

Science, maths the fun way

Briefly

Thank you note from Hisham

KUALA LUMPUR: Education Minister Datuk Seri Hishammuddin Tun Hussein thanked all those who participated and helped in the funeral of his late sister Datin Roquaiya Hanim, who died of breast cancer on Saturday.

"On behalf of my mother and family members, I want to say a big thank you to everyone present, including leaders and friends who paid their last respects, sent short message service condolences, cards and flowers.

"We also want to record our deepest appreciation to the doctors and staff of the Damansara Specialist Centre who treated and cared for my late sister during her stay at the hospital," he said in a statement issued yesterday.

Idris clarifies his stand

KUALA TERENGGANU: Terengganu wants to amend the Islamic Family Law after all.

Mentri Besar Datuk Seri Idris Jusoh clarified that he had never rejected the amendment as reported in a local daily.

"I don't understand what the fuss is all about as we are in favour of all states having a standardised law," he told newsmen here yesterday after launching the state Umno's new website, www.umno-terengganu.net, at the state party building here.

Idris said state legal adviser Ahmad Kamal Md Shahid was studying the proposed amendment and would give his feedback to him.

Agriculture in urban areas

PUTRAJAYA: The Agriculture Department will introduce a food crop programme for the home to be implemented in the urban areas, Director-General of Agriculture Datuk Khamsiah Muhammad said yesterday.

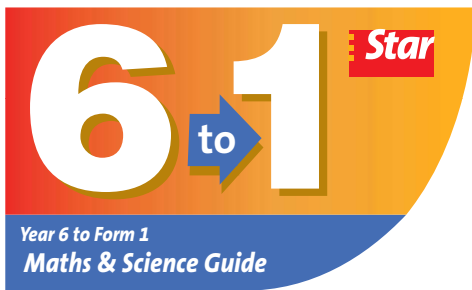
She said the programme, using the "Edible Landscaping" concept, would be carried out in response to the Government's call to bring agricultural activities to the cities.

Khamsiah said edible landscaping involved growing of food crops like vegetables, which could be cultivated in the house compound, as part of the landscape. — Bernama

Flat demolition by year-end

KUALA LUMPUR: The first phase of the demolition of the Pekeliling Flats in Jalan Tun Razak here will begin by the end of this year, Datuk Bandar Kuala Lumpur Datuk Ruslin Hasan said yesterday.

Ruslin said there was a need to get the demolition work started soon to prevent the place from becoming the haunt of drug addicts and other undesirable activities. — Bernama



BY HARIATI AZIZAN

PETALING JAYA: Children rarely describe maths and science as exciting, but *The Star's 6 to 1* aims to change all that with its fun, informative content.

And if the response of a few pupils from SJK(T) Effingham, Bandar Utama, in a sneak preview last week is any indication, Star-Nie's new 24-page pullout may just achieve it.

Designed to help Year Six pupils get used to learning maths and science in English, the pullout features newspaper-related activities, games and quizzes. There are two pages of experiment ideas to help enhance pupils' understanding of scientific concepts as well as an English-Malay translation of scientific

terms.

For Tamil school pupils, *6 to 1* addresses the challenge they face after six years of learning these two subjects in their mother tongue.

Sasiskala Regal, 12, said she was happy to get an interesting tool to help her adapt to Science and Maths in English.

"Learning Science in English especially is difficult for me because the terms are difficult to remember, but doing activities will help me remember better," she said.

Teacher B.M. Devesagayam said the pullout would ease teachers' burden of coming up with a comprehensive resource for the two subjects in English.

Launched today, the Monday pullout is only available to schools that order *The Star*. The



USEFUL LEARNING AID: Pupils of SJK(T) Effingham checking out a preview copy of *The Star's* new 6 to 1 pullout at their school in Bandar Utama, Petaling Jaya, last week.

six issues are available to each pupil for just RM4, along with the day's copy of *The Star*. The last issue is on Oct 24.

TM (Telekom Malaysia) is sponsoring 30 copies for SJK (T) Effingham and 89,970 more copies of *The Star* and the first three issues of *6 to 1* to schools

nationwide.

At least 300 primary schools will gain from TM's sponsorship. Schools that benefit from the sponsorship can buy the remaining three issues at RM2.

In addition, subscribers will receive discount vouchers worth over RM40 from Pizza Hut, while

teachers get a special 40% discount on the *Longman Dictionary of Contemporary English*.

Today's issue is still available for latecomers; those interested can call Stephen Yap or Rofit Miah at 03-7967 1388 ext 1038 / 1039 or *The Star's* Customer Care Unit at 03-7967 1777.

PJ Half Marathon comes of age with 21st edition

PETALING JAYA: The PJ Half Marathon came of age yesterday.

Judging by the enthusiasm of the 4,000-odd young and old participants at the run's 21st edition at Stadium Petaling Jaya in Kelana Jaya, the event is going strong as ever.

Rain that fell midway into the race also failed to dampen the spirit of the runners.

"The run has provided a platform for the multiracial community in Petaling Jaya to come together for the past two decades," said Deputy Information Minister Datuk Donald Lim.

He flagged off the event together with Petaling Jaya Municipal Council (MPPJ) president Datuk Ahmad Termizi Puteh, organising chairman Datuk Wong Sai Hou and Star Publications group general manager Koh Beng Huat.

Although he did not come in first, Ahmad Termizi was happy to complete the inaugural 5km team run in 28 minutes.

"We are grateful to our faithful sponsors in making this event a success over the years.

"Besides their contributions, we want them to run with us. We introduced the 5km team event for companies to take



THIS WAY: The runners pushing ahead despite the wet conditions brought on by rain during the event in Petaling Jaya yesterday.

part," he explained.

Apart from the MPPJ, the other sponsors are Selangor Athletics Association, *The Star*, 100 Plus, Milo, Sports Toto, Reebok, Freescale Semiconductor, Metholatam Deep Heating Rub and OSIM. Red 104.9 was the official radio station.

MPPJ 5 emerged champion in

the 5km team event, which comprised five runners with at least a woman.

The New Hong Fatt (NHF) 76-TB team from Klang was second while D Sport C finished third.

Top road racer M. Arul Thevar and national walker Yuan Yufang were champions in the 21km men's and women's cate-

gories respectively.

Arul won in 1'13:55 followed by Royal Malaysian Police's Shaharudin Hashim (1'16:14) and R. Jayakumar (1'19:40).

It was Arul's seventh victory in the run since 1999. In 2002, he won the 10km men's open.

In the women's category, Yufang clocked 1'29:50. S. Devamani registered 1'32:41

for second place and Julie Foreman was third (1'35:23).

PDRM celebrated a double victory in the 10km races through R. Venugopal and S. Kusalani in the men's and women's categories.

Malaysian Idol 2 contestant Xerra and Pija from *Mentor* reality show provided entertainment.

Glad for chance to design 9/11 memorial

BY ROYCE CHEAH

PETALING JAYA: Although his design did not win, Ken Lum feels humbled at being able to design a memorial to pay tribute to one of Sept 11's ill-fated flights – that of United Airlines Flight 93.

"It was an exciting opportunity and one that I will cherish," said Kuala Lumpur-born Lum,

who is now residing in Canada.

Lum's design, *(F)Light*, was shortlisted along with five others out of 1,011 international entries for the right to design a memorial for the heroic passengers of Flight 93.

During the Sept 11 attacks, Flight 93 was en route from Newark, New Jersey, to San Francisco when the passengers fought the hijackers to take

control of the plane and crashing it in Somerset, Pennsylvania, killing all 40 on board.

The hijackers had wanted to crash the plane into the White House or the US Capitol.

"*(F)Light's* main design feature is a one-way walkway in the shape of a scar and its name refers to 'flight' and 'light' – the use of a 'sculptural form in flight,'" Lum, 28, said in an e-

mail reply from Toronto.

"The design is meant to represent the final journey of the passengers and it gives form to the act of courage and bravery that transpired on the flight."

"The discovery of the hijacking led to the retaking of the plane and eventually crashing it to save lives whom the passengers did not even know," he added.



Lum: 'It was an exciting opportunity'