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Media Release



28 March 2018

News Editor

NOT TOO YOUNG TO DO THEIR PART

- Preschoolers pledge to do their part in saving the environment in Year of Climate Action
- Green habits and environmental learning made tangible through fun hands on experience for our young

The Year of Climate Action looks set to be a year of change, with the emphasis on channelling motivation into action. In line with encouraging more to step up for the environment, the South West Community Development Council (CDC) is gearing its green programmes, such as Green Schools @ South West¹ and **My Preschool Shines @ South West**, to bridge the gap between awareness and action in the community.

2 Organised by the South West CDC and National Environment Agency (South West Regional Office), My Preschool Shines @ South West aims to educate and instil environmental awareness and responsibility in pre-schoolers aged three (3) to six (6). This year's curriculum will spotlight energy conservation, enabling the pre-schoolers to be more aware about climate change and what they can do to stem the tide.

¹ Green Schools @ South West Launch and Appointment Ceremony was held on 13 March 2018. Aligning with the Year of Climate Action, this year's curriculum places the spotlight on energy efficiency and climate change.

Children Pledge for Climate Action

3 Apart from environmental education and raising awareness on environmental issues, the pre-schoolers will also be encouraged to pledge to take steps to conserve the environment. In line with keeping learning fun and interactive, the pledges will be collected in a unique way – pre-schoolers will place their handprint on pieces of paper, signifying their pledge, and wear these crowns as emblems of conviction.

4 Energy conservation themed skits will be brought to the pre-schoolers to enrich and enhance their learning in a fun way. In addition, the preschool educators will also be encouraged to tailor the curriculum to help their young charges learn more about climate change and how they can do their part to conserve energy.

Wealth of resources to support pre-schoolers' learning

5 At My First Skool @ Boon Lay 3, which bagged the top prize for My Preschool Shines @ South West 2017, DIY and active community outreach were the order of the day. Other than creating awareness posters and a tree mural using recyclables, the pre-schoolers also made door knob collaterals bearing energy-efficiency messages which they brought home to spread awareness to their family members. In addition, the children got to try their hand at making homemade mosquito repellent, using natural ingredients such as lime and spice cloves, and went around the neighbourhood to distribute their DIY repellent to residents, reminding them to perform the 5-Step Mozzie Wipeout.

6 “The teaching kit provided not only ready activities for the children to take part in, such as connect-the-dot and colouring activities, but also jumpstarted inspiration to think outside the box. For example, we came up with new activities such as water rationing to educate on water conservation, Lights Out Day, and making homemade mosquito repellent. These activities allowed the children to put their knowledge into action,” said Ms Policarpio Patricia Elise Agustin, K2 English teacher at My First Skool @ Boon Lay 3.

7 “The environmental-themed skits also enriched the learning process. The children thoroughly enjoyed the environmental skit and actively participated in the process, interacting with the skit performers and picking up new knowledge at the same time,” she added.

8 “Children are never too young to develop good habits, and this applies to cultivating green habits as well. Learning is made fun through a wide variety of interactive activities that spark the children’s interest and imagination in green issues. The preschool teachers and educators have done a wonderful job in making environmental education fun for the children, and I am happy to see green habits and awareness seeded in our children from a young age, paving the way for generations of sustainability-minded youth,” said Mr Patrick Tay, BBM, Adviser to Boon Lay Grassroots Organisations.

9 At My First Skool @ Boon Lay 3 (Blk 180B Boon Lay Drive), the pre-schoolers will showcase and share about the school’s green efforts at the event, through collaborative craft activities using recyclables, puzzles and games. A total of 25 preschools will be on board this year’s programme. Since its launch in 2011, the programme has reached out to more than 6,000 pre-schoolers from close to 160 preschools in the district.

10 Details of the event are as follows:

Event : My Preschool Shines @ South West 2018 Launch and Award Ceremony
Date : Thursday, 29 March 2018
Time : 10.00 am – 11.30 am (**Media is invited at 9.50 am**)
Venue : My First Skool @ Boon Lay 3
Blk 180B Boon Lay Drive #01-664
Singapore 642180
Guest of : Mr Patrick Tay, BBM
Honour Vice Chairman of South West CDC and Adviser to Boon Lay Grassroots Organisations (GROs)

11 We would like to invite your reporter and photographer/TV crew to the **My Preschool Shines @ South West 2018 Launch and Award Ceremony**. Interviews can be arranged upon request. Please contact our media liaison officer for queries. We look forward to receiving you and your crew/photographer.

Media Liaison Officers

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About the South West Community Development Council (CDC)

The South West Community Development Council (CDC) was formed on 24 November 2001, with the mission to Assist the Needy, Bond the People and Connect the Community.

Through local help programmes, the South West CDC provides assistance to help the less fortunate in our community. The CDC also organises projects and programmes to promote community bonding and social cohesion. The South West CDC adopts the "Many Helping Hands" approach to encourage community ownership among residents, community partners and corporations to realise its vision of "Owning Your Community".

PROGRAMME

| Time | Programme |
|------------------|---|
| 10.00 am | Arrival of GOH Mr Patrick Tay, BBM Vice Chairman of South West CDC and Adviser to Boon Lay GROs |
| 10.05 am | Opening Performance by Pre-schoolers of My First Skool @ Boon Lay Blk 180B |
| 10.10 am | My Preschool Shines @ South West 2017 Awards Presentation by GOH |
| 10.20 am | My Preschool Shines @ South West 2018 Appointment Ceremony by GOH |
| 10.35 – 10.45 am | Climate Action Pledging Activity by Pre-schoolers |
| 10.35 am | Tour of Activity and Exhibition Booths K1 Classroom Station 1: Shoot them in the correct bin (recyclable and non-recyclable) Station 2: Saving electricity puzzles K2 Classroom Station 1: Aim and shooting of recyclable materials Station 2: Memory card games on personal hygiene Nursery Classroom Station 1: Puzzle on personal hygiene Station 2: Maze pick up litter Station 3: Sorting items to recyclables and non-recyclables Educare Classes (Playgroup and Toddler) Collaborative craft activity – Art and craft using recyclable |

| Time | Programme |
|---------------------|--|
| | materials. |
| 11.00 – 11.20 am | Skit for K1 children @ Nursery Classroom Dining Area on Energy Efficiency and 3Rs |
| 11.00 am | Departure of GOH |
| 11.30 am | Reception |

Winners for My Preschool Shines @ South West 2017

1st place:

My First Skool @ Boon Lay 3

2nd place:

PCF Sparkletots Preschool @ Jurong Spring Blk 527

3rd place:

PCF Sparkletots Preschool @ Jurong Spring Blk 455