

MRSM students delighted at completing the programme.

Fun way to learn English

LANGUAGE PROFICIENCY: It pays to be brave and speak English.

Student Melisa Juliana Mazuki from Maktab Rendah Sains Mara (MRSM) Kuala Krai, Kelantan found this out at a Certified Intensive English Programme conducted by ELS Language Centre.

"English is very important in our lives today. Even though it is hard to communicate in English, we have to keep on trying to excel.

"It is all right if you do not know how to speak in English but it is not all right if you do not try," says Melisa Juliana.

The centre recently sponsored and tutored 40 MRSM students to raise their level of English proficiency in order to have a competitive advantage when they further their studies at universities either locally or overseas.

Nur Syazwani Roslan, also a MSRM student, 16, says, "I love studying at the centre because it teaches English in a fun way. I am amazed by the teachers' methods of teaching and awesome facilities at the centre.

"In addition, I also made friends from all over Malaysia."

The centre has always developed links with the community and contributed to local society.

Academic director Yvonne Gruberksa says, "We hope to have more opportunities to work with community members in developing people's skills to help them become more successful in the future."

Majlis Amanah Rakyat (MARA) — of which MRSM is a part of — has forged a lasting relationship with the centre.

A franchise of the United States-based language centre, the Malaysia venture (which was set up in 1990) has since grown to five purpose-built schools in Subang Jaya, Kuala Lumpur, Johor Baru, Penang and Universiti Putra Malaysia (UPM).

Mohd. Amin Din, MARA principal assistant director of the secondary school division, stresses the importance of English in order to survive in the global world of today.

Under its MARA the Way Forward concept, the institution has been working towards achieving the goal of producing students who are global, excellent and competitive. Mohd. Amin says, "The students have shown tremendous improvement in terms of English communication skills and confidence."

The programme is recognised by many universities worldwide in lieu of the Test Of English As A Foreign Language and IELTS International English Language Testing System for entry requirement and early last year, it was recognised by UPM as proof of English language proficiency.