

# Netbooks help improve orang asli pupils' performance

## KUALA LUMPUR

SCHOOLS that use mini-computers as part of its push in classroom teaching, find pupils perform better with higher concentration levels and eagerness to study compared with those in traditional classrooms.

SK Bukit Lanjan (Asli) Damansara Perdana headmaster Nazri Mash Turki said the pupils, mainly from the Temuan tribe, find using the netbook exciting as there is a plethora of engaging graphics that allow them to understand their subjects better.

"Using the netbook makes an incredible learning experience. Technology in the classroom can be a powerful tool for learning and comprehension. Interactive

graphics provide a very engaging experience for primary school pupils," he said.

Dialog Group Bhd launched the 21st Century Classroom Transformation Project (SPA-21) at SK Bukit Lanjan where it refurbished nine classrooms and equipped them with netbooks, LED televisions and LCD projectors as part of an encouraging learning environment. SPA-21 is compulsory for all schools in Selangor's Petaling district.

Instead of the conventional chalk and talk teaching method, SPA-21 emphasises on enabling pupils to learn in a comfortable and conducive environment to allow for better absorption of lessons while enhancing their soft skills at the same time.

The initiative is part of a wider push to increase digital skills among young people.

The makeover is also in line with the evolving needs of the current generation of 21st century learners.

MyKasih Foundation trustee Siti Khairon Shariff together with its managing director Jeffrey Perera handed a mock cheque of RM47,000 for the refurbishment of the classrooms and equipment to Nazri in the presence of parent-teacher association chairman Norazman Jamalin and his deputy Zakiah Abdullah.

Founders of MyKasih Foundation (a non-governmental organisation) are Dialog Group Bhd executive chairman Tan Sri Dr Ngau Boon Keat and his wife Puan Sri Jean Ngau.



Perera (second right) with SK Bukit Lanjan headmaster Nazri Mash Turki (in coat) observing pupils using the netbook for their school work.