

KEJORA Newsletter July 2025



With the support of the local community and AFAS Foundation, Kejora grows!

We are so excited to share what has happened these past three months! After the successful completion of our second school year; filled with exciting field trips and a spectacular end of year performance, we have also been preparing for the next school year.

Kejora has gained so much support and trust by the local community (something so critical to our growth), that without even officially opening registration for this year, we've had 36 new students register to the school!

This means that not only do we need 4 new teachers, but we also need to physically expand too. As most of you know, last year, AFAS Foundation sponsored the build of our library and teachers' office, and this year they have agreed to support us again! Keep reading for more details on our plans and what we have in store this summer.

*Kejora
Karimunjawa*

Spotlight on Hanis Aulia



We would like to take a moment to shine a light on our Head Teacher, Miss Hanis. She always been dedicated to supporting the holistic growth of our foundation and students from the start. She is loved by both Kejora's partners and students for her insights, kindness, hard work and positivity. She has been an essential part of the team since 2023.

In this newsletter you can expect:

SPS Kejora End of School performance

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AFAS Foundation's continued Support

2025 School Expansion!

Cultural Night & Eco Print Workshops

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SPS Kejora End of Year Performance

During the last two weeks of school, the children and teachers were busy preparing for this year's school performance. Not only were there an array of beautiful and very cute costumes, but there was a reenactment of both Snow White and Old MacDonald. Some of the boys danced to Shakira - WakaWaka with their footballs, and the girls danced dressed up as bunnies; there was a nice mix of traditional and modern dance. One highlight was a solo piano performance by Izia, playing Beethoven - Für Elise.

As well as speeches from one of the Founders, Mas Tono, Head Teacher, Miss Hanis and the Head of Education in Karimunjawa, Pak Kondori, one of the parents, Mbak Tri, shared the story of her son, Alif. Before joining SPS Kejora, at the age of 3 years old, he wasn't actively speaking yet. Concerned, Mbak Tri brought him to a speech therapist in the mainland, Jepara. With 3 months of treatment he still wasn't actively speaking. Miss Hanis accepted him to the school and within 3 months he was actively speaking! We are all so proud of him, and encouraged about how many other families and children we can support in Karimunjawa.

3 of our students graduated this year, all of whom have been with SPS Kejora since we started back in 2023. Silvanna, who will move to SD 1, the Primary School in the heart of town by the town square, as well as Dika and Haidar, who will move to SD 3, the Primary School in their local village on the outskirts of town. Kejora thanks them for all their hard work and commitment to the school, for bringing their own unique spark and creating last friendships in the school. We wish them all the best with their continued education.



Summer Field Trips

Field Trip outings are such an important part of the school year here at SPS Kejora, a change of environment, team building, trying new things, and of course having fun, are at the heart of these trips. Early in the year the school was invited to the one and only rice field in the northern part of the island, to help the local farmers plant their new crops. The children got an insight into the hard work involved in growing one of their staple foods, as well as getting very muddy in the process!

Earlier in June, all students and parents went on a boat trip together to one of the popular islands in the archipelago, Geleang island.



This was such a fun day for all as the teachers prepared a range of team building exercises for all of us, a proper outbound adventure! Think egg hunts, dodge the hole, fill the leaking gallon for the kids and jumping train competitions and games involving too much flour! On top of this many enjoying swimming in the crystal turquoise waters and running up and down the sandbank after a fresh fish BBQ lunch.

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New sign-ups for 2025/2026 and the schools expansion



OK, now back to the exciting part of the newsletter, our expansion!

To give a little background, those of you who have been following us from the beginning, or those who have worked in similar projects, know that effecting positive change in rural communities, definitely comes with some resistance. Back in 2023 we worked hard to prepare an open day for prospective students, and only 1 person showed up! This year however, news of our good news must have spread across the community, without public posting, and with just one of our teachers doing a little door to door invitations to families with preschool age children, more than 20 parents with their children attended the open day, what's more, a total of 36 new students have signed up since then.

it means we now have a total of 60 students at our preschool. Teacher to student ratio is so important to us, as well as providing optimal space for children to grow and reach their potential, we quickly realised that Kejora's basecamp needs to grow too, if we want to maintain our standard of education.

This is where AFAS Foundation enters into Kejora's story again.



Due to the overwhelming number of new students for the upcoming school year, our preparation time to secure funding has been limited. That's why we have once again reached out to AFAS Foundation, hoping they recognise our strong growth and are willing to support us once more. We are incredibly grateful that they acknowledge our professional approach and have agreed to provide us with a one-time additional support.

With their support we are able to build two new classrooms (yes two, as we will be starting Primary Education next year), as well as rebuilding the current very limited playground to an amazing new one, as well as a sports field. Jean Marc, a French man living in Karimunjawa for 15 years now, and his wife Bu Ndaru, have kindly made available a portion of their land to Kejora for 20 years, just next to our current site. This is where we will build the new classroom block and second playground.

We are so grateful that both the local community and AFAS Foundation believe in the sustainable vision that Kejora has for Karimunjawa and are supporting us in ways that mean we can provide quality education to many more children on the island.



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In Other News

Cultural Night Kejora

We are very proud to announce that Kejora will be showcasing art and cultural from Karimunjawa at 'Love Hill' for the second summer running with their Cultural Night, taking place every Saturday evening. Expect a mix of traditional performances from a variety of dance troops across the island. We work hard to ensure that all troops get a chance to perform, both professionals and newcomers to the stage. Tickets are Rp300,000 and guests are provided with an authentic dinner. All proceeds go towards Kejora's educational projects.



Eco Print Workshops

As part of Kejora's summer of art and culture, we are also relaunching our eco-print workshops. This is a lovely, intimate event where arty and nature conscious individuals get together to create their own unique scarves with a natural leaf and flower printing process. This workshop costs Rp350,000, includes dinner and participants can bring their own piece home with them.



Kids Yoga

For the last month, Kejora has been collaborating with Alam Kita, to provide free yoga classes to the local community. Every Wednesday, Primary School aged children are picked up from town and taken to Alam Kita's dedicated yoga space, the Pendopo, where they participate in a 40 minute class guided in English. The kids love the movements as well as the relaxation, and ask to be invited again next time!

As always, we are so grateful to everyone involved in and supportive of Kejora Karimunjawa, from our newsletter readers, to our monthly donors, and to those who spread the news of the good work we do, both those on and off the island. If you would like to support us, or no anyone else who can, please do get in touch.

www.kejorakarimunjawa.com

Thank you for reading!

'Small Steps, Big Impact' you can help us grow from anywhere worldwide!

Dutch Bank Account
NL66 RABO 0189 6488 05
Stichting Kejora Karimunjawa
RABONL2U (Rabobank)

Indonesian Bank Account
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Yayasan Kejora Karimunjawa
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