearts forever. Your commitment to nurturing and empowering both students and staff has created a culture of love and compassion that will endure.

Alam Atelier has been my home for a relatively short time, but my love and appreciation for this school extend far beyond these years. The values and principles you have instilled in us will continue to shape our actions and decisions. I will always strive to lead with the same dedication and empathy that you have demonstrated. I promise to cherish this school and uphold the ideals it stands for, just as much as you did.

Your love has not only made us better educators but also better individuals. The sense of community and belonging you fostered will be a guiding light as we move forward. We are eternally grateful for your leadership and the profound impact you have made on our lives.

With love and gratitude,

Paolo



INFANT AND TODDLER MUSIC MAKERS CLASSES

In our wild shape and color adventures, our young friends not only learned to name and find them in the real world; they were also introduced to some big ideas found within these topics. These bigger concepts made our investigation of shapes and colors even more valuable and lasting.

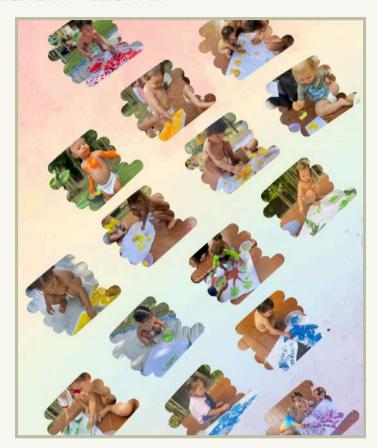
The first is the recognition that everything comes in color, and that we therefore live in a world of technicolor. Our study of each color of the rainbow made us appreciate this concept with joy, as we discovered and honed in on things that come in different shades of the same color.

We also got to see the world in different colored lenses, appreciating how our vision can be influenced by the color through which we look at the world. Our young friends would exclaim, "All red!" or "You're blue" when looking through our colored lenses. Imagine their joy in discovering that a combination of two different colored lenses would result in yet another color to see through!

The same magic happened in our study of shapes. Suddenly, their learning of simple shapes allowed our friends to recognize them in the real world – seeing the shapes everywhere and thus able to make connections between the stars in the sky and the starfish in the sea, or the circle button and the circle cookie.

As our very young friends start making more connections and forming a bigger understanding of the world as they grow older, we are just grateful to have been witnesses to these, the first steps to seeing the wonder of the world we all live in, and their part in it.

-- Miss Beepsie, Miss Faiza and Miss Rosa















Dear friends,

As we reflect on this incredible year, we are filled with admiration for the transformation we've witnessed in our class. Through our time together, you have shown us the depth of your talents and the beauty of your hearts. Your growth from almostbabies into mature young adults has been nothing short of extraordinary.

You have become strong like a bread crust after baking, yet gentle and refreshing like fruit iced popsicles. You've brewed your ideas and let them steep like a fine tea, bringing forth wisdom and insight. You've steamed with passion and determination, always pushing forward. Like a perfectly roasted dish, you have developed a richness and depth that comes from facing challenges and overcoming them.

Throughout the semester, your achievements have been diverse and impressive. From academic successes to artistic triumphs, from athletic feats to community service, you have shown resilience, humility, kindness, and generosity. Your ability to advocate for yourselves with such grace and politeness is truly commendable.

The way we developed this year was like creating a menu, thoughtfully considering each other's abilities and strengths to make the best selection of experiences and achievements. Each of you brought unique ingredients to our shared table, contributing to a rich and varied feast of learning and growth.

Our journey together has also taught us the importance of conservation and sustainability, understanding that everything begins with the relationships we cultivate, nurture, and sustain beyond the school year. Like a well-tended garden, you have grown beautifully, showing that true sustainability starts with the connections we build and the care we give to one another.

As we say goodbye, we extend our deepest gratitude for allowing us to be part of this transformation. Thank you for letting us become a child again, for playing with us, and for sharing in the wonder until the very last day. Your journey has been a feast of experiences and growth, and we are so proud to have shared it with you.

Miss Sara and Miss Ayu

















NURSERY 1A DISCOVERY DREAMERS



Our nursery class embarked on an exciting farm animal project, transforming our classroom into a vibrant miniature farm. The children learned about various farm animals, including cows, chickens, pigs, and sheep, through interactive storybooks, songs, and crafts. This experience captivated their imaginations and provided a fun, immersive way to learn about farm life, fostering a love for animals and nature.

Reflecting on our farm animal class project for the nursery class, we embraced the conceptual learning method to foster a deeper understanding of farm life. Through interactive activities, such as role-playing and hands-on tasks like creating miniature farm models, building small barns and coops using recycled materials, and feeding and caring for toy animals, the children grasped concepts of responsibility, empathy, and the interdependence between humans and animals. Also, each student made their own farmer poRtrait, allowing them to learn about identity and roles. Storytime sessions featuring farm-themed books further enriched their vocabulary and comprehension. This immersive approach not only engaged the young learners but also nurtured their curiosity and love for learning, making complex ideas accessible and meaningful at their developmental stage.







NURSERY IB THE HUNGRY CATERPILLARS















NURSERY 2A SUPER GOOD

Our Nursery 2A 'Supergood' friends have on а remarkable journey been discovery and growth through Indonesian rainforest and the endangered animals that live there. As they delved into the fascinating world of these majestic creatures, the students not only gained knowledge about sustainability and responsibility but also took proactive steps to spread awareness among their parents and other teachers about the impact of consumer choices, particularly regarding snacks containing palm oil. Through imaginative exercises where they imagined themselves as these animals, they developed empathy and a deeper understanding of their lives, recognizing both their similarities and differences. Creating artwork served as a powerful means of expression, allowing them to visually communicate their understanding of these animals' habitats and struggles.











Moreover, engaging in group pretend play provided an opportunity for them to embody these animals, fostering a deeper connection appreciation for the importance of conservation efforts. Their mature level of understanding and enthusiasm for learning were truly impressive, demonstrating their not only absorb complex capacity to concepts but also to actively advocate for positive change in their communities and beyond. Children form their core beliefs before the age of seven, which shapes the adults they'll become. We're proud of the and empathetic people caring thev're becoming from attending a school that's passionate about preserving nature and our planet.





NURSERY 2A SUPER GOOD























NURSERY 2B THE BUTTERFLIES

N2B Butterflies have been learning about various concepts related to our project work on 'House'. They have explored different types of houses, including traditional homes, modern apartments, and unique architectural designs. They have also discussed their dream houses, considering factors such as location, design, and features that reflect their personal preferences and lifestyles. Additionally, they have learned about the different parts of a house, such as bedrooms, kitchens, and living rooms, understanding their functions and importance within a home.

As they've been working together on these projects, they've been engaging with the broader concept of "community." Through collaborative activities, they've learned how houses are interconnected within neighbourhoods and how families contribute to the dynamics of their communities.

Along with exploring different types of houses, children have also been learning about the materials used in building homes. They've discussed traditional materials like wood, brick, and stone, as well as modern materials like concrete, steel, and glass. By understanding the properties and characteristics of these materials, they've gained insight into how they affect the design, construction, and sustainability of houses.

Through this exploration, children have been engaging with the broader concept of "innovation." They've learned how advancements in building materials and construction techniques have shaped the way houses are designed and built. They've also discussed the importance of considering factors like durability, cost-effectiveness, and environmental impact when choosing materials for construction. This understanding of innovation in housing not only expands their knowledge but also encourages them to think critically and creatively about solutions to real-world challenges.

In their exploration of different types of houses and materials, children have also been exposed to the concept of diversity. They've learned that houses can vary greatly from one country to another, reflecting the diverse cultures, climates, and traditions of different regions around the world. By studying houses from various cultures and countries, they've gained an appreciation for the rich diversity of architectural styles and building practices.

This exposure to diversity extends beyond just houses to include the people who inhabit them. Through discussions about different types of families and lifestyles, children have learned to respect and celebrate the diversity of human experiences.













NURSERY 2B THE BUTTERFLIES



LUCA 4.7 YEARS
"BECAUSE I LIKE HOUSE, BIG
HOUSE"

ZARA 4.9 YEARS
'IT'S A BUNNY DOOR."
'I LIKE TO LEARN ABOUT THEIR
HOUSE BECAUSE I LIKE ANIMALS'

RIVER 4.7 YEARS

MY HOUSE

'BOAT HOUSE WITH A LOT OF

TOYS, I DRAW A ROAD'

UGO 3.9 YEARS 'IT'S A COOL HOUSE'

TIMUR 3.11 YEARS OLD 'THIS IS MY IGLOO'

BASIL 4.5 YEARS OLD MOMMY, DADDY AND ME. THIS IS A HOUSE, I LIKE MY HOUSE'

ALEYZA 4.1 YEARS OLD

'THIS IS ME, TREE, MY DAD AND
MY MOM. ASHA IS GOING
SOMEWHERE. AND THIS IS THE
CEILING'

ARUNA 4.3 YEARS OLD 'MY HOUSE IS BALI'







KINDERGARTEN 1 WANDER PALS

The Kindergarten 1 project adventure this semester has been a meaningful learning experience both inside and out. We didn't expect that a journey inside the human body could teach us so much about life. When we learned about our stomach, it made us realize the importance of healthy eating. Even if you don't like vegetables, they are good for you. You wouldn't want to have a hard time going to the toilet because you aren't eating healthily, right? "We are what we eat," said Maxence (5.7 years old). The brain, being super powerful, acts as the boss of our body, instructing us in everything we do. "So, think good thoughts, and you'll do good things!" noted Salma (5.3 years old). We also discovered that the circulatory system is like a team of tiny pipes working together to move blood around, which taught us the value of teamwork. As lago (5.10 years old) wisely stated, "ALL OF US ARE ALSO CONNECTED."

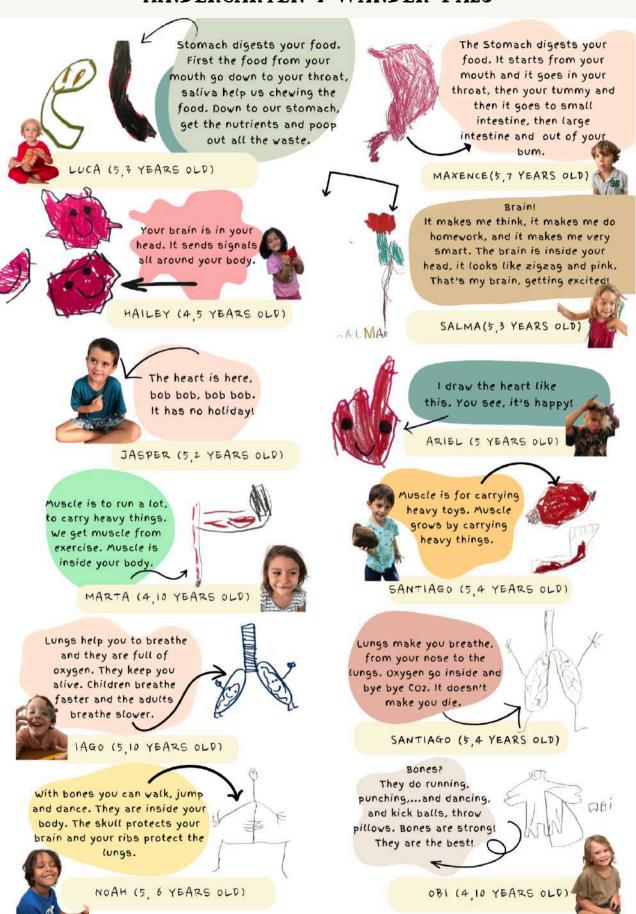




Moreover, our exploration of muscles, lungs, and bones revealed vital lessons. "Muscles grow by carrying heavy things," explained Santi (5.4 years old), illustrating how exercise strengthens our bodies. By challenging ourselves with harder tasks, we grow stronger, both physically and mentally. Learning about our lungs highlighted the importance of clean air and relaxation, as Santi (5.4 years old) reminded us: "This teaches us the importance of relaxing and taking the time to breathe deeply." Lastly, lago's x-ray from last year showed us that bones, though they can break, heal and grow stronger over time. "So, even if we get broken sometimes, we can heal too," said Obi (4.10 years old). This comprehensive understanding of our body systems emphasized that just as each system is crucial for our well-being, we in class need to care for each other and work together. As Maxence (5.6 years old) proudly shared, "I am proud to learn not only the digestive system, but all of the systems."



KINDERGARTEN 1 WANDER PALS



KINDERGARTEN 2 K2 BE YOU ARE AS INFINITE AS THE UNIVERSE YOU HOLD INSIDE

In our journey this semester, as we explored the universe and outer space, I can't help but reflect on the learnings I gained from our discoveries and from all of you, K2be. It amazes me how new learnings, concepts, and information spark joy and interest, which can easily be seen in your eyes. I love how genuinely inquisitive you all are, and at times I catch you deep in thought, trying to digest or reflect on the discoveries we have uncovered. Here are some of the profound lessons you have taught me in our journey together through space.

- 1. Humility: I learned about humility through your eyes. As we discovered the vastness of galaxies and outer space, I saw intrigue, curiosity, and humility. However infinite the universe is, it is humbling to know that we are part of this—that our existence matters because we are part of this majestic whole. Each one of us, no matter how small, contributes to the larger tapestry of existence.
- 2. Interconnectedness: We are all interconnected. Our Sun is interconnected with all the planets in our solar system; constellations are connected, and our solar system is part of the Milky Way galaxy. This web of connections mirrors our own lives, where each of us is linked to others in myriad ways. Just as the planets are held in orbit by the Sun's gravity, we too are held together by bonds of friendship, family, and community.
- 3. Reflection on Existence: I reflected a lot about our existence, where we all came from, and how our existence may be small, but in the grand scheme of things, we all matter because we all take up space. Each of us plays a role in the universe's story. Our thoughts, actions, and presence contribute to the ever-evolving narrative of life. Reflecting on our place in the cosmos helps us appreciate the uniqueness of our journey and the shared experience of being part of something much larger than ourselves.















I hope these reflections reach you and inspire you to think beyond the conventional boundaries. It is my fervent hope that learning about outer space encourages you to think outside the lines that the world will sometimes draw for you. The universe is vast and full of possibilities, and so are you.

I want you all to believe, my K2be class, that you are as infinite as the universe you hold inside. Your potential is limitless, and your curiosity and passion for learning will guide you to great discoveries and understandings. Just as the stars shine brightly in the night sky, your ideas and dreams can light up the world. Embrace the vastness of the universe within you and let it fuel your curiosity and drive. The journey of exploration and discovery never truly ends, and I am excited to see where it takes each of you. -- Mr. Paolo

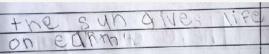


THE PLANETS OF THE SOLAR SYSTEM



Sun by Kylie

Earth by: Leo





Mercury by: Sophie



venus is the nottest Planet

Venus by: Aymara



Moon by: Leo

SUL

A text ecision



hedplanet.

Mars by: Asha



Jupiter by: Asha JUPITEMSTRE





Saturn by: Sophie



Saturn by: Lucia



Saturn by: Aymara

Dear K2 Friends,

As you step into the next chapter, know you're cherished. Alam Atelier and I will miss you dearly. Remember Lucia, Asha, Aymara, sophie, Khailie, and Leonard, my beloved friends. With pride and love, tackle every challenge, knowing you're capable of anything. I am immensely proud of you, and I want you to always remember that. Keep your head held high, my dear, and face each challenge with the same unwavering spirit that has brought you this far.

Miss Lilis

Dear K2 Friends.

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· you, I have y

We are very proud of how much you all have learned and grown together with us here in Alam. Also, we're very excited to see you starting your new journeys and seeing more of what the world can offer.

Please remember that in your every step in life, you are dearly loved and always remembered here by your Alam family.

With Love.

Miss Vella & Miss Icha

LETTERS

Dear K2,

we used to share the classroom together, we used to share the whole school later. Now you're off to go, to a place were your wings can expend even more. But don't forget, be brave and look up to the sky.

miss Sara

Dear K2, Congratulations my besties!! Watching you grow and succeed has been one of the greatest joys of my journey in Alam. Know that I am always proud of you!!!

> Your bestie, Ms. Sari



FOR K2

Dear K2,

Congratulations on your graduation! We are bursting with pride as we reflect on all the wonderful moments shared with each of you.

As you move on to new adventures, we hope you continue to embrace learning with enthusiasm and curiosity. Your bright futures await, and we can't wait to see all the amazing things you'll achieve.

> Love, Ms. Mel



Dear K2 Friends,

Each of you is special, making this year an incredible adventure. You've reminded me what it's like to be a child again and made me a better friend, listener, and teacher. Your wisdom and curiosity guided me through our project, even when I wasn't sure how to start.

Thank you, WanderPals, for this amazing journey. I will miss each one of you and will always treasure our time together.

With lots of love and hugs, Ms. Wida



I HAVE 2 SECRETS TO TELL YOU. I AM OLDER THAN MOST OF YOUR MOMMIES AND DADDIES. I AM CERTAINLY OLDER THAN YOUR TEACHERS AND EVERYONE ELSE HERE IN ALAM. BUT MOST DAYS, MOST OF US FORGET THAT - BECAUSE I HAVE ANOTHER SECRET. MY HEART IS VERY YOUNG. AND THAT IS BECAUSE I FEED MY HEART WITH LOVE AND PLAY. I NEVER PASS UP THE CHANCE TO LAUGH WITH SOMEONE, HAVE FUN, PLAY, HUG AND JUST LOVE SOMEONE. THAT IS THE SECRET TO A HAPPY LIFE, I THINK.

SO, AS YOU GO OUT INTO THE WORLD - THE WORLD OUTSIDE ALAM- PLEASE REMEMBER THAT. PLAY!!! LOVE!!! AND SEE HOW MUCH JOY THERE IS IN THE WORLD, SOMETIMES YOU WILL FALL, SOMETIMES YOU WILL CRY, A LOT OF TIMES YOU WILL MAKE MISTAKES, OR EVEN FAIL. THROUGH IT ALL, FIND REASONS TO LEARN FROM IT WITH JOY. FIND REASONS TO BE HAPPY. FIND THE TIME TO PLAY. AND ALWAYS HAVE TIME TO SHOW LOVE. FOR THESE ARE THE THINGS THAT MAKE EVERYTHING ELSE WORTH IT.

AS YOU VENTURE ON INTO THE WORLD OUTSIDE ALAM, KNOW THAT THIS IS JUST THE BEGINNING OF YOUR LIFE JOURNEY. YOU STILL HAVE A WHOLE LOT OF ADVENTURES AND STORIES TO MAKE AND TELL.

MY FRIENDS, I BELIEVE YOU HAVE JUST WRITTEN THE FIRST FEW PAGES OF YOUR LIFE STORY. YOUR LIVES ARE STILL AHEAD OF YOU. AND THE REST -THE BEST - IS YET UNWRITTEN.

HAPPY WRITING, FRIENDS. AND REMEMBER - YOUR STORY WORTH TELLING! BEEPSIE













A SWEET TRIP TO DESA COKLAT

MAY 2024

One of the most awaited days in the semester has finally arrived, it was time for our field trip! This time we went to Desa Coklat in Tabanan. The children were very excited when they knew we were going to the chocolate factory. They had the chance to try cacao fruit! "Why is it slimy?" "This is not chocolate!" "This cacao tastes bitter." Lots of questions popped up from this cacao fruit tasting. During this field trip, it was interesting to see how their knowledge about chocolate shifted. Their perception shifted from seeing chocolate simply as sweets to understanding it as a product derived from the cacao fruit, deepening their appreciation for the delicious delicacy.

That is why field trips like these offer children a unique opportunity to expand their knowledge of the world. Through this field trip experience in Desa Coklat we want the children to understand the bigger concept which is process and transformation. How the cacao fruit goes through the proses and transforms into chocolate that they see in the shops. This big concept hopefully will be applicable in their daily lives. Learning everything in school takes time and they need to go through the process of learning, in which later they will transform into someone who is more knowledgeable.

Field trips not only provide valuable educational experiences but also foster a deeper understanding and appreciation of the diverse and dynamic world they inhabit, enriching their learning journey and shaping their perspectives for years to come. - Miss Mel



AS WE CONTINUE TO LEARN AND GROW

Insights from Our Professional Development Training with SJCK, Singapore

JUNF 2024











On the first week of June, we had the great privilege of learning with and from some new friends who are also early childhood educators, brought by Pastor Richard and Dr. Jacqueline Chung from St. James Church Kindergarten (SJCK) in Singapore, who are in turn old friends of ISMILE and Alam Atelier.

In the morning, their team divided into small groups so they could join our different classes in order to see how the Reggio Emilia and Nature Based Approaches inspire Alam Atelier Bali's day to day learning encounters; how we develop, set-up and move within our learning spaces; and of course the development of the different projects in each class.

After lunch came our growing and learning.

Dr. Jackie and Miss Eudora presented an enlightening session on conceptual learning. This was a reflective afternoon that made us not only appreciate how we teach, but also gave us guidance on how to be more mindful of our WHYs and be more intentional in our nurturing of the children in our care. Although I cannot fully (or maybe even clearly) explain the magic that happened as we learned together, I will attempt to share some of my learning.

Dr. Jackie and Ms. Eudora helped us see how conceptual learning is more than just acquiring isolated facts; it involves making connections and understanding the relationships among different pieces of information. As defined in the session, concepts are mental constructs that help us make sense of the world. They are timeless, abstract, and universal, transcending individual situations and applicable across various fields of knowledge. While a topic represents specific knowledge, a concept underpins this knowledge with an abstract framework that can be applied broadly. This understanding shifts the focus from teaching content to nurturing the ability to think about deeper matters, i.e., BIG IDEAS. Concepts like growth, life, kindness, relationships, connections and other big ideas are actually foundational in shaping how each child will see the world as he or she grows up.

This training on conceptual learning gave us valuable insights that challenged us to think about how we could improve how we teach. By constant purposefulness and intentionality – asking ourselves the "So what?" (or "What bigger idea is behind this?") of the things we teach – we can create a learning environment that encourages curiosity and critical thinking in our very young learners.

As I reflect on that afternoon, I am once again struck by something that Dr. Jackie said, an idea akin to one I hold close to my heart – that our purpose is to shape the world one child at a time. And what a wonderful world it would be if all the children we ever get the honor to come inside our classes end up seeing how everything (and everyone!) in this world is connected, and how each one of us is an integral part in order for this whole system to not only work well, but work even better. - Beepsie



FEST

June 2024

Bazgym Fest is a yearly event for our Bazgym students to showcase their skills in gymnastics and for parents to witness the hard work and dedication their children have put into developing these skills.

Our Gym Fest this year took place on June 15th, 2024. Everyone was excited to participate and show their progress, as the students had practiced for two months prior to the event. Families came to support and show love to their children. All the performances were thrilling, and the spectators clapped enthusiastically for every cartwheel and flip the students landed. At the end of each performance, every student received a medal and certificate. You could see their excitement as they smiled and waved to their proud parents. Great job to all the students—you all deserved it!

On behalf of all our Alam Atelier teachers and Bazgym coaches, we thank our Bazgym students and parents for supporting yet another successful Gym Fest. Without your support and trust, we couldn't have this wonderful show every year. On to the next show!

Coach Liam

















A Day Full of Love

MESSAGES: LETTERS OF LOVE

YEAR END PERFORMANCE AND GATHERINGJUNE 2024







This year's year-end performance and gathering at Alam Atelier Bali embraced the theme "Messages: Letters of Love" - centered on the idea of what messages parents would want their children to hear at this stage of their lives. The event featured letters emphasizing kindness, a sense of wonder, family love, resilience, and gratefulness. Parents of the graduating class read their heartfelt letters in video form, to which their children responded live, creating a deeply emotional and interactive experience.

Each class's performance was inspired by these themes, showcasing the talents and creativity of our students through songs, dances, and acts that reflected the values we hold dear. The day culminated in a community gathering where families and friends celebrated with a feast, reinforcing the bonds of love and unity that define our community.

Alam Atelier Bali is love; family is love; our community is love. Bound by this commonality, we cherish the love that resides here—in the smiles of our children, the dedication of our teachers, and the hearts of our families. This event reminded us that love is the foundation of our community, inspiring us to nurture and grow this love in the years to come. **-Mr. Paolo**







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