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30<sup>th</sup> August 2021

Greetings Sponsors, Sister Schools and Members,

Hi everyone,

Better news from Bali this week. On Friday 27<sup>th</sup> new infections daily have dropped to 558 with 45 deaths overnight. The seven-day average for new infections is 667 with 52 deaths. The total numbers tested in Indonesia on 27/8/21 were 107,500 and showed 11.7% positive cases. The seven-day average was 13.5% so there is a downward trend. Vaccination rates for Bali up to 25/8/21 – 1<sup>st</sup> dose 3,148,164 (72.9%) and 2<sup>nd</sup> dose 1,684,582 (39%). On Saturday 29,153 were vaccinated.

Today, the news is just in at 10.00 am – new cases 302, deaths 44. The seven-day positive average fell again to 573 which is nine days straight under 1,000. Active cases in Bali number 6,931. Looking better!

Yesterday, the Kaba Kaba team was out and about. Their team is Alit Widia, Made Sudarmawan, Wayan Sekarini and Putu Widna and their students. Their motto: Clean and healthy so let's free our surroundings from plastics and rubbish. The participants are 25 past and present students from SMP, SMA and SMK in five groups and the areas to collect from initially will be Kaba-Kaba, Nyambu and Kekeran. They will work in groups, twice a month on the second and fourth Sunday of each month or when there is a Temple Ceremony, Wedding or other village activity. Students will collect recyclable rubbish at home and about and then on these days will exchange a 50kg sized bag of rubbish for 5kgs of rice. It is hoping that down the track, keeping the villages clean and recycling rubbish will become a way of life. Many are putting up their hand to join the programme. Rice is a necessity, and they will be accommodated as time goes.



## From Oka Darmaja - RUBBISH FOR RICE BY ADOPT A SCHOOL PERTH, WESTERN AUSTRALIA - RUBBISH FOR RICE IN BEBETIN, BULELENG, BALI

A Couple hours after arriving in my home village in Bebetin Village two young girls approached me with their sweet smiles, one of the girls opened the conversation “when did you arrive home, Uncle? “3 hours ago” I replied. She continued, “I have been waiting for your coming.” I have collected 2 sacks of rubbish plastic, I collected them from the road side, shops and yard and now I want to change them with rice for my family. I am happy doing this, I am happy because I can help my mother to earn rice for meals. Do you carry any rice now? she asked” “Yes of course and give me your rubbish” I said.

And finally Wayan Ningrat and her friend Susi had each 2 sacks of rice each 5 kg. They were very happy they can help their family. Ningrat is a funny and a hard working girl, since the first time the R4R established she always takes a part in this program because she can help her mother who is a single parent and without any job (her father passed away years ago). She is also happy because she can keep her environment clean.

That’s testimony from one of the recipients of this program and useful for them, family and environment. Since the program established many students realize how important to keep our village free from plastic.

In Bebetin area 26 sacks of rice distributed last week.



*Ningrat and Susi were happy to get the rice.*

A message from one of the Food Aid recipients via Oka:

*“Terima kasih untuk bantuan sembakonya,saya mewakili dari semua yg telah merimanya , saya ucapkan banyak terima kasih kepada donatur dari Perth,Australia dan Pak Oka yang membantu menyalurkan di lingkungan kami. 🙏🙏🙏👍”Bantuan ini sangat berarti bagi kami selama pandemi dan PPKM ini.*

I had this oral and written message dedicated to sponsors who enabling this program continues until now.

It is translated : *”Thank you for the food aid. I and families who received the food aid want to say thank you very much to donators from Perth, Australia and Pak Oka who helps distribute in our area. The Parcel has been life saving for us during Pandemic and PPKM (Emergency public activity restriction)”.*

Oka is continuing to distribute Food Aid as well as running the R4R programme in his areas, North in Bebetin and many of the villages South of Kuta in the foot of Bali where he teaches. I'm sure I don't know when he sleeps.

Yuni is continuing to distribute 25kg bags of rice for the most needy in Denpasar. She is still recovering from her bout of Covid last October and has been deemed a 'long Covid case'. Keep improving Yuni, we all appreciate what you are doing even though you are still not well. Take care of yourself please.

In Pandek Gede, Dharma and his team are still working on the mammoth job of clearing the land for the Community Vegetable Garden. Years of dumped rubbish need to be removed before they can start to prepare the ground.

Ida Bagus Mantra is distributing rice in Klungkung areas and in some of the northern villages when he is there.

Our little guy with no hands, Putu Risma, whose education is sponsored by AAS through the Global Village Foundation, which monitors the family, maintains his bike and generally keeps an eye on the family, is pretty excited about returning to school this year, even if it is only 'online' for a while. Thank you to all of the AAS Education Sponsorship sponsors, even though there is no school attendance, fees still need to be paid and our coordinators will be doing that in the very near future. Please ensure if you are continuing as a sponsor that your payment is up to date. The teachers are working very hard providing work packages for those with no internet, computers and phones. Not the best scenario but the best that can be done under the circumstances.



Thank you to everyone who is making these programmes possible through your donations. It wouldn't be possible with your generosity.

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Best Regards,

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