

'Tree for The Future' by Green Fingers Club

On 23<sup>rd</sup> March 2018, the Green Fingers Club of Institute of Science and Management (ISM), Tawau organized a tree planting event at its own farmland beside the institute building. The objectives of the event are to beautify and add more greeneries to the landscape as well as giving a new experience to lecturers, staff and students. It attracted about 80 people to join in. The organizing chairperson of this event was Shim Chung Zhen, who is also the President of the Green Fingers Club for year 2017/2018. Seven types of fruit trees which were chosen to be planted at the farm are longan, *rambutan*, avocado, mango, soursop, water apple and citrus trees.

The event was officiated by the Chairman of ISM Board of Governors, Mr. Pang Kyun Fung. In his speech, he mentioned that he was glad to see many students other than those from Diploma in Agribusiness Management (DAM), lecturers and staff joining the event, and he praised the committee members who meticulously planned and worked hard to materialize the event. He also stressed the importance of joining extra-curricular activities, as it helps to build student's character and soft skills. Mr. Pang also hoped that the participants would be inspired to appreciate agriculture and enjoy themselves whilst getting their hands dirty. One of its club advisors, Ms. Carol said that, it was crucial for everyone to jump on the bandwagon and make this a successful event because this would be a living 'time capsule' for everyone to remember, especially for this year's graduating students.

After the speech, Mr. Pang, accompanied by the CEO, Mr. Lawrence Kow, officiated the event by planting their own trees. Afterwards, students, lecturers and staff took their turns to plant their trees. A total of 35 fruit trees were successfully planted on that day. According to one of the participants, Meer Ahmed from Diploma in Business Studies (DBS), it was his first time planting a tree, and it was a memorable experience. He hopes that the tree that he has planted will grow tall and strong when he comes back to visit his alma mater. At the end of the event, everyone took a group photo together with the banner which they put their handprints on, resembling the leaves of the trees.