



STEPPING STONE

Center For Excellence In Special Education

MAKATI CAMPUS: 7419 Bernardino St., Brgy. Guadalupe Viejo, Makati City
SUCAT CAMPUS: 8001 Del Carmen St., St. Rita Village, Brgy. BF Homes, Sucat, Parañaque City
Telephone: +632 216.7232/ 899.8383 | Email: newsletter@steppingstone.ph

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Community Integration: Encompassing Full Participation in the Community/Environment

MESSAGE BOARD



Alvin Clark Teng
Trustee

Part of educating our special needs is to integrate them with society. Our students should be treated like all others.

A recent visit to the mall to watch a Disney film proved to be very interesting for our teachers and students as well.

From leaving at the school, setting on a public transport, arriving at the mall, paying for groceries and having lunch and finally getting to watch a movie.

We take all these for granted, but it is a very important part of inclusive for our special needs students.

Alvin Clark Teng
Manager
Mabuhay Educational Center, Inc.



The **Functional Academics (FA)** and **Teen Adult (TA)** students of **Stepping Stone Makati** enjoyed the first day of December by having a community integration activity by going to the Powerplant mall to watch a movie, buying their own movie snacks and movie tickets and exploring interesting places and things inside the mall.

We started off our activity by giving them guidelines and briefing them about what to do and expect once we got to the mall. The teachers, **Lea**,

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Globe : 0917-625-1036
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E-mail Address:
sales@armaktape.com.ph
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Hannah, Angel and **Sofia** all checked each student and the important things that they need to bring such as **Persons with Disability (PWD) Cards** and enough money.

After gathering all the students, we waited for a jeepney outside the school to get us to the **Powerplant mall**. All the students took out their 7.00 pesos to pay and learned how to pass the fare on to the jeepney driver. It was a quick ride from school to the Powerplant mall. Everyone looked very excited as we made our way inside the mall.

Our first itinerary was to buy the movie tickets. We made the students walk with a partner as we roamed the hallways of the mall knowing exactly where we planned to go.

Our students fell in line to buy their tickets and prepared their important identification

cards and money to present it to cashier. The parents, **Mommy Cristyliza, Mommy Kelly** and **Mommy Cherrie** who also joined us during the activity looked proud and happy to see their kids buying their own movie tickets. They took a lot of pictures and supported their kids and the teachers throughout the activity.

After getting our tickets we we needed to get some snacks to eat inside the movie theater while watching. We led the students to **Rustan's Marketplace, Powerplant** mall's supermarket, to purchase their snacks and drinks. We made them list their favorite snacks, so it would be easy to find what they needed to buy from the supermarket. Most of them got hungry while roaming around the Marketplace supermarket but they managed to finish the activity and paid at the counter for their snacks and drinks.

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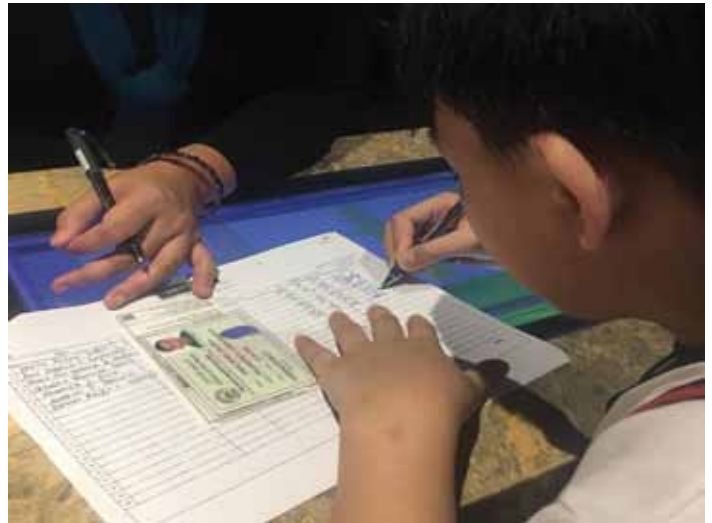
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After buying their groceries, we had our lunch in Jollibee and all of them excitedly ate **Chicken Joy, Fries** and **Spaghetti**. They finished their Jollibee meal with a bright beam and satisfied faces. It was now movie time! **Disney Pixar** released a new movie named "**Coco.**" It is about a boy who dreams to be a famous singer, but his family doesn't want him to pursue his dream as they believe that it is a curse to have a musician in their family.

Everyone looked forward to entering the movie house. Students found their respective places in between teachers and relaxed while waiting for the movie. Everyone was well behaved during the movie although you could see different reactions from their faces.

This outdoor activity was filled with so much fun and lots of learning and the teachers got to see and observe the students on how they participate in a community integrated activity and how they managed to solve some problems outside the home and school.

We look forward to more community integration activities in the near future





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