

ISMILE MENTENG NEWSLETTER



Term 4/2025 – 2026



Celebrating a Wonderful Year of Growth and Joy

Dear Parents,

Congratulations to all our precious preschool children for completing another meaningful academic year! It has been a beautiful journey watching each of you learn, grow, explore, and shine in your own special way. From building confidence and learning new skills to forming friendships and reaching wonderful milestones. Your laughter and accomplishments brought so much pride and joy to your parents, teachers, and everyone around you. We celebrate not only all that you have learned, but also the amazing individuals you are becoming.

To our dear graduates and children moving up to the next level, we are so proud of you! As you begin new adventures, continue to believe in yourselves, stay curious, and keep shining brightly wherever you go. May you continue to grow in wisdom, and love for learning in the years ahead.

To all our wonderful parents, thank you for your unwavering love throughout the school year. Your encouragement and collaboration helped create a nurturing environment where the children could truly flourish.

As this academic year comes to a close, we thank God for His guidance and abundant blessings. May our hearts remain filled with gratitude as we look forward to the beautiful new beginnings ahead.



With love and heartfelt congratulations,
Ms. Jackie



What's Happening in Term 4



Infant and Toddler Rooms



Parents Corner



Nurturing Together



Nutrition Hub



Social Outreach Program



Kartini's Day



Earth Day



Easter



Family Day



Teacher Training Program



End Year



Class Project



Summer Program



What's Happening in our

INFANT AND TODDLER ROOMS?

Each month, our Infant and Toddler classes explore a new theme to make learning more fun and engaging. These themes help children learn through joyful and meaningful activities

APRIL

In April, the IT class explored colours through the Rainbow theme. The children enjoyed learning about colours through art and craft activities, sensory play, and fun songs.



MAY

The children explored the world of food through hands-on play and creativity. From making cookies to creating other tasty treats with edible materials, learning was both fun and delicious.



JUNE

The children went on a wild adventure, exploring different animals through fun and engaging activities. They also dressed up in animal costumes and enjoyed imaginative role play, bringing their favourite creatures to life!





CORNER

Welcome to Parents Corner, a space where families share stories, experiences, and perspectives from their parenting journey.



Mrs. Mehak, mother of Faiz (N2A)
— and Umar (Toddler C) —

A COMMUNITY THAT CARES

By Mrs. Mehak

As this school year comes to an end, I have found myself reflecting on just how true the saying is: **it takes a village to raise a child**. However, as simple as the saying sounds, it can be surprisingly difficult to find a village that truly shows up. Being part of someone's village takes patience, kindness, consistency, and care. It means showing up even in small ways, not just for the children, but for the parents as well.

Parents of preschoolers often come with a whirlwind of emotions: excitement, uncertainty, and a fair share of jitters. It almost makes me sympathise with the teachers, who must at times serve as part-time counselors, negotiators for overly attached parents, and dispensers of emergency tissues. It is safe to say that ISMILE has been all of this and so much more.

The care and attention that ISMILE offers are woven into every interaction. From Pak Subur, who helps ease the morning rush with a reassuring presence at the gate, to Miss Tika and Miss Andin, whose cheerful greetings set the tone for the day, to the teachers who patiently guide, encourage, and nurture our children.

ISMILE is so much more than a place of learning. It has become a second home, a place where our children are celebrated for who they are and encouraged to explore who they can become. This second home has also brought with it a community of parents who have become familiar faces and dear friends. We have celebrated milestones together, shared parenting victories and supported one another in ways we never expected.

The school has shown us what being part of a village truly means. In a world where everyone talks about the importance of community, ISMILE has created one. More than that, it has shown us how to be part of one. It has taught us that a strong community is built through small acts of kindness, generosity, and showing up for one another, day after day. As our children continue to grow, I know they may not remember every activity or every song they learned. What they will carry with them is the feeling of belonging, being cared for and being surrounded by people who believed in them. As a parent, that is something I will always cherish.

Thank you, ISMILE, for being our village.

By working together we can create a safer environment where children feel respected, heard, and protected.

Nurturing Together

BUILDING SAFETY AWARENESS

By Miss Jackie



The preschool years are an important time for children to begin learning about self-awareness, personal safety, and respect for others. At this age, children are naturally curious and are beginning to understand their feelings, boundaries, and relationships with people around them. Parents and schools play a very important role in guiding children with love, care, and age-appropriate conversations.

One of the first lessons children can learn is that their body belongs to them. Parents can gently teach children the proper names of body parts and explain that some parts of the body are private. Children should understand that they have the right to feel safe and comfortable at all times.

It is also important to teach children about safe and unsafe touch in a simple and calm manner. Parents can explain that trusted adults, such as parents or caregivers, may help them with bathing, dressing, or medical care when needed, but no one should touch their private areas without a valid reason. Children should also know that if something makes them uncomfortable, confused, or scared, they can say “no,” move away, and tell a trusted adult immediately. Open communication helps children feel safe and secure.

In school, we continue supporting children by teaching self-awareness, personal space, and respect for peers. Through classroom discussions, stories, role-playing, and daily interactions, children learn to:

- **Respect personal boundaries**
- **Ask permission before hugging or touching friends**
- **Use kind words and actions**
- **Recognize and express their feelings appropriately**
- **Develop empathy and respect for others**

We also encourage children to speak up when they feel uncomfortable and to seek help from trusted adults in school.

When parents and schools work together, children develop confidence, self-respect, and healthy social skills. By guiding them early with warmth and understanding, we help create a safe environment where children can grow, learn, and build positive relationships with others. (JG)

Nutrition Hub: Recipe from our Chef!

We're lucky to have an incredible Chef Rami here who makes the most delicious, healthy meals each day. We're sharing one of our Centre favourites with you here, let us know if your family loves it as much as we do!



KIDS-FRIENDLY CHICKEN RAMEN



Ingredients

- * 1 small pack chicken breast (for chicken stock)
- * 250gr chicken breast (boiled and shredded)
- * 1 pack ramen noodles (or fresh egg noodles)
- * 1 small carrot (cut into thin strips or flower shapes)
- * A few sheets of nori (seaweed), cut into small strips
- * 1 small handful of spinach or bok choy
- * 1 boiled egg (optional, cut in half)
- * 1 tsp sesame oil (optional)
- * A little soy sauce (optional, keep it light for kids)
- * A pinch of sugar
- * Spring onion for broth and topping (optional)

Cooking Steps

1. Boil 1 small pack of chicken breast with 3 cloves of garlic and spring onion in a pot of water.
2. Once the chicken is fully cooked, remove it from the pot.
3. Blend the cooked chicken and garlic until smooth, then return it to the broth.

Soup Base

1. Add soy sauce, a little pepper, salt, a pinch of sugar, and sliced shallots into the chicken broth.
2. Let it boil again for about 15 minutes so the flavors blend well.

Final Steps

Cook the ramen noodles until soft, then place them in a serving bowl. Arrange the cooked carrots, spinach or bok choy, and shredded chicken neatly on top of the noodles. Add strips of nori and half of a boiled egg for extra flavor and decoration. Finally, pour the warm chicken broth over the noodles and vegetables.



SOCIAL OUTREACH PROGRAM

VISITING SAHABAT ANAK GROGOL

By: Miss Melisa

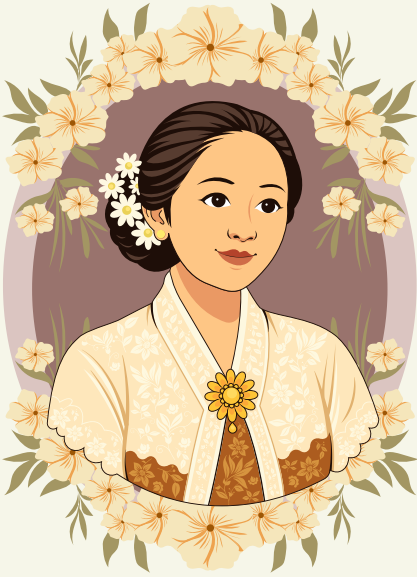


For this year's Social Outreach Program with K2, we held a social visit to Sahabat Anak Grogol on Saturday, **April 18th, 2026**. The event took place from 2:00 PM to 4:00 PM WIB and became a meaningful opportunity to show social care and togetherness with the children at Sahabat Anak Grogol. During this occasion, all of the students participated in a donation activity as a form of support and care for the children there. In addition, the program aimed to encourage empathy, kindness, and the spirit of sharing with others regardless of differences, creating a warm atmosphere filled with togetherness and compassion.

The event was filled with various fun and interactive activities with the children of Sahabat Anak Grogol, such as painting on canvas bags, listening to inspiring stories, and playing games together. Through these activities, all participants were able to build communication, teamwork, and meaningful experiences for everyone involved. We would like to express our sincere gratitude to all parents for their donations and support, as well as to everyone who helped make this year's Social Outreach Program with K2 a success. (MT)

Kartini's Day

By: Miss Eka



*"Out of darkness
comes light"*

R.A Kartini

On **21st April 2026**, our school joyfully celebrated Kartini Day, giving the children a meaningful opportunity to learn about Indonesian culture, history, and the importance of equality in education.

The children came to school dressed beautifully in kebaya and batik, creating a warm and festive cultural atmosphere in the classroom. Their traditional outfits made the celebration feel extra special and helped them feel proud of Indonesia's rich heritage. During the celebration, we introduced the children to Ibu Kartini through a mime performance that told the story of her life. The children learned that, in the past, girls were not allowed to go to school, and that Kartini bravely fought for women's rights and equal opportunities in education.

The highlight of the day was our kebaya and batik fashion show. The children proudly walked in front of their friends, showing their traditional clothes with excitement and confidence. Some children walked very confidently, while others showed growing courage as they participated. It was a wonderful moment of self-expression, confidence-building, and celebration of culture. Through this meaningful experience, the children developed a stronger sense of identity, confidence, and appreciation for the values of courage, respect, and equal opportunities for all. (ET)



Kebaya & Batik Show Time





Kebaya & Batik Show Time



EARTH DAY

By: Miss Nadia



On Wednesday, **22 April 2026**, our friends had a wonderful time celebrating Earth Day! The day was filled with meaningful experiences that helped the children learn how to care for God's beautiful creation while having fun with their friends. We were also delighted to see their creativity as they brought their school supplies in a variety of unique and reusable containers.

Throughout the celebration, the children enjoyed participating in an Earth Day Jam, watching an engaging puppet show, and taking part in sorting trash games that introduced simple recycling concepts. These activities encouraged them to think about ways they can help keep our environment clean and healthy.

One of the highlights of the day was the children's opportunity to plant herbs and trees. Through this hands-on experience, they learned about caring for living things and the important role plants play in our world. We hope these activities inspired our young learners to develop a love for nature and a sense of responsibility for protecting the Earth.



EASTER

A Day of Joy, Love, and Togetherness



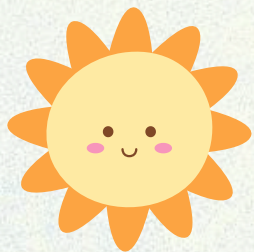
By: Miss Jenny



On Friday, **10 April 2026**, our school joyfully celebrated Easter with meaningful activities that helped the children learn about love, kindness, and togetherness.

We started the day with an exciting egg hunt in the playground, where teachers hid eggs for the children to find. The children happily searched together, showing teamwork, excitement, and lots of smiles. Inside the eggs, they found heart-shaped keychains, which made them feel curious and excited. Back in the classroom, the children learned that the heart symbol represents love and that Easter is about sharing love with family, friends, and everyone around us. They also enjoyed an egg painting activity, where they used their creativity to decorate Easter eggs with different colors and designs.

After that, we gathered in the gym with other classes to watch a puppet show and special performances about the meaning of Easter. The children listened attentively and learned valuable lessons about kindness and caring for others. We ended the celebration with a love feast, where everyone enjoyed food together and shared a wonderful sense of community. This special day helped the children strengthen their social skills, sense of belonging, and understanding of important values such as love, empathy, and kindness in a warm and joyful environment. **(JW)**



Fun Family Day

By: Miss Nadira

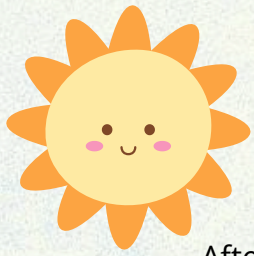


On **8 May 2026**, ISMILE Menteng celebrated our Family Day at Taman Suropati. It was a wonderful day filled with laughter, teamwork, and meaningful moments shared between children, their families, and the bigger community. The children and parents were divided into five mixed groups, consisting of students from N1 through K2. The groups were Blue, Yellow, Red, Green, and Purple. This gave everyone the opportunity to interact with friends from different classes while working together throughout the day.

Families enjoyed a variety of activities across five exciting game stations. Parents and children worked hand in hand to complete challenges, encourage one another, and create lasting memories together. The fun did not stop there! We ended the day with a special bazaar where the children had the opportunity to learn about entrepreneurship. Using ISMILE money, they could purchase food and drinks from the bazaar booths, which were set up by each class. The children also participated in the buying and selling process with guidance and support from their parents and teachers, making it a valuable hands-on learning experience.

Family Fun Day was a wonderful celebration of community, cooperation, and learning. We are grateful to all the parents, children, and teachers who helped make the day such a success. **(NP)**





Our Money, Our Choices!

After earning money at the Bazaar, the children shared their ideas on how to use it. Some wanted toys, some voted for a class party, and others chose to donate and help others. It was a wonderful opportunity to learn about making choices, working together, and caring for our community.



N1A shared daily essentials with the wonderful people who help keep our roads clean.



N1B&C chose to donate their money to Saaja Foundation.



N2A chose to purchase toys and make a donation through Kitabisa



N2B chose to donate their money to Taman Suropati park cleaner.



K1 chose to split the profits and celebrate their success together.



K2 put their Bazaar earnings towards their Farewell Party, creating lasting memories together

POSTCARD FROM KL

STORIES FROM THE WORLD FORUM ON EARLY CARE AND EDUCATION 2026



Dear ISMILE families, earlier this month, the directors and some of the educators of ISMILE family had the privilege of attending the World Forum on Early Care and Education in Kuala Lumpur — a global gathering of early childhood educators, leaders, and researchers from over 80 countries.

Over three days, I listened, learned, and reflected alongside fellow educators about what it truly means to care for and educate young children today. I came home with a notebook full of ideas — and a heart full of conviction about the work we do together at ISMILE.

If there was one word that followed me home from this conference, it would be connection. Across nearly every session — from neuroscience to nature play, from leadership to listening — educators kept circling back to the same truth: children learn best when they feel deeply connected to the adults around them. One of the speakers shared a line from Dr. Gabor Maté that stopped me in my tracks:

***"Safety isn't the absence of threat; it's the presence of connection."* — Gabor Maté**

I sat with that quote for a long time. As educators, we often think of safety as keeping children away from danger — sharp corners, loud noises, strangers. But this reframed it for me: ***real safety is not just about removing risks, it is about being present, being attentive, and being someone a child can trust.*** It made me see that when our children come into the classroom each morning, the most powerful thing we offer is not the curriculum or the materials, but ourselves — our calm presence, our listening ears, our warm hellos.

And the speakers reminded us that children are always communicating with us — not always with words, but through their behaviour, their play, even their silence. They are whispering to us all day long. Our job is simply to slow down and listen.

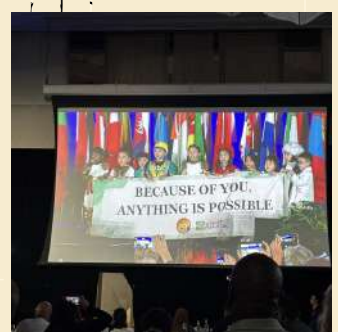
What truly inspired me was hearing fellow educators from around the world. Voices from Scotland, Malaysia, the United States, Indonesia, South Africa, and Haiti all said the same thing in different accents: ***children are not the future, they are the present, and how we treat them today is shaping the world we will live in tomorrow.***

Damian Tan reminded us that play is the natural language of children. Mazlina Che Mustafa from Malaysia warned us not to prepare children for the future while disconnecting them from their roots. Caroline Wright from Scotland challenged me with a question I'm still sitting with: ***"Are we equipping our children to navigate the digital world, or only protecting them from it?"*** And from Lilian Katz, this gem: ***"Remember that adults know more about almost everything than a small child does — except what it feels like to be that child."***

Through it all, one verse kept coming back to me: "Train up a child in the way he should go, and when he is old he will not depart from it" (Proverbs 22:6). In a world of AI, screens, and shifting trends, the most powerful thing we can give our children is a strong sense of who they are — rooted in love, identity, and faith.

So here's what I'm bringing home: more play, more listening, more nature, more trust. Less filtering, less rushing, less "be careful" — and more "do you feel safe?" To our parents: thank you for trusting us with your little ones. To our teachers: you are the reason classrooms feel like home. To our community: let's keep building a place where children are seen, heard, and loved.

Because at the end of the day, ***this is not just childcare — this is childhood.*** (AG)





Year End Concert The Book of Us

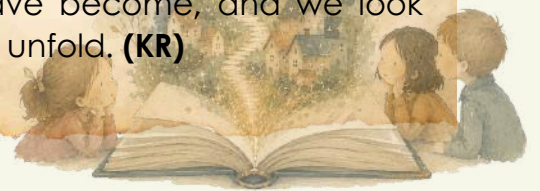
By: Miss Shenaz



On **12 June 2026**, our ISMILE community gathered at the beautiful Teater Kecil Taman Ismail Marzuki to celebrate a memorable milestone the Kindergarten Graduation and End of Year Performance, The Book of Us. Inspired by the belief that every child is the author of their own unique story, The Book of Us took families on a heartwarming journey through the many chapters of childhood.

Each performance represented an important chapter in their journey from tiny caterpillars learning and growing, to confident butterflies ready to spread their wings toward new adventures. The production beautifully reflected the experiences that shaped the children's year.

For our Kindergarten 2 graduates, the performance marked the closing of one meaningful chapter and the beginning of another. Together, we celebrated the laughter, achievements, and growth that have filled the pages of their stories this year. As the final curtain closed, The Book of Us served as a beautiful reminder that every child's story is unique, and while one chapter may have ended, many wonderful pages are still waiting to be written. Congratulations to all of our graduates and performers. We are so proud of the remarkable young learners you have become, and we look forward to seeing the next chapters of your stories unfold. (KR)



The Book of Us Gallery



The Book of Us Gallery



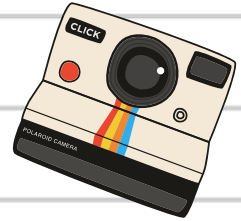
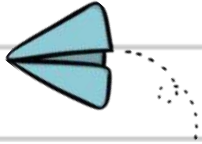
A Peek Behind the Scenes





We are so proud of you

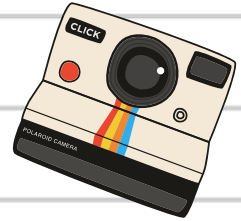
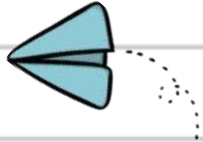
We will miss our K2 students dearly, and we wish each child endless success, happiness, and exciting new adventures ahead.





We are so proud of you

We will miss our K2 students dearly, and we wish each child endless success, happiness, and exciting new adventures ahead.



Vienna



Eleanor



Reinard



Shera



Jenica



Sean



Liora



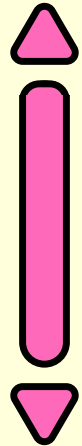
Giovanni





Our Class Project

This year, each class followed their interests to explore exciting topics through project-based learning. From N1 to K2, the children investigated, created, and shared their discoveries, which were proudly displayed in our End-of-Year Exhibition.



Ocean Animals by N1A



It began with the letter sound /u/ and a tray of water. Drawn by their curiosity, the children eagerly explored further, leading their learning journey into the fascinating world of the ocean. Through sensory play, art, clay, songs, and stories, they discovered sea animals and learned how to care for their watery home.

Goldfish by N1 B and C

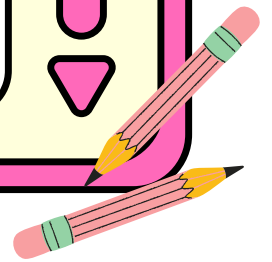
The arrival of a fish tank sparked the children's curiosity and inspired a journey of learning about goldfish and their needs. Through caring for the fish, they developed kindness, responsibility, and empathy for living things





Our Class Project

2025 – 2026



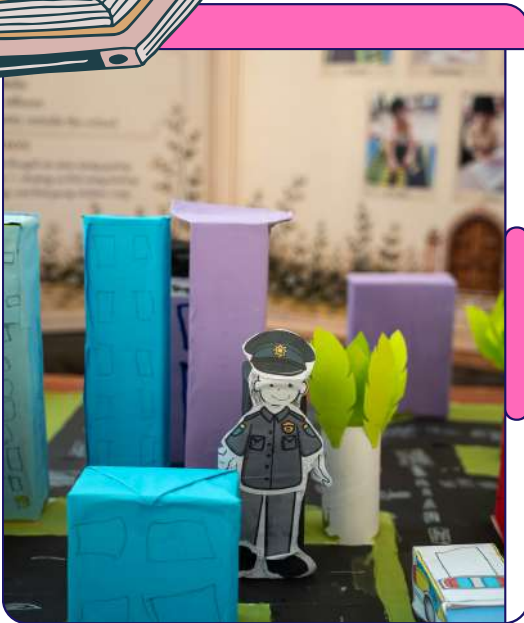
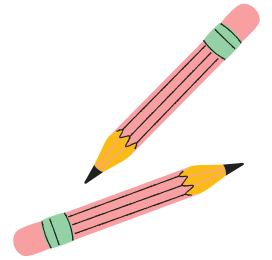
Rain by N2A

Curiosity led the way. From thoughtful conversations to hands-on experiments, creative art, and outdoor exploration, the children embarked on a wonderful journey of discovery, all inspired by the simple wonder of rain.

Construction by N2B

Inspired by the children's love of building, construction became the focus of their Project Work. Through creating with blocks and various materials, they developed creativity, teamwork, and problem-solving skills.





Transportation by K1



Inspired by the children's curiosity about police cars, K1 Project Work expanded into exploring different types of transportation and their roles in everyday life. Through art, dramatic play and discussions, the children discovered how transportation helps connect and support communities.



Crystal by K2

Inspired by their curiosity about crystals, the children explored how crystals grow and shine through hands-on experiments, art, and observation. Along the way, they became young scientists, artists, and explorers, discovering the wonders of the crystal world.



Scan here to read
our learning
stories.

Until the Next Chapter

As we close another beautiful chapter at ISMILE Menteng, our hearts are full of gratitude.

To our parents — thank you for entrusting us with your little ones every single day. Your partnership, your patience, and your trust are the foundation of everything we do.

Watching your children grow this year has been our greatest privilege.

To our educators — thank you for the unfailing love you pour into our children, their families, and one another as a team. The way you show up each day, with open arms and open hearts, is what makes ISMILE feel like home. Every story read, every tear wiped, every small celebration — it all mattered.

To our management — thank you for the unending support you give to our children, our families, and our staff. Your belief in this community and your steady hand behind every decision are what allow all of us to thrive.

And **to our children** — you are the heart of everything. Thank you for the laughter, the questions, the wonder, and the hugs. You remind us every day why we love what we do.

This is not the end.

It is simply a pause before the next beautiful beginning. We look forward to walking alongside you again — through new discoveries, new friendships, and new stories yet to be written.

With love,

The ISMILE Menteng Family





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ISMILE MENTENG
NEWSLETTER TEAM