

# Autism Fair at Imago

**Mary Chin DE 21.4.2018 10**

**KOTA KINABALU:** The two-day Autism Fair begins today (Saturday) at the Basement Floor, Imago, here, from 9.30am to 5pm.

Programme Director Catherine Chin Oi En said the event is organised by SMK Tansau, Penampang, under its Integration Special Education Programme in collaboration with the Penampang District Education Office.

“Basically, we want to create awareness among the community in general and parents in particular on the issue of learning problems, especially in respect of autism. At the same time, we want to provide correct and accurate information on health examination, registration, education, occupation, rights and privileges given to those facing learning difficulties, especially the autistic group,” she said.

Chin, who is a special education teacher of SMK Tansau, said the fair is targeted at special education teachers, pupil management assistants, relevant government and private institutions, and the KK community.

There will be 20 exhibitors comprising SMK Tansau, UMS Faculty of Education and Psychology, Puzzle Prints Sheltered Workshop, National Autism Society of Malaysia (NASOM), Sabah Cheshire

Home & Services KK, Asian Tourism International College, State Public Welfare Services Department, Hospital Mesra Bukit Padang, Matahari Intervention Centre, Music Therapy, The Therapy Tree, Seri Mengasih Centre, Bank Simpanan Nasional, D’loving Centre, SI World Sdn Bhd, Handprints Toy Library & Resource Centre, Tadika Kurnia Kasih, Country Garden Farm, Special Needs & Paediatric Dental Services, and Globalart & MUAH Studio.

The programme will kick off with a colouring competition from 10.15am to 12 noon, organised in collaboration with Global Art.

There are two groups of participants – one for normal school children to expose them to autism issues and the other for pupils of the special education school.

There will be a performance by the Synergy Dance Studio prior to the opening ceremony at 2pm by the Executive Chairperson of Yayasan 1Suria, Datuk Hj H Raja Erom.

On the second day (April 22), the programme includes an introduction on Autism by Dr Fauziah Zabidin from Gleneagles Kota Kinabalu for the benefit of the public, a Question & Answer session for visitors to the fair, and experience sharing by parents concerned.