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Yeow Chwan has passion for all things complicated

KUALA LUMPUR, Wed. - Computers are addictive. In fact it has become so integral in some people's lives, that they are willing to give up television or even books just to be with it.

Such is the case with Siew Yeow Chwan, 14, who claims, "In this modern age, I do not read books. I only read from the Internet."

The Form Three pupil of Sekolah Menengah Kebangsaan Taman Desa 2, is one of the applicants to the Microsoft-NST Young Programmers Club (MyPC).

The club was launched by Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad and Microsoft Corporation chairman and chief executive officer Bill Gates, last month.

The club is part of an initiative to discover and nurture programming talents among Malaysians aged 15 years and below. It is expected to start operations in May.

Yeow Chwan who had his first experience with a computer when he was nine joined the club to develop his keen interest in computers.

His interest in computers was generated by his passion for electronics. Strange as it might seem, he adores electronics because, "...its complicated and I quite like complicated stuff."

He has not got a homepage of his own ("yet... because I'm busy with a lot of projects and my PMR") but he has experimented with ActiveX, Java and other interactive components.

Yeow Chwan also has experience with computer softwares such as Adobe Photoshop, MsOffice, Windows 3.11 WorkGroup and programming tools such as Visual Basic and C++.

And what does this youngster want to be when he grows up?

"A co-ordinator cum director of the Multimedia Super Corridor."

Meanwhile, he is into inventing stuff. "Nothing permanent," Yeow Chwan says, "just gadgets... testboard stuff."

He also hopes to develop software that would make computing easier.

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