Tariff and Inflation Concerns Linger

Market Review

MY: The local bourse ended higher, supported by banking heavyweights PBBANK and MAYBANK. Market breadth remained negative as 730 decliners outpaced 439 advancers. Transportation (+1.36%) topped sector gains via MISC and ORKIM, while Technology (-3.09%) was the weakest performer.

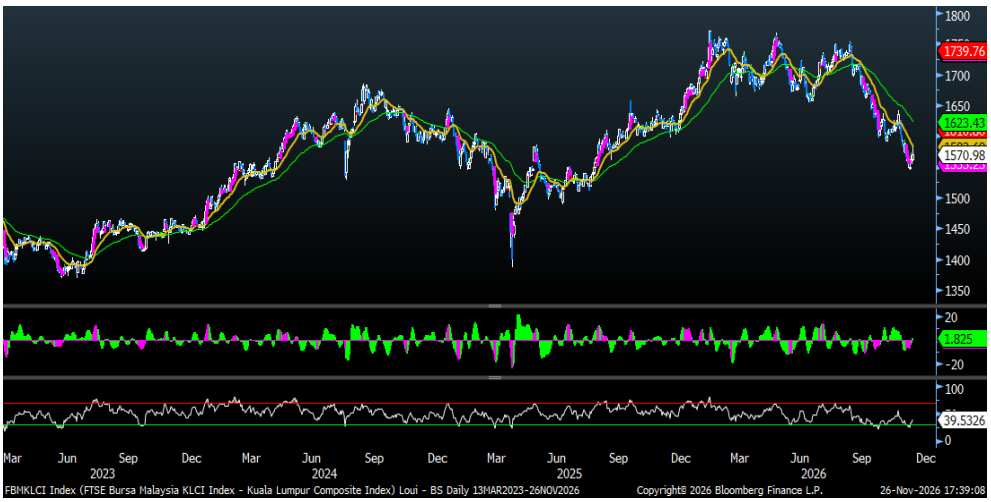
US: US stock futures edged higher Thursday in thin Thanksgiving trading, with S&P 500 and Nasdaq 100 futures up 0.5% and Dow futures up 0.4%, tracking an Asian tech rebound. Markets weighed fresh US tariff proposals of 20% to 35% on 14 trading partners and hot October PCE inflation data that boosted December rate-hike bets.

The Day Ahead

US: Following Wednesday's whipsaw session, we expect Wall Street to trade cautiously during Friday's holiday-shortened session, as hotter October PCE data keeps the probability of a December Fed rate hike at 99.2%, while fresh tariff proposals on 14 trading partners add to uncertainty. Stock-wise, amid a rise in AI-related cyberattacks globally, we continue to favour Palo Alto Networks (PANW). Its 1QFY27 revenue rose 39% YoY to USD3.44bn, and it raised its FY27 revenue guidance to USD14.52–14.57bn. Fellow cybersecurity player OKTA may also remain in focus ahead of its 3QFY27 results on 1 December, following its inclusion in the S&P 500 on 4 November. JPMorgan has raised its target price to USD214 from USD190, citing steady core demand and a growing pipeline for securing AI agents.

MY: With Wall Street closed for Thanksgiving and Nvidia's reported AI server shipment halt weighing on data centre plays, we expect the FBM KLCI to trade cautiously today. We see opportunities to buy FRONTKN, UWC and VITROX on weakness, supported by the proposed US tariff exemption for semiconductors. FRONTKN's 3Q26 net profit rose 25% YoY to RM57.3m, while UWC's 4QFY26 net profit surged 129.7% to RM37.6m. KOSSAN may attract interest after its 3Q26 net profit more than doubled to RM87.4m, with US tariffs on Chinese medical gloves favouring Malaysian producers. INFOM offers earnings visibility, backed by a RM565m order book as at end-May 2026.

FBMKLCI Technical Outlook



Bloomberg

While the FBM KLCI continued to trade below key moving averages, the technical indicators suggest improving signals, as the MACD histogram started to expand toward the positive territory while RSI started to rebound further above 30. Overhead resistance sits at 1,585–1,590, with support established at 1,550–1,555.

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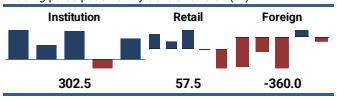
Market Scorecard

Key Indices	Last price	Change (%)
Dow Jones	50,188.01	0.33
S&P 500	7,182.78	-0.25
NASDAQ	23,585.80	-0.62
FBM KLCI	1,570.98	0.56
FBM Small Cap	13,918.83	-1.33
FBM ACE	4,461.11	-3.83
Construction	271.28	-2.87
Consumer	437.39	0.70
Energy	732.08	-0.48
Financial Services	18,743.63	1.04
Healthcare	1,459.29	-0.34
Ind Products	158.52	-0.27
Plantation	8,772.65	0.79
Property	897.23	-1.05
REITs	845.94	-0.17
Technology	60.55	-3.09
Telco & Media	357.32	-0.62
Transport & Logistics	1,012.57	1.36
Utilities	1,573.43	-2.26
Trading Vol (m)	3,350.00	32.17
Trading Val (RM m)	3,290.00	39.19
Gainers/ Losers ratio	61%	
FKLI	1,587.00	0.22
FCPO (RM)	4,303.00	0.26
Brent oil (USD)	91.69	1.17
Gold (USD)	3,568.80	0.07
USD	4.1150	0.00
GBP	5.3938	-0.04
EURO	4.5146	-0.03
SGD	3.1899	-0.02

Trading participation 5-day trend and value ('m)



Source: TradingView, Bursa Malaysia

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Company Briefs

Tenaga Nasional Bhd's (TENAGA) net profit for the third quarter ended Sept 30, 2026 (3QFY2026) slipped 1.5% year-on-year (y-o-y) to RM864m. Stronger electricity demand was outweighed by higher foreign exchange losses and lower fair value gains. Quarterly revenue rose 7.4% to RM18.53bn. No dividend was declared for the quarter, which keeps its cumulative payout for FY2026 at 25 sen per share. For the nine months ended Sept 30, net profit fell 7.8% to RM2.85bn, while revenue grew 7.5% to RM53.87bn. (The Edge)

Press Metal Aluminium Holdings Bhd's (PMETAL) net profit for 3QFY2026 rose 20.3% y-o-y to a record RM855.02m. It was lifted partly by a one-off gain of RM140.65m from its acquisition of a controlling stake in PMB Technology Bhd (PMBTECH). Revenue increased 25.7% to RM5.13bn. The group declared a third interim dividend of 2.5 sen per share, payable on Dec 29. For 9MFY2026, net profit surged 51.2% to RM2.58bn, while revenue grew 14.4% to RM13.91bn. (The Edge)

Hong Leong Bank Bhd's (HLBANK) net profit for the first quarter ended Sept 30, 2026 (1QFY2027) rose 5% y-o-y to RM1.15bn. Higher income and lower impairment charges more than offset increased expenses. Net interest income rose 4.5%, while non-interest income declined nearly 8% as trading income and investment gains fell amid rising bond yields. The bank did not declare a dividend for the quarter. (The Edge)

Hong Leong Financial Group Bhd's (HLFG) net profit for 1QFY2027 fell to RM802.74m from RM841.32m a year earlier, as rising bond yields weighed on non-interest income. Non-interest income plunged 42.48% to RM333.64m, while quarterly revenue fell to RM1.73bn from RM1.94bn. No dividend was declared for the quarter. (The Edge)

AMMB Holdings Bhd's (AMBANK) net profit for the second quarter ended Sept 30, 2026 (2QFY2027) edged up 1% y-o-y to RM540.07m. Stronger net interest income helped offset weaker non-interest income. Net income declined 0.5% to RM1.285bn. The banking group declared an interim dividend of 15 sen per share, up 20% from a year earlier and payable on Dec 24. For the six months ended Sept 30, net profit increased 0.9% to RM1.06bn, while net income rose 1.2% to RM2.61bn. (The Edge)

Sime Darby Bhd's (SIME) net profit for 1QFY2027 grew more than 17% y-o-y to RM416m. The increase came mainly from its industrial property business, with the UMW division booking a RM148m profit from the Serendah Industrial Park. Quarterly revenue fell to RM16.7bn from RM18.03bn. It did not declare any dividend for the quarter. (The Edge)

Genting Bhd (GENTING) posted a net loss of RM161.4m for 3QFY2026 against a net profit of RM30.3m a year earlier. This was its second consecutive quarterly loss, as weaker earnings in Malaysia and Singapore and higher finance costs weighed on the bottom line. Quarterly revenue rose 7% to RM8.02bn. Its 73.9%-owned Genting Malaysia Bhd (GENM) reported a 66% drop in net profit to RM40.6m, as neither company declared a dividend. For 9MFY2026, Genting posted a net loss of RM87.4m against a net profit of RM278.4m, while revenue rose 8% to RM22.43bn. (The Edge)

IJM Corporation Bhd's (IJM) net profit for 2QFY2027 more than tripled from a year earlier to RM233.18m. All of its divisions contributed more, especially construction, and net gains on disposals were higher. Quarterly revenue surged 42.7% to RM2.39bn. It declared a first interim dividend of two sen per share, payable on Jan 7, 2027. For 1HFY2027, net profit more than doubled to RM370.58m, while revenue jumped 37.4% to RM4.68bn. (The Edge)

IOI Properties Group Bhd's (IOIPG) net profit for 1QFY2027 fell 8.2% y-o-y to RM609.54m. The previous year's quarter included a one-off RM502.8m remeasurement gain on the South Beach project in Singapore, which was absent this time. Quarterly revenue rose 16.19% to RM1.13bn, supported by its property investment and hospitality and leisure segments. No dividend was declared for the quarter. (The Edge)

QL Resources Bhd's (QL) net profit for 2QFY2027 rose 1.5% from a year earlier to RM117.9m. Stronger marine product manufacturing, palm oil and clean energy earnings offset weaker layer farming margins. Quarterly revenue rose 23.2% to RM2.13bn. No dividend was declared. For 1HFY2027, net profit rose marginally to RM218.8m, while revenue rose almost 16% to RM3.9bn. (The Edge)

DRB-Hicom Bhd (DRBHCOM) returned to the black with a net profit of RM101.87m for 3QFY2026, against a net loss of RM15.2m a year earlier. Strong Proton sales drove the turnaround. Quarterly revenue exceeded RM6bn for the first time. No dividend was declared, as the group usually pays out once a year. For 9MFY2026, net profit more than doubled to RM177.43m, while revenue increased 28% to RM16.34bn. (The Edge)

AWC Bhd (AWC) has secured a 10-year extension, worth RM519.9m, of its concession to manage and maintain federal government buildings in the southern zone. Its indirect wholly-owned subsidiary Ambang Wira Selatan Sdn Bhd has signed a public-private partnership agreement with the government for the concession. The concession covers Melaka, Negeri Sembilan and Johor and runs from Jan 1, 2027 to Dec 31, 2036. AWC has held this concession since June 1998. The award brings AWC's new contract wins for FY2027 to RM595.8m, compared with RM673m secured for the whole of FY2026. (The Edge)

AirAsia Group Bhd (AAGB) could face changes similar to those made at **Vantris Energy Bhd** (VANTNRG), formerly Sapura Energy Bhd, if the government decides to support the low-cost carrier. Finance Minister II Datuk Seri Amir Hamzah Azizan, speaking in the Dewan Rakyat, said the approach at Vantris included making the board and management stronger and degearing the company to ensure its survival. He reiterated that the government has made no commitment to provide financial support to AirAsia, but may consider intervening if the airline's finances worsen to avoid disruption to air connectivity. Any such move would be confined to the Malaysian airlines and would not extend to the group's overseas airlines or to entities under **Capital A Bhd** (CAPITALA). (The Edge)

Altria (MO) is evaluating a potential all-cash bid for Imperial Brands (IMB) alongside discussions with a third party over part of the UK group's operations, while Japan Tobacco (2914) is also reportedly assessing an acquisition of Imperial Brands—possibly with a partner to split global assets, lifting Imperial shares 13.8% to 3,449 pence (£25.90 billion or $33.93 billion market value), according to company statements and industry reports. A joint US Japanese approach could navigate antitrust hurdles and reshape global tobacco rankings behind Philip Morris International (PM) and British American Tobacco (BATS) amid declining cigarette volumes and pressure to scale alternative nicotine offerings, while Imperial Brands stated it has held no talks with Altria or third parties and Japan Tobacco declined to comment. (Reuters)

Hewlett Packard Enterprise (HPE) chief executive Antonio Neri stated that the company will not commit its own balance sheet or financing arm to artificial intelligence neocloud operators, citing insufficient return thresholds compared to its core enterprise business, which generates a 25% return on equity with a 0.3% loss ratio, and instead directing capital toward enterprise computing and sovereign AI infrastructure. While HPE continues selling servers to neoclouds under strict commercial terms requiring prepayments and guarantees, debt-heavy operators like CoreWeave (CRWV), which reported $3.661 billion in quarterly revenue alongside $846 million in net interest expense, a $709 million net loss, $66.2 billion in debt and lease liabilities, and negative $7.466 billion in free cash flow, face tightening credit conditions and potential consolidation warned of by Elon Musk. Meanwhile, Nvidia (NVDA) reported $118 billion in third-party financing guarantees alongside an unclosed $500 billion capital mobilization memorandum with BlackRock (BLK), Blackstone (BX), Brookfield (BN), Goldman Sachs (GS), and KKR (KKR), as global AI infrastructure spending is projected by IDC to reach $521 billion this year amid power grid and connection delays. (Big Go Finance)

Technical Focus Tracker

Technical Focus Tracker

No.	Companies	Report Date	Report Date Share Price (RM)	Resistance 1 (RM)	Resistance 2 (RM)	Long Term Target (RM)	Support (RM)	Cut Loss (RM)	Last Price (RM)	Change in Share Price (%)	Comments
1	GOOGL	30-May	171.35	187.50	190.00	190.00	170.00	167.50	273.10	59.4%	Initiated on 30/5/2025
2	PWRWELL	25-Sep	0.59	0.61	0.71	0.71	0.57	0.52	0.67	13.7%	Initiated on 25/9/2025
3	PEKAT	3-Oct	1.83	2.00	2.05	2.05	1.70	1.66	1.93	5.5%	Initiated on 3/10/2025
4	MU	24-Oct	212.39	229.38	233.63	227.31	194.00	192.00	601.25	183.1%	Initiated on 24/10/2025
5	TIGO	19-Dec	53.06	58.40	59.40	59.40	49.80	49.80	79.16	49.2%	Initiated on 19/12/2025
6	SNDK	13-Feb	610.53	693.00	700.00	700.00	542.00	536.00	73.61	-87.9%	Initiated on 13/2/2026
7	HKB	11-Mar	0.20	0.29	0.35	0.35	0.24	0.23	0.80	310.3%	Initiated on 9/4/2026
8	CORAZA	10-Apr	0.63	0.69	0.85	0.85	0.60	0.59	0.95	50.8%	Initiated on 10/4/2026
9	MCLEAN	23-Apr	0.60	0.70	0.72	0.72	0.57	0.54	0.56	-6.7%	Initiated on 23/4/2026
10	SUNCON	14-May	7.20	7.60	7.70	7.70	6.97	6.85	6.12	-15.0%	Initiated on 14/5/2026
11	DUFU	29-May	1.86	2.20	2.73	2.73	1.77	1.72	1.95	4.8%	Initiated on 29/5/2026
12	NTAP	16-Jun	162.07	192.83	230.40	230.40	159.31	154.87	165.00	1.8%	Initiated on 16/6/2026
13	ANET	1-Jul	165.56	179.64	195.70	195.70	157.31	153.96	163.99	-0.9%	Initiated on 1/7/2026
14	JTGROUP	22-Jul	0.67	0.75	0.77	0.77	0.65	0.63	0.66	-1.5%	Initiated on 22/7/2026
15	NATGATE	4-Aug	1.25	1.37	1.40	1.40	1.14	1.10	1.35	8.0%	Initiated on 4/8/2026
16	DE	13-Aug	619.55	639.08	674.35	674.35	608.11	596.75	641.02	3.5%	Initiated on 13/8/2026
17	AUMAS	26-Aug	0.41	0.52	0.59	0.59	0.38	0.37	0.35	-14.8%	Cut loss on 18/9/2026
18	MRVL	11-Sep	234.63	316.92	329.88	329.88	223.40	205.22	130.93	-44.2%	Cut loss on 2/11/2026
19	C	14-Sep	137.36	146.80	184.43	184.43	134.52	131.39	113.33	-17.5%	Initiated on 14/9/2026
20	SNX	14-Sep	261.83	286.44	302.13	302.13	267.02	252.85	218.42	-16.6%	Cut loss on 15/10/2026
21	VERDANT	22-Sep	0.23	0.25	0.29	0.29	0.21	0.20	0.20	-13.3%	Reached TP 2 on 29/9/2026
22	NOW	22-Sep	141.83	162.50	192.40	192.40	135.20	130.90	92.16	-35.0%	Cut loss on 29/10/2026
23	FLEX	7-Oct	118.35	142.55	166.35	166.35	114.85	104.00	67.23	-43.2%	Cut loss on 14/10/2026
24	IAB	9-Oct	1.37	1.64	1.93	1.93	1.21	1.19	0.83	-39.8%	Cut loss on 13/10/2026
25	PESONA	13-Oct	0.47	0.50	0.55	0.55	0.47	0.45	0.47	0.0%	Initiated on 13/10/2026
26	EIPOWER	16-Oct	0.85	1.07	1.09	1.09	0.85	0.83	0.45	-47.6%	Initiated on 16/10/2026
27	OGX	23-Oct	0.46	0.53	0.55	0.55	0.44	0.43	0.35	-23.1%	Initiated on 23/10/2026
28	DELL	28-Oct	501.96	537.27	602.18	602.18	488.30	450.70	297.06	-40.8%	Cut loss on 30/10/2026
29	KJTS	6-Nov	1.02	1.14	1.32	1.32	0.96	0.92	0.88	-14.2%	Initiated on 6/11/2026
30	HEIM	13-Nov	13.88	14.96	15.98	15.98	12.98	12.70	12.82	-7.6%	Initiated on 13/11/2026
31	KOSSAN	20-Nov	1.24	1.31	1.38	1.38	1.23	1.18	1.15	-7.3%	Initiated on 20/11/2026

Market Chat Tracker – 4Q26 Stock Picks

4Q26 Stock Picks

No.	Companies	Report Date	Report Date Share Price (RM)	Resistance 1 (RM)	Resistance 2 (RM)	Support 1 (RM)	Support 2 (RM)	Cut Loss (RM)	Last Price (RM)	Change in Share Price (%)	Comments
1	CBHB	7/4/2026	0.495	1.200	1.240	1.030	1.000	0.980	0.46	-7.1%	Initiated on 7-Apr-2026
2	CHEEDING	2/10/2026	0.630	0.730	0.750	0.585	0.565	0.554	0.365	-42.1%	Initiated on 2-Oct-2026
3	HKB	2/10/2026	0.660	0.715	0.750	0.625	0.595	0.578	0.800	21.2%	Initiated on 2-Oct-2026
4	KOSSAN	2/10/2026	1.140	1.330	1.370	1.130	1.080	1.060	1.150	0.9%	Initiated on 2-Oct-2026
5	CLOUDPT	2/10/2026	0.500	0.600	0.635	0.470	0.450	0.441	0.345	-31.0%	Initiated on 2-Oct-2026
6	INFOM	2/10/2026	1.790	1.980	2.050	1.550	1.470	1.440	1.690	-5.6%	Initiated on 2-Oct-2026
7	OGX	2/10/2026	0.435	0.600	0.625	0.405	0.380	0.372	0.350	-19.5%	Initiated on 2-Oct-2026
8	QES	2/10/2026	0.590	0.655	0.675	0.555	0.540	0.529	0.565	-4.2%	Initiated on 2-Oct-2026
9	SCICOM	2/10/2026	2.330	2.540	2.590	2.170	2.110	2.070	1.910	-18.0%	Initiated on 2-Oct-2026
10	THMY	2/10/2026	2.170	2.400	2.500	1.970	1.880	1.840	1.730	-20.3%	Initiated on 2-Oct-2026
11	UMSINT	2/10/2026	8.770	9.750	10.000	2.330	2.160	7.980	5.900	-32.7%	Initiated on 2-Oct-2026
12	UWC	2/10/2026	7.090	7.760	8.000	6.560	6.320	6.190	5.430	-23.4%	Initiated on 2-Oct-2026
13	VITROX	2/10/2026	10.000	11.240	11.500	9.570	9.260	9.070	8.850	-11.5%	Initiated on 2-Oct-2026
	Average Return									-14.9%	

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