

NEWSLETTER

# SOPHOSTICATED

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2024

SOPHOS SCHOOL INDONESIA



## IGNITING INNOVATION: SECONDARY SCIENCE FAIR 2024

PRIMARY SPORTS DAY 2024:  
UNLEASH THE CHAMPION WITHIN!

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## **New Beginnings: New Students Orientation 2024/2025**



The New Students Orientation for the 2024/2025 academic year is a pivotal moment for our incoming students. It is their first step in exploring the place where they will grow, learn, and create lasting memories. During this event, they did not only meet the dedicated teachers who would guide them through the year but they also would discover the exciting new facilities and spaces in our brand-new Building C. This impressive addition would be a hub for learning and collaboration, open to all students at Sophos School Indonesia. Getting to know this building is essential, ensuring a smooth start to their academic journey and setting the tone for a successful year ahead.

Several reasons why the New Students Orientation for the 2024/2025 academic year is important for students:

### **Reducing Anxiety and Stress**

For many, returning to school after a long break can be stressful and anxiety-inducing. The New Students Orientation for the 2024/2025 academic year provides an opportunity for students to gradually adjust to the school environment, get to know their classmates, and gain a better understanding of how school activities and learning processes will take place.

This gradual introduction helps ease the common anxieties and stress that often arise when starting school.

### **Building Unity and Togetherness**

This orientation also offers a valuable moment for students to interact with their classmates and teachers. These early connections foster a sense of community and teamwork, helping students more easily adapt to the social environment of the school. Strong relationships with peers and teachers have a positive impact on both their motivation to learn and the overall classroom atmosphere.

### **Understanding School Culture and Values**

Every school has its own unique culture and set of values that form its identity. During the New Students Orientation for the 2024/2025 academic year, students are introduced to the school's culture and values, including expected behavioural norms. Understanding these values helps students better engage with their school environment and adopt behaviours that align with the school's culture.



## Providing Essential Information to Students and Parents

In addition to familiarising students with the school environment, the New Students Orientation serves as an opportunity for both students and parents to receive important information about school policies, educational programs, and upcoming events for the academic year. This information is invaluable in helping both students and parents prepare effectively for the year ahead and beyond.

### Event Rundown

The event began with the welcoming of students at the lobby or main entrance of Building A, after which the students were guided to their respective classrooms. Homeroom teachers led the next part of the orientation. After that, students participated in a school tour where they were taken through all the rooms in Buildings A, B, and C, starting from different points in each unit. After the tour, which concluded around 10:00 AM WIB, students returned to their classrooms and engaged in various games to fill the time until dismissal.



## The First Days of School: Academic Year 2024/2025



The start of the 2024/2025 academic year at Sophos School Indonesia was nothing short of spectacular. It kicked off on Monday, 15 July 2024, with a memorable day of activities and celebrations. The day was made even more significant by the inauguration of the long-awaited new school building. This occasion, paired with the excitement of new experiences across all school levels, set a positive tone for the year ahead.

### New Building Inauguration

The first day began with an official ribbon-cutting ceremony, marking the grand opening of the new building. A prayer of thanks followed the traditional "tumpeng" cutting. Equipped with state-of-the-art facilities, including an expansive cafeteria and upgraded sports areas, the new building symbolizes the school's ongoing commitment to providing a top-quality education experience. A representative from the Sophos School Indonesia Foundation shared an inspiring message, -

highlighting how the building aligns with the school's vision of fostering a bright future for its students.

### Exploring the New School Building

Students were given a guided tour of the new facilities, with teachers leading the way. As they explored the bright and modern spaces where they would be learning, their excitement was palpable. Laughter and smiles filled the hallways, and the tour concluded with everyone enjoying a snack of soy milk and bread.

### Enriching Programs: Rumah Belajar & Club Demos

One of the most anticipated aspects of the day was the demonstration of the Rumah Belajar program. This signature initiative offers students the chance to cultivate their passions in non-academic areas such as Soccer (Brazilian Soccer), Coding (Koding Next), Digital Art (Ageru), Manga (One Creative Education), Robotics (One Creative Education), Taekwondo (Ku K1ck RA), Tahsin Qur'an (Qur'an Call), and Traditional Dance (Sanggar Mirah). Students watched the demos with eager eyes, ready to choose which activities they would like to explore further.

For secondary school students, the club demos provided an exciting glimpse into the range of extracurricular options available. Clubs like the Podcast Club, Drawing Club, Sophiance Dance Club, and SophosMUN Club presented their activities. What sets these clubs apart is that they are led and run by students, giving them valuable opportunities to develop leadership and organisational skills. The demos ignited students' enthusiasm, encouraging them to engage in clubs that align with their interests.

### A Warm Start for Preschoolers

The first few days of school are especially momentous for our youngest learners at Sophos Preschool. It's a time filled with new adventures, friendships, and experiences that will leave lasting memories. Adjusting to the routine can take time, especially for children who may find separating from their parents difficult. However, with patience and a nurturing environment, these transitions quickly become smoother. Children soon learn the daily rhythms of school, and the joy of discovering new things makes the process all the more exciting.

An additional highlight for preschoolers was the involvement of parents as guest teachers over four fun-filled days. Parents took on different teaching roles—Storytelling by Andrew's Mom, Art Craft led by Nayla's Mom, a Science Experiment by Shezan's Mom, and a Zumba session led by K2 parents. This program showcased the vital role parents play as active participants in their children's education, reinforcing their roles as teachers, advisors, and inspirations for their children.



## Looking Forward to a Year of Fun and Learning

At Sophos Preschool, learning is an adventure, and adventures are meant to be fun! Whether through games, singing songs, or creating art, every moment is filled with joy and discovery. As we embark on this new academic year, both students and teachers are ready to embrace a fantastic journey of growth, laughter, and learning. Sophos Kindy, Go Kindy, Go!

The first days of school at Sophos School Indonesia have set the stage for a year of success, adventure, and achievement. With new facilities, engaging programs, and a dedicated community, the future looks bright for all of our students. Let's look forward to a year of wonder and opportunity.

### Preschool Mini Field Trip: A Journey into Healthy Eating



At Sophos School Indonesia, learning goes beyond the classroom, and the preschool Mini Field Trip is a perfect example of how hands-on experiences can support children's knowledge. As part of their learning theme on healthy food, our preschool students embarked on an exciting mini field trip to the Na Po Tet Tofu Factory on 6-7 August 2024.

During this visit, the children explored the nutritional value of tofu, learning that it is an excellent source of plant-based protein essential for their growth and overall health. They engaged in a hands-on activity, trying their hand at making tofu themselves. The excitement was palpable as the children eagerly participated in the process, giving them a firsthand understanding of how tofu is made.

At the end of the trip, the children brought home not only the tofu they had made but also some fresh soy milk. To extend the learning experience, a follow-up task was given: the children and their parents were asked to turn the tofu into a packed meal for the next day. This activity not only reinforced the importance of healthy eating but also created a meaningful bonding experience between the children and their families.

Through this mini field trip, our preschoolers gained valuable insights into nutrition and healthy habits, making learning both fun and impactful.



## INDEPENDENCE DAY FESTIVITIES 2024



"**Sekali Merdeka, Tetap Merdeka!**" are words that ring true in the hearts and minds of Indonesians. Independence Day is a cherished occasion in Indonesia, considering the efforts by the national and local governments, down to the various neighbourhood associations, to ensure that every layer of society celebrates and enjoys the day. These activities remind us of our rich cultural heritage and the simple pleasures that bind our nation. Schools nationwide hold their programs to commemorate it in special ways. Sophos School Indonesia is, of course, no exception.

The school's Independence Day Festivities were held on 19 August 2024. The day began with a solemn flag ceremony in each division attended by students, teachers and staff. The red and white flag was hoisted to the attendees' singing of the national anthem, Indonesia Raya, which set the patriotic tone of the moment. This was followed by the reading of the Teks Proklamasi, which served as a poignant reminder of the struggles and triumphs that led to the country's independence in 1945. The ceremony concluded with inspiring brief talks from the Principals that emphasised the importance of national pride and the students' role in shaping the nation's future.

After the ceremony, the atmosphere shifted to one of joy and camaraderie as Primary and Secondary students participated in various traditional games such as marble relay, flag tag relay, cracker eating, clog and balloon race, sack race, dodgeball and tug-of-war, while the Preschool students played a variety of games involving balls, plates, socks and chopsticks. These games never fail to foster teamwork and enthusiasm among students, reminding them of the sense of community even amid competition.

Various contests were also held in the different divisions days before the festivities. Following is the list of the contests that were held. A list of winners is found at the end of this article.

#### **In Preschool**

- Mosaic making contest
- Patriotic songs solo singing contest

#### **In Primary**

- Poetry writing contest on the topic Keindahan Indonesia for Lower Primary and essay writing on the topic Persatuan Indonesia for Upper Primary
- Patriotic songs solo singing contest
- Gapura contest

#### **In Secondary**

- IG Reels contest on the topic *Hanya Ada di Indonesia...*
- Proclamation Text reading in the style of Bung Karno
- Gapura contest

The Independence Day celebration for preschoolers concluded with the announcement of the winners in the different games and the Mosaic Making and Singing contests, recognising their achievements in these fun competitions. Also, to acknowledge their efforts and enthusiasm throughout the event, all students were rewarded for participating. On the other hand, the Primary division concluded the celebration by holding an assembly where the three grand champions of the singing contest performed, and all of the winners of the different competitions and games were rewarded. The Secondary division also held an assembly where winners were recognised.

It was highlighted by a band performance of 7th graders that brought a lively and creative energy to close the celebration. These young and budding musicians showcased their talents with spirited songs, enhancing the festive atmosphere and encouraging their peers to express their creativity.

And so, this mix of solemn remembrance and joyful celebration ensured that Independence Day is not just a historical observance, but also a day of unity, pride and inspiration for the future generation.

### **Pelaksanaan Asesmen Nasional Berbasis Komputer (ANBK) di Sekolah Sophos Indonesia:**

#### **Langkah Menuju Peningkatan Mutu Pendidikan**



Kebijakan Merdeka Belajar yang didukung oleh Presiden Joko Widodo bertujuan untuk meningkatkan mutu pembelajaran dan hasil belajar siswa. Kementerian Pendidikan dan Kebudayaan (Kemendikbud) merencanakan penerapan Asesmen Nasional mulai tahun 2021 untuk menggantikan Ujian Nasional dan Ujian Sekolah Berstandar Nasional.

Menteri Pendidikan dan Kebudayaan, Nadiem Makarim, menjelaskan bahwa Asesmen Nasional tidak lagi berfokus pada capaian individu siswa, tetapi pada pemetaan sistem pendidikan secara keseluruhan. Asesmen ini bertujuan untuk mengevaluasi input, proses, dan hasil dari setiap sekolah.

Asesmen Nasional terdiri dari tiga bagian utama, yaitu Asesmen Kompetensi Minimum (AKM) untuk mengukur kemampuan literasi dan numerasi, Survei Karakter untuk menilai nilai-nilai Pancasila, serta Survei Lingkungan Belajar yang menilai kondisi pembelajaran di sekolah.

Pada tahun 2021, Asesmen Nasional akan digunakan sebagai pemetaan awal tanpa konsekuensi bagi sekolah atau siswa. Kemendikbud akan memberikan laporan hasil yang menunjukkan kekuatan dan area yang perlu diperbaiki di setiap sekolah untuk mendukung peningkatan mutu pendidikan.

Doni Koesoema dari Badan Standar Nasional Pendidikan menambahkan bahwa Asesmen Nasional diharapkan dapat memperbaiki kualitas pembelajaran dan lingkungan sekolah. Pemerintah mengajak seluruh pihak terkait untuk mendukung pelaksanaan Asesmen Nasional sebagai bagian dari upaya meningkatkan kualitas pendidikan di Indonesia.

Sebanyak 18 siswa SMA Sophos Indonesia tercatat telah mengikuti ANBK selama 2 hari pada 21-22 Agustus 2024. Disusul 30 siswa SMP Sophos Indonesia yang juga melaksanakan ANBK pada 11-12 September 2024.

Hari pertama dilakukan untuk mengerjakan soal-soal literasi dan survei karakter. Hari kedua dilakukan untuk mengerjakan soal-soal numerasi dan survei lingkungan belajar. Pelaksanaan ANBK di SMP dan SMA Sophos Indonesia berjalan baik, tertib dan lancar.

## Family Project Term 1

**2024/2025:**

### Healthy Food, Healthy Life at Sophos Preschool



From 9-13 September 2024, Sophos Preschool hosted an engaging and educational Family Project with the theme "Healthy Food, Healthy Life." This initiative aimed to strengthen the bond between parents and children while promoting awareness of the importance of nutrition and healthy eating habits. Through a series of interactive activities, the event encouraged families to actively participate in making healthier lifestyle choices.

Over the course of four days, each homeroom took turns presenting various healthy foods. The event kicked off with presentations from Toddler Butterfly and K1 Green on the first day.

On the second day, Toddler Dragonfly and K1 Yellow delighted the audience with their insights on nutritious meals. Nursery Starfish and K2 Orange followed on the third day, and the event wrapped up on the fourth day with contributions from Nursery Octopus and K2 Purple. Each class creatively showcased different types of healthy foods, explaining their nutritional benefits and offering tips on how to prepare them. The presentations not only educated the audience but also demonstrated the students' enthusiasm for healthy living.

To foster a strong sense of community, each day's activities concluded with a potluck, where families brought and shared homemade healthy dishes. This provided a wonderful opportunity for parents and children to explore a variety of nutritious meals together, reinforcing the theme of the event in a fun and interactive way.

The highlight of the project took place on Friday, 13 September 2024, with a special student's performance. The students had been preparing their dance routines throughout the week, and their performance was met with cheers and applause, adding to the joyful atmosphere. Following the performance, Mrs. Arry Cristia, M.Psi., a renowned psychologist, delivered an insightful talk titled "Positive Psychology and Healthy Lifestyles for Health and Happiness." In her session, Mrs. Arry discussed how positive psychology can be applied in daily life to improve mental health and well-being, especially for children. The discussion was interactive, with many parents engaging in a lively Q&A session, making it both informative and engaging for the audience.

The event concluded with the announcement of the favorite presentation winners from each class, recognizing the children's efforts and inspiring them to participate more actively in future projects. A group photo session brought the event to a close, capturing the spirit of unity and joy that had developed over the week.

The Family Project was a resounding success, creating lasting memories for families while promoting the importance of healthy eating. It was a meaningful event that not only fostered closer family connections but also reinforced the value of maintaining a healthy lifestyle for both children and parents alike.

## **Primary Sports Day 2024: Unleash the Champion Within!**



Sophos School Indonesia celebrated its inaugural Primary Sports Day on 23-24 September 2024, with great enthusiasm and excitement. Themed "Unleash the Champion Within," the event provided a thrilling opportunity for students to showcase their athletic skills across various sports. From Basketball and Futsal to Darts, Gymnastics, Badminton, Relay Races, and Javelin Throw, the two-day event was packed with action and energy.

After completing their Term 1 tests, the students were more than ready to participate in Sports Day, channelling their competitive spirits into the games. The event began with a grand opening ceremony, featuring a lively parade for each class level, accompanied by traditional Angklung music played by extracurricular participants. The atmosphere was further energised by an impressive cheerleading performance by Grade 4B girls, setting the tone for a day full of excitement.

But Sports Day at Sophos School Indonesia was more than just competition—it was about community and fun. Students were treated to UHT milk and boiled eggs, a healthy snack that kept their energy levels high throughout the day. The combination of sports and camaraderie made the event memorable for everyone involved.

Winners from each competition were awarded trophies, medals, and prizes, recognizing their hard work and dedication. But beyond the rewards, the students took away an important message: to never give up and always unleash the champion within.



Primary Sports Day 2024 was a resounding success, inspiring students to embrace physical activity and sportsmanship. It was a day of celebration, teamwork, and unforgettable moments that will fuel their passion for sports in the future.

## **Igniting Innovation: Secondary Science Fair 2024 at Sophos School Indonesia**



Schools are essential platforms for channelling students' interest in science. Effective learning is not only limited to classroom theory but also requires practical application through hands-on experiences. This approach helps students develop problem-solving skills and critical thinking abilities. Therefore, this year, Sophos School is once again holding its prestigious Science Fair, an event showcasing various unique and engaging projects where students can express their creativity and innovation.

The Science Fair took place on 23-24 September 2024, featuring 29 projects spanning across subjects such as physics, chemistry, and biology. All secondary-level students participated in the event, under the guidance of Ms. Cecil, Ms. Jenny, Ms. Bintang, and Ms. Lola, the science teachers.

The projects were completed during science class as well as after school, with varying durations ranging from two to three weeks depending on the complexity of the projects. The students showed great enthusiasm in selecting their projects, with some groups even considering three or four ideas before finally settling on one. Through these projects, students were trained to enhance their scientific skills, including teamwork, observation, experiment design, critical thinking, and creativity in problem-solving. When facing challenges during their experiments, students were naturally encouraged to think logically and come up with solutions to achieve the desired outcomes.



On the first day, students from grades 7 and 9, comprising 14 groups, presented their projects, while on the second day, students from grades 8, 10, 11, and 12, totaling 15 groups, showcased their work. The secondary students presented their experiments to primary students and teachers, explaining the process and results of their projects.

The exhibition was highly interactive, with primary students eagerly answering questions from the presenters and trying out the products from each science fair project. Additionally, Sophos School Indonesia held a competition for all secondary science fair projects, with one winner selected from each grade level. The judges for the competition were Ms. Desi, Ms. Sharon, and Mr. Daud. Here is the list of Science Fair winners:

- Grade 7 : Buzz wire game
- Grade 8 : Terrarium
- Grade 9 : Hydraulic power
- Grade 10 : Carnival Ride
- Grade 11 : Power grid using water wheel model
- Grade 12 : Making a simple drone

We are delighted to share that the Science Fair received overwhelming enthusiasm from all students. We hope that through this event, students not only improve their critical thinking skills but also build confidence, enhance communication skills, and deepen their interest in science.



# WALL OF FAME

CLASS OF 2024

## Sophos Scholars: University Bound

At Sophos School Indonesia, we take pride in nurturing students to be well-rounded individuals who are ready to embark on the next phase of their academic journey. As our Upper Secondary Class of 2024 moves forward, we are excited to announce where some of our outstanding graduates will be pursuing their higher education.

These students have worked tirelessly to achieve their goals and will now be continuing their studies at universities, each following their unique passion and academic path. Let's take a moment to celebrate their achievements and look at where their next chapters begin:

- Radja Vicky Miduk Artha Silabana – University of Indonesia – Law (International)
- Kayla Ramaniya Zaina Nurcahyo – Padjadjaran University – Pharmacy IUP
- Adela Tsabitah Bastomi – Pelita Harapan University – Law
- Shilo Valeska Saranga – Pertamina University – Petroleum Engineering
- Jessen Seriano Gonza – Telkom University – Digital Marketing
- Princessa Calysta Edrial – Trisakti University – Medicine
- Gregorio Hansel Prihartono – BINUS University – Information System
- Fabian Aurelio Christopher Ryfenata – BINUS University – International Relations (Global Class)
- Eugene Valerie Emmanuella – Atma Jaya University – Psychology

These students represent the values of Sophos School Indonesia: Sincere, Observant, Passionate, Honest, Original, and Significant. They have demonstrated dedication and perseverance, and we are confident that they will continue to excel in their chosen fields.

As they take on the challenges and opportunities ahead, we wish them all the best in their academic endeavours and look forward to hearing about their future successes. We are immensely proud of each one of them and excited to see them carry the Sophos spirit into the world.