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Windfall for primary school

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SEKOLAH Kebangsaan Kuala Dipang, a 110-year old primary school in Jeram, Perak, received a boost when it was "adopted" by Television Airtime Services Sdn Bhd (TAS).

Under the scheme, the company will play a "corporate parent" role, in this case, with a contribution of RM10,000 for the 1998 academic year.

Although the fund will come in handy, the company's role does not stop there.

TAS president Sabri Abdul Rahman said the students will be given an opportunity to participate in television programmes produced by TAS, specifically Golden Kids News.

"The RM10,000 contribution can be used to upgrade the school's facilities," said Sabri at the launch which was also attended by State education director Khairuddin Arshad.

School headmistress Faridah Ahmad Rashidi said the money will be used to install a telephone line for the school as well as to purchase a public address system.

"We will also use part of the fund to pay for part-time English teachers as we have only two teachers to handle 12 classes," she said.

The money will also be useful to finance training programmes, co-curricular activities and other development programmes for the students as well as teachers.

Sabri said the adoption scheme was a long-term project which would see TAS contributing to the school for many years to come.

TAS also simultaneously launched its Golden Kids News Club at the school, the first time the club was introduced outside of Kuala Lumpur. The launch at the school is a prelude to the introduction of the club nationwide.

Studio auditions were also held for potential members.

"We want to promote the fact that television, if used properly, can be an educational tool," said Sabri. Golden Kids News is a news programme presented by children, aged between eight and 12 years old, for children.

Golden Kids News has conducted exclusive interviews with personalities like Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad as well as United Nations Secretary-General Kofi Annan during his visit to Malaysia last year.

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