

The final 48 hours before voting closes for SK Kempadang

By T.N.Alagesh - October 1, 2022 @ 7:19pm



SK Kempadang's nomination as one of three finalists for the World's Best School Prize has certainly got the residents living in the rural settlement near here thrilled. -Courtesy Pic

KUANTAN: SK Kempadang's nomination as one of three finalists for the World's Best School Prize has certainly got the residents living in the rural settlement near here thrilled.

As the countdown into the final 48 hours for voting nears, the villagers have been sending out messages to their relatives and friends telling them to vote for the school, located in a quaint fishing village near Kempadang beach here.

Kampung Kempadang Village Security and Development Committee chairman Saaban Awang said the school's outstanding achievement had made the settlement popular.

"Villagers have been sending out messages to their family members and friends living in and outside Pahang to participate in the online voting. Now, it is not only about Kempadang, but all Malaysians must help vote. Everyone here is trying their best to assist the school in winning. "Visitors to the beach have been asking the locals about the school, and some stopped to take pictures with the huge banner about the best school award put up outside the school. SK Kempadang has been the talk of the town," he said when met in Kempadang.

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SK Kempadang parent-teacher association chairman Mohd Amran Abd Hamid said the committee had been updating their social media accounts to get more people to vote.

"We have been sharing all the news articles on the school's achievements, and telling people that each vote is important for the school. We hope Malaysians will register and vote for the school."

SK Kempadang, where 70 per cent of the pupils are from B40 families, is on the world map after it was nominated as one of three finalists for the World's Best School Award, which offers a prize of US\$50,000 (about RM228,900).

The other two schools are Escuela Emilia Lascar from Chile and N High School, a private school in Japan.

The winner will be announced on Oct 19 during World Education Week.

SK Kempadang is listed in the innovation category in the competition organised by T4 Education in collaboration with Yayasan Hasanah, Accenture and American Express.

Menteri Besar Datuk Seri Wan Rosdy Wan Ismail, in a Facebook posting last week, hoped that all Malaysians would vote and help SK Kempadang win.

"Some 3,000 schools from all over the world were shortlisted and SK Kempadang made it to the top three of the World's Best School Prizes for Innovation," he said. The school was listed after developing a shared tracking system for the school's community using Google Sheets, known as Smartzoom, to monitor the pupils' academic performance.