



KERATAN SURAT KHABAR

SURAT KHABAR	:	STAR METRO		
TARIKH	:	2/7/2021 (JUMAAT)	MUKA SURAT	: 7
JABATAN	:	PERHILITAN		

A STUDENT-led initiative has raised RM43,500 for conservation groups dedicated to saving the critically endangered Malayan tiger.

The funds were distributed at a virtual school assembly recently to three groups involved in conservation efforts — Wildlife and National Parks Department Peninsular Malaysia (Perhilitan), Malaysian Conservation Alliance for Tigers (MyCat) and WWF-Malaysia. Representatives from each beneficiary attended the assembly and spoke about their organisations to the students.

The fundraising effort was spearheaded by Sasha Philip, a Year Seven student in British International School of Kuala Lumpur (BSKL).

Sasha became interested in the Malayan tiger and wanted to help raise awareness following a school research project on endangered animals.

"I could not ignore the plight of the Malayan tiger.

"I wanted to do my part to save my family's favourite animal from extinction.

"When we make the world a better place for tigers, we also make the world a better place for us," she said.

Encouraged by her parents and teacher, Sasha created a group called "BSKL for Malayan Tigers" with the aim of making a difference.

The group worked with a core membership of 13 students dedicated to raising awareness of the tiger's plight and making a change.

They hosted a variety of activities, events and fundraisers throughout the 2019/2020 school year before the global pandemic interrupted on-site learning.

The group created a student art competition to raise awareness and then turned the winning entries into a 2020 calendar, which they printed and sold to raise funds.

The calendar included a foreword written by Tun Dr Siti Hasnah Mohd Ali, the wife of former prime minister Tun Dr Mahathir Mohamad.

They hosted a school assembly and worked with the primary school library team to educate BSKL

Keeping an eye on the tiger

Love for big cat leads student, schoolmates to raise over RM40,000



Students admiring works of the art competition winners.

students about the Malayan tiger. They even created the first BSKL Tiger Day in January 2020.

The group's entrepreneurial spirit led them to develop a unique branding for BSKL for Malayan Tigers, which they put on merchandise such as hats, T-shirts, metal straws and bags.

The items were sold at the school's Christmas bazaar and Tiger Day events.

Most of the funds raised were generated through proceeds of these sales.

"Sasha's work showcases her deep personal care and activism for the plight of the Malayan tiger and it has been incredible to support and develop her work," said the school's head of Primary, Simon Sharp.

While the pandemic and subsequent school campus closures

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Sasha Philip

have impacted their efforts to engage students during the school year, Sasha is hopeful of future activities led by the group.



Sasha and Zac Philip posing in front of a Wildlife and National Parks Department poster at the school's Tiger Day event.