

Dear Ee Hiang,

Attached is Bryan 's letter as requested.

Both Joy and I are thankful for this experience. For us it was a first to host a young child like North. Our previous experiences are with older teenagers and youths. We were fortunate to have hosted North who was a relatively easy child to deal with.

Our views are as follows:

Pros

Good that PTA has set out firm guidelines on hosting.

1. Good cooperation from host parents.
2. Good support from our PTA and teachers.
3. Good relationship between foster child and host family.
4. The local children showed responsibility and concern for their foster child. Two examples come to mind (1) When the visiting children were on a visit to ASIM, the local children were not aware and began to look for them. (2) While in Malacca, North wanted to purchase a gun from a toy vendor. Bryan told North that he will do the talking. He spoke to the Vendor in BM and managed to bargain for the gun for RM5, when the gun was initially offered at a higher price to North by the Vendor.
5. Our children experienced great social skills. They demonstrated these skills when they were able to accommodate North's interest, comfort him when he was missing home for the initial 1st day, spending time chatting and exchanging interest.
6. There were a lot of interaction and exchanges between the children. For example North was teaching our kids (including our neighbour's kid) Australian Football (Footy) and our children in return taught him how to play badminton. Puan Khoo may not like this but North was teaching the boys (Bryan and Jun Wei) on how to gel their hair.
7. The children were working out their own program with other families. For example Bryan and Jun Wei would get together to plan activities jointly with North and Jackson.
8. Our constant communication via e-mail with North's parents giving them assurances of North may have comforted them of any concerns they may have of their child in Malaysia .
9. Incidentally it was amazing that North did not at any time communicate with his parents and was always aware of the strict compliance with Langwarrin's rules.
10. The Homestay was an excellent choice. On hearing the boys explain their homestay, it sounds like it was very a good outdoor activity and educational for both sides.
11. Overall Good Program (save for ASIM) and well spread.