...where every child shines

iSMILE

Interdisciplinary School of Multiple Intelligences Learning & Enrichment

NEWSLETTER



ISMILE MENTENG

Edition: TERM 1 | 2026

TABLE OF CONTENTS

01 Greetings from the Coordinator

03 Teachers' Training Program

04 First Week of School

06 Parents Orientation Day

07 Clifton Strength

08 Independence Day Celebration

10 Chapel

11 Open House

12 Infant & Toddler Corner

14 Term 1 Field Trip

16 Birthdays

17 Dates To Remember

GREETINGS FROM THE COORDINATOR

Dear ISMILE Menteng Parents,

A very warm welcome to all our families—both those who are new to ISMILE and those who have been with us for some time. Thank you for choosing to partner with ISMILE for Academic Year 2026–2027, and for your continued trust in our school and teachers.
As our first term comes to a close, it has been heartwarming to see how much our young learners have grown. We remember the tears during those first few weeks, and it has been wonderful to watch them gradually settle, gain confidence, and build trusting relationships with their teachers and friends.

We are also excited that through Storypark, we can give you a daily glimpse into your child's learning—sharing their activities, discoveries, and little achievements. We encourage you to take time to read these daily highlights and celebrate every small and big progress with us. Each moment, whether it is trying something new, making a friend, becoming more independent, or overcoming a challenge, contributes to your child's learning milestones.

This term has also brought many opportunities for children to learn and grow together through Friday Chapel, our Independence Day celebration, and our upcoming field trip. These shared experiences help children develop cooperation, communication, confidence, empathy, and a sense of belonging while learning to be part of a community.

We truly value the partnership between home and school. We hope our collaboration will continue to grow stronger in the weeks ahead as, together, we nurture children who are confident, compassionate, independent, curious, resilient, and joyful learners.

Thank you for being an important part of the ISMILE family. We look forward to celebrating many more milestones and memories with you!
With warmest regards,

Miss Jackie Gutierrez
Center Coordinator ISMILE Menteng

WELCOME TO THE SCHOOL YEAR 2026-2027!



TEACHERS TRAINING PROGRAM

Written by: Ms. Nadira





In preparation for the 2026–2027 academic year, the ISMILE team took part in a four-day Teacher Training Program from 6–9 July 2026, focused on strengthening our shared vision, mission, and commitment as educators. The first day was held at Jakarta Design Center, followed by three days at ISMILE Permata Hijau.

Throughout the training, teachers took part in discussions, activities, and reflections to strengthen our teaching practices and create a more consistent learning experience across classrooms. We also deepened our understanding of age-appropriate learning goals and children's development, while exploring ways to create active, engaging, joyful, and meaningful learning experiences.

The training also highlighted the importance of observing, documenting, and assessing children's learning and progress so that we can better understand their needs and provide the right support. We reflected on how teachers can encourage independence, curiosity, creativity, collaboration, and critical thinking through meaningful interactions and thoughtful learning environments.

The program also included First Aid Training, helping teachers build the knowledge and skills needed to respond to emergencies and keep children safe.
Overall, the four-day training was a valuable opportunity for learning, reflection, teamwork, and professional growth. With renewed energy and a shared understanding, we look forward to welcoming the new academic year and creating meaningful experiences where every child feels seen, heard, valued, and empowered.

FIRST WEEK OF SCHOOL

Written by: Ms. Melisa

The first week of school was full of big feelings, and our little ones showed great courage as they stepped into this new chapter. From finding their seats in an unfamiliar classroom to learning the names of new friends and getting to know their teachers, each day brought a little more comfort and confidence.
Some children arrived excited and ready to explore, while others needed extra comfort and encouragement to feel settled—and that's perfectly normal. Adjusting to a new routine took time, and we were proud of how well they settled in.

We are truly grateful to God for watching over our children and guiding them through this new beginning with love and grace. We are also grateful to all our parents for their patience and support during this transition. Together, we look forward to a wonderful year of growth, learning, and new friendships, trusting in God's blessings every step of the way and continuously supporting our children as they grow and learn.

















PARENTS ORIENTATION DAY

Written by: Ms. Angelika

On July 11, 2026, ISMILE warmly welcomed our parents for our first Parents Orientation Day as we began another meaningful school year together. The day started with warm smiles, positive energy, and a strong sense of trust as parents came to school with the hope and confidence that our teachers would guide their children to learn, develop, grow in independence, and build positive characters. Ms. Pipi warmly welcomed all the parents to another exciting school year at ISMILE with faith and love, while Ms. Jackie shared important information about the school, including ISMILE's educational philosophy, vision and mission, and the values that guide the way we support and teach young children. Parents were also oriented on important school routines, calendars, safety precautions, classroom expectations, and other essential information to help ensure a safe, nurturing, and positive learning environment for every child. It was also a wonderful opportunity for our teachers to introduce themselves and begin building meaningful connections with the parents, laying the foundation for a strong partnership between home and school.

Following the general orientation in the gym, parents moved to their respective classrooms according to their child's class level, where they had the opportunity to meet and connect with their child's teachers. This classroom orientation session created a welcoming space for parents and teachers to begin building meaningful relationships, share their child's strengths, interests, needs, and expectations, and discuss how they could work together to support each child's learning and development. Parents were encouraged to ask questions, share concerns, and communicate anything that would help teachers better understand and support their children. Through this open communication, understanding, and collaboration, the Parents Orientation Day marked an important first step in strengthening our home-school partnership. Together, parents and teachers can work hand in hand throughout the school year to nurture each child's growth, independence, learning, and positive character.



CLIFTON STRENGTH

LEADERS TRAINING

Investing in the People Who Lead Our School

When you send your child to our school, you're trusting us with their daily care and their long-term growth. We don't take that trust for granted. To make sure we're always bringing our best to your family, our leadership team recently spent two full days—August 24 and 25—in an intensive CliftonStrengths leadership workshop.



What is CliftonStrengths?

Created by Gallup, CliftonStrengths is a leadership tool used by schools and organizations worldwide. Instead of focusing on what people do wrong, it identifies what they naturally do well so they can build on those innate talents.

Who Led the Workshop?

We were fortunate to learn from Dr. Jacqueline Chung, PhD. Dr. Chung is an Associate Faculty member at the Singapore University of Social Sciences (SUSS), an Adjunct Lecturer at the National Institute of Early Childhood Development (NIEC), and an ECDA Fellow—a designation awarded by Singapore's Early Childhood Development Agency to top leaders driving quality in early education.

What We Learned About Our Team?

Looking at our leadership group as a whole, our strengths cluster heavily around Relationship Building and Executing. In plain terms: our team naturally builds deep trust with others, and we get things done.

Our top five collective strengths are:

· Learner: Driven by a desire to keep growing and improving.
· Responsibility: Owning our commitments and following through with integrity.
· Relator: Building genuine, deep relationships and working hard alongside people we trust.
· Belief: Guided by strong core values that bring purpose to everything we do.
· Developer: Spotting potential in others and helping them grow.

Why This Matters for Your Child

Over the two days, our leaders mapped out how their individual styles fit together. We realized that our differences are our biggest asset: some of us push initiatives forward, others keep the team grounded, and others focus on strategy and care. Instead of working in silos, we walked away with a clear plan to use these complementary strengths every day.

When our leadership team communicates clearly and supports one another, that stability trickles down. It means stronger support for our teachers, smoother school operations, and a warmer, more supportive environment for your child.

Investing in our staff is an ongoing commitment. When our leaders grow, our whole school community thrives.

INDEPENDENCE DAY CELEBRATION

Written by: Ms. Nadiah











What a wonderful and meaningful celebration we had as we came together to celebrate Indonesia's Independence Day through our special event, "Indonesiaku: Celebrating Our Diversity." Throughout the day, our children had the opportunity to learn about Indonesia's Independence Day through joyful, age-appropriate experiences. They explored, listened, participated, performed, and enjoyed special moments together with their friends and teachers.

The celebration began in the classroom with a fun provocation activity, followed by a simple introduction to Indonesia's Independence Day. Through these activities, the children were encouraged to learn about their country and develop an appreciation for Indonesia and its beautiful diversity. One of the highlights of the celebration was our class performance. Each class proudly presented a traditional Indonesian song:

N1 A: Gemu Famire
N1 B: Sinanggar Tulo
N2 A & C: Caca Marica
K1: Yamko Rambe Yamko

It was wonderful to see our children participate with enthusiasm and confidence. Their performances reflected not only their preparation and learning, but also the joy of sharing a special moment with their friends and teachers. The children then joined the flag ceremony at the school parking lot and sang "17 Agustus" together. This meaningful experience gave them an opportunity to participate in a simple celebration of Indonesia's Independence Day and experience the spirit of togetherness.

After the ceremony, the children enjoyed snack time with their classmates before continuing their final activity of the day, a tour around different stations prepared by mommy volunteers. This provided another opportunity for them to explore their surroundings and enjoy learning outside the classroom. Through this celebration, we hope our children continue to grow in confidence while developing an appreciation for Indonesia's diversity, culture, and national identity. Most importantly, we hope they carry with them the values of friendship, respect, unity, and togetherness.

Thank you, dear parents, for your continued support and for helping make this special celebration a memorable experience for our children.
We are very proud of our little learners and all that they have accomplished.

Happy Independence Day, Indonesia!











CHAPEL

Written by: Ms. Jackie

Every Friday, our Nursery 1, Nursery 2, and Kindergarten 1 children come together for Friday Chapel, a special time to celebrate God's goodness and give thanks for His blessings. More than just a weekly gathering, Chapel gives our young learners an opportunity to build friendships across classes, develop a sense of belonging, practice cooperation and respect, and grow in confidence as part of a community. With joyful hearts, the children sing worship songs together and learn about our monthly Character Focus and Memory Verse. Our recent focuses have been Attentiveness in July, Politeness in August, and Honesty in September.

Each class takes a turn to contribute to Chapel by sharing and reciting the character focus and verse, leading a song, or facilitating a fun game. A key question guides our teachers each Friday: "How can we apply this character focus in school and at home?" Through these simple, meaningful conversations, children are encouraged to turn what they learn into everyday actions. We also love seeing how, week after week, our children become more comfortable standing in front of their friends, speaking on stage, and sharing with confidence. For our Muslim children and those from other faith backgrounds, we also provide meaningful activities that respect their beliefs while supporting the shared goal of nurturing kindness, good character, respect, and positive values in every child.

Our Friday Chapel reflects a beautiful reminder from Scripture: "Train up a child in the way he should go; even when he is old he will not depart from it." — Proverbs 22:6. We believe that the character and values we nurture today become the foundation for the people our children will grow to be. We are grateful to our parents for partnering with us in this journey and for continuing these lessons at home, where little acts of attentiveness, politeness, honesty, kindness, and respect can make a big difference.









OPEN HOUSE

Written by: Ms. Janeta

On September 12, we welcomed families to our Open House, giving them an opportunity to experience our school environment and discover how learning comes to life through play, exploration, and meaningful interactions.

The day began with a short trial class for our Infant and Toddler programme, where families were invited to experience a glimpse of our classroom routines and learning experiences. Families then continued their journey by touring the school, exploring the different learning spaces and getting to know the environment where our children learn, grow, and develop their independence.

One of the highlights was the opportunity for families to explore and enjoy the various provocations prepared throughout the school. From sensory and nature-based experiences to creative and hands-on activities, each provocation encouraged curiosity and invited children and parents to discover, experiment, and engage together.

Through this experience, families were able to see how our learning environment is intentionally prepared to spark curiosity, encourage exploration, and support children in becoming confident and capable learners. It was a joyful day filled with exploration, connection, and discovery as families experienced our learning environment together.

Thank you to all the families who joined us and made the day so special.

We look forward to continuing this beautiful learning journey together.





INFANT & TODDLER CORNER

Written by: Ms. Shenaz

Little Hands, Big Discoveries

Term 1 has been a joyful journey of curiosity, exploration, and discovery! From June to September, our Infant and Toddler learners explored their world through sensory experiences, art, music, movement, stories, and playful provocations.

Our journey began with Beautiful Indonesia, where the children discovered the richness of Indonesian heritage through familiar colours, textures, foods, music, and cultural experiences. Our Infants explored through touching, tasting, observing, grasping, and moving, while our Toddlers began making connections, expressing their ideas, and exploring alongside their friends.

















We then continued our adventure with Bite-Sized Learners, bringing everyday food into our learning experiences. Fruits, vegetables, rice, proteins, and other familiar foods became materials for sensory play, creative expression, early literacy, and numeracy. From tomato-inspired art and food sensory play to raspberry-inspired kinetic sand and risotto creations, the children discovered that learning can be delicious, messy, and fun!

Beyond the activities, every experience supported the children's growing confidence, independence, communication, executive function, and social connections. Whether reaching for a new texture, making a colourful mark, trying something unfamiliar, or sharing an experience with a friend, each little moment became meaningful learning.

As we look back on Term 1, we celebrate not only what our children created, but how they explored, connected, experimented, and grew along the way.

Here's to more curious minds, messy hands, and wonderful discoveries ahead!

FIELD TRIP

JAKARTA AQUARIUM & SAFARI

Written by: Ms. Celinda

Our First Field Trip!

On 18 September, the children and teachers went on our very first field trip of Term 1 to Jakarta Aquarium & Safari! It was made even more special with some parents joining us and our wonderful parent volunteers who generously supported us throughout the day. The children had the opportunity to see a variety of sea and land animals, including adorable foxes and capybaras! They also enjoyed watching a beautiful mermaid show, which added an extra touch of excitement to their adventure.

Most importantly, we were so happy to see the children's bright and happy faces as they explored their surroundings, discovered new things, and enjoyed this special experience together. It was truly a wonderful way to end Term 1 and create beautiful memories as ISMILE Menteng family!












Field Trip






KI



Happy Birthday

JULY - SEPTEMBER

JULY
Aisyah (Luna) - 8th July 2024
Daisy Alicia Halim – 10th July 2024
Edmund Martono – 12th July 2024
Kayla K. Wijaya – 17th July 2023
Lawrence Jacobus Loupatty – 17th July 2024
Ved Basendra – 17th July 2024
Mohammad Faiz Akbany – 21st July 2022
Marianela Keyna Tarigan – 26th July 2023
Mandy Rose Marthen – 28th July 2023

AUGUST
Isabelle - 1st August 2025
Lleyton Alexander Tan – 8th August 2022
Ryshaka Xarvine Benaiah – 8th August 2025
Regan Alexander Widjaya – 14th August 2025
Filipua Kind Silalahi – 17th August 2024
Adelaide Jaoe – 21st August 2024
Elijah George Hartoyo – 23rd August 2023
Arshiv - 25th August 2024

SEPTEMBER
Arzen - 2nd September 2024
Kamila Amaya Amir - 5th September 2025
Sophia Gunawan – 22nd September 2024
Mohammad Umar Akbany – 10th September 2024

DATES TO REMEMBER

September 12, 2026 (Third Open House)

September 18, 2026 (Field Trip)

September 21-25, 2026 (Term Break)

September 28, 2026 (Term 2 Back to school)

October 10, 2026 (Fourth Open House)

October 19-23, 2026 (Children's Week and UN Day)

November 14, 2026 (Fifth Open House)

November 27, 2026 (Christmas/End-of-Year Celebration)

December 04, 2026 (Parents-Teacher Conference)

December 7-18, 2026 (Holiday Program)

December 21-31, 2026 (Christmas Holiday)

December 25, 2026 (Christmas Day)

January 6-8, 2027 (Teachers' PDD)

January 8, 2027 (Parents' Orientation Day)

January 11, 2027 (Term 3 Back to School)



Proudly presented by: ISMILE Menteng Newsletter Team 2026-2027