

# EMBRACING

#### ISMILE BANDUNG E-NEWSLETTER



On February 12, 2024, teachers at ISMILE Bandung gathered for a significant session on sustainability. Led by Ms. Sharon and Ms. Jacque, the discussions centered on practical eco-friendly methods like worm farming and pile composting, emphasizing their positive impact on plant growth and environmental well-being.

This session wasn't merely about knowledge acquisition; it was a call to action in our collective efforts to save the Earth. To instill awareness among our students and emphasize the importance of environmental conservation, the school initiated a sustainability project. The K2 class eagerly crafted their worm farming bin, while

other classes contributed to Ms. Jacque's compost pile in the school garden. Additionally, teachers received expert guidance from eco-enzyme specialists on repurposing kitchen scraps for practical applications, further underscoring the importance of sustainability in everyday life.

We aim to inspire all members of the ISMILE community—students, parents, and teachers—to embrace eco-conscious practices. Through sustainable approaches and education about their significance for the future, we are collectively fostering a culture of sustainability. This commitment will undoubtedly leave a lasting impact on our planet, paving the way for a greener and healthier future for generations to come.



# WoRM FARM

Written By. Miss Sharon

As the K2 class demonstrates love and passion for earthworms, our class has initiated another practicing endeavor toward sustainability through the creation of a worm farm. This project offers engaging activity for the children, allowing them to care for the worms and maintain the farm's well-being.

To create the worm farm, the children eagerly prepared bedding for the worms by mixing dirt, composted soil, and soaked cardboard and newspaper. They approached this task with enthusiasm, likening it to making a cozy bed. The children carefully selected nutritious vegetable and fruit cuttings for the worms, avoiding items like citrus fruits, garlic, onions, pepper, dairy, and meat.

After three days of bedding preparation, the children were introduced to red wiggler worms suitable for the farm. Also by educating them on the benefits and differences between the night crawlers that can be found in the yard and the red wiggler worms.







The children take delight observing the worms' activity within the bin. Furthermore, the worm farm provides valuable benefits to farmers through nutrient-rich worm castings often referred to as "black gold."

Although the harvesting process requires patience, typically spanning about three months. Nevertheless, the children eagerly anticipate harvesting the castings before they graduate from K2, considering it a rewarding and educational experience for all involved. This project showcases a collaborative effort among parents, teachers, and students, enhancing its success.



## Pile Composting

Written by. Miss Jacq

In a bid to foster environmental awareness and sustainability, ISMILE Bandung launched an inspiring composting project in the first week of February, officially commencing on February 19. The project aims to promote eco-friendly practices within the school community.



Teachers at ISMILE Bandung took the lead by organizing in-school presentations about composting, sharing valuable insights into waste reduction and fostering a healthy environment. This initiative extended beyond the presentations, with teachers continuing to impart knowledge to their young learners in classrooms, ensuring widespread understanding of composting.



What sets this project apart is the remarkable collaboration between children, parents, and teachers. It's a community project that spans across different levels of ISMILE, showcasing impressive teamwork as children brought in vegetable scraps and fruit peelings from their homes every Monday to Friday. This hands-on involvement reinforces waste reduction's importance and cultivates a sense of responsibility among the children.













The project's launch on February 19 marked a significant step toward instilling sustainable practices in ISMILE Bandung's school community. By educating children and encouraging active participation, the school aims to nurture a generation valuing and practicing environmentally conscious habits.

Ms. Fem, the key organizer of the initiative, expressed how heartening it was to observe the children bringing in scraps daily and receiving support from their parents for the project. She emphasized that, with education and practice, everyone could play a role in preserving our planet.

ISMILE Bandung's composting project exemplifies how schools can actively contribute to creating a sustainable and clean environment. The commitment and enthusiasm shown by children, parents, and teachers underscore the potential for positive change when communities unite for a greener future.















ISMILE Preschool Bandung has taken a proactive step towards environmental sustainability by organizing a comprehensive eco-enzyme training program for its dedicated teaching staff. The initiative aims to equip educators with the knowledge and skills to produce eco-friendly enzymes for various daily needs, fostering a deeper understanding of the environmental benefits and contributing to a more sustainable future.

Eco-enzymes, also known as kitchen waste enzymes, are natural, homemade solutions created by fermenting fruit and vegetable scraps with sugar and water. These enzymes have versatile applications, serving as powerful cleaning agents, fertilizers, and pest repellents. The process involves a simple yet effective fermentation method that transforms organic waste into a valuable resource.



The training at ISMILE Preschool focuses on how eco-enzymes can address everyday needs within the school community. From creating non-toxic cleaning solutions for classrooms to producing natural fertilizers for the preschool garden, teachers are discovering the potential of eco-enzymes to promotes a healthier environment for the children.

By promoting the production and use of ecoenzymes, teachers and children are contributing to waste reduction and minimizing the harmful impact of synthetic chemicals on the ecosystem. The initiative aligns with broader global efforts to promote sustainable practices, making a positive impact on the local environment.

The eco-enzyme training program serves as a catalyst for transforming teachers into environmental stewards. Educators at ISMILE Preschool Bandung are not only learning to create eco-enzymes but are also encouraged





to share this knowledge with their students. This holistic approach ensures that the ethos of sustainability is embedded in the preschool's culture, inspiring the next generation to be conscious and responsible custodians of the planet.



ISMILE Preschool's eco-enzyme training program represents a commendable commitment to sustainability and environmental responsibility. By equipping teachers with the tools to create eco-friendly solutions for daily needs, the preschool is not only enhancing the well-being of its community but also contributing to a more sustainable future. This initiative serves as a model for other educational institutions, showcasing the positive impact that proactive environmental education can have on individuals, communities, and the planet as a whole.

#### ANIMAL APPRECIATION DAY

Written by. Miss Sinta



ISMILE Preschool Bandung hosted an engaging event last February 23, 2024, focused on appreciating animals. This event brought together kids, parents, and a variety of pets, aiming to deepen the students' understanding and appreciation for the animal kingdom. Parents enthusiastically joined in, offering their beloved pets to be part of this educational experience. Consequently, the school playground transformed into a bustling mini-zoo, with children arriving excitedly to explore the wonders of the animal world.



The assortment of animals present was diverse, ranging from a friendly pony, and fascinating macaws to playful dogs, colorful fish, a lizard, a cuddly kitten, turtles, frogs, and even live and decaying insects. These encounters provided valuable lessons for the children, teaching them about respecting and caring for animals while recognizing the unique needs and characteristics of each species.

A notable highlight of the event was the grooming session for some of the dogs. Guided by experienced groomers, the children observed the grooming process, learning about the importance of pet care and hygiene. Witnessing the dogs being pampered and cared for left a lasting impression, reinforcing the principles of responsible pet ownership.

Overall, the animal appreciation event successfully fostered a deeper connection with nature and instilled a sense of stewardship for the welfare of animals. The support and participation of parents were greatly appreciated, ensuring that the children were left with hearts full of joy and minds enriched with newfound knowledge about the incredible diversity of life on Earth.

























### Love Blossoms: Valentine's Day Creations

W<mark>ritten B</mark>y. Miss Nadia

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Love and happiness filled the atmosphere at ISMILE Bandung as our preschoolers enthusiastically embraced Valentine's Day with open arms! With excitement bubbling, the children embarked on a delightful journey to craft special Valentine's Day cards for their cherished parents. With each child adding their own unique flair, creativity flourished in our classroom.



Using leaves from our garden or crushed red beans as decorations, our young artists poured their hearts into their creations. With crayons and scissors in hand, they meticulously crafted heart-shaped ornaments, infusing each one with boundless affection. Yet beyond the colorful visuals, these cards were infused with heartfelt messages, expressing gratitude and love for their moms and dads.

This creative activity not only sparked their imaginations but also offered various developmental benefits. As they engaged in cutting, coloring, and writing, their fine motor skills were strengthened. Moreover, the opportunity to express their emotions through art encouraged emotional intelligence and empathy. By showing appreciation for their parents, the children cultivated a sense of gratitude and strengthened their familial bonds.













As they proudly presented their handmade treasures, the room filled with warmth and joy, reminding us of the profound impact of simple acts of love. This Valentine's Day at ISMILE Bandung was not just a celebration, but a beautiful testament to the pure love radiating from the hearts of our precious children.



















# Project Work Expeditions

Written by. Miss Maica

As we are nearing the end of our project work, each class sets out on visits related to their class projects. On Thursday, March 7, 2024, classes N2 A, K1, and K2, accompanied by their parents and dedicated caregivers, headed for a visit to Tahura. The day unfolded under the guidance of Ms. Fem, who commenced with an opening song prayer, "Mighty Is Your Love." The atmosphere was further enriched with a delightful echo song that energized everyone and a soothing session of relaxing breathing exercises. Ms. JC then introduced the engaging "I Spy" game, capturing the children's attention and enthusiasm.

After the game, they took on the role of detectives led by Ms. Sharon. Parents, guardians, and children collaboratively investigated various specimens listed on the Nature Detective Form. Along the journey, they stumbled upon unexpected discoveries that heightened their curiosity. Equipped with their investigation kits and utilizing Google Lens, everyone worked together. They identified the common and scientific names of the specimens. They took the time to record their discoveries in the Nature











Detective Form, which added to their learnings and promoted a better understanding of the frogs, butterflies, and dragonflies that live in Tahura's natural environment.

The following day, classes of N1 A-D, accompanied by their parents, visited the Bandung Zoo to observe elephants, fish, and various other animals. N1 A and C were thrilled to see several kinds of fish in ponds and aquariums, and they even had a fascinating experience with an alligator fish. Meanwhile, N1 B and D explored the world of elephants as they met Salma, a gentle elephant in the Bandung Zoo. The children had the opportunity to feed and touch the elephant's trunk, fostering a memorable interaction. The children enjoyed a zoo scavenger hunt. They stayed in small groups of four, taking turns to make marks on the animals they encountered on their Animal Scavenger Hunt List.

While N2 B-C went on a field trip to Kota Baru Parahyangan, with their project work on houses. They visited a house display gallery, explored under-construction sites, and toured fully furnished houses. Engaging in hands-on activities, they collaborated with their parents to construct clay houses, testing their stability against wind strength. The experience was not only enjoyable but also deeply educational, leaving a lasting impression on the children.







The field trip offered many benefits to the ISMILE community. It encouraged teamwork, enhanced understanding of nature, and linked classroom learning to experiences. Students' curiosity and critical thinking were stimulated through hands-on exploration, and the enjoyable trip left a impact, fostering lasting appreciation for the environment. Overall, it provided educational, social, and personal growth opportunities, enriching the learning journey for everyone involved.







































































