

Staff News

A graduate in Social Work from NUS since July 2007, Ruby Zhang joins New Life Childcare as an Administrative Assistant on 2 January 2008. She loves God and commits to pursue His call for her wherever it may be, learning to obey and trust Him each step of the way. Ruby worships at Covenant Evangelical Free Church and serves in the young adults ministry (RAYs).



Staff Movement

After over 7 years of pioneering the cause for New Life, Lee Da-Win stepped down as Centre Manager at the end of 2007. He joined Covenant EFC's Evangelical Training Centre (ETC), a full-time internship programme, in 2008 to pursue a higher calling.

Diana Ooi, previously the Community Health Centre Manager, takes over as New Life's Centre Manager on 1 January 2008.

Previously an Administrative Assistant with New Life Childcare, Alicia Chang has been redeployed, in the same capacity, to Finance & HR on 1 January 2008.

How Can I Give in Support of New Life?

BY CHEQUE Payable to "New Life Community Services Centre". Please furnish your name, FIN/NRIC number, address, and contact number.

BY CREDIT CARD Follow on-line instructions at www.donation.org.sg/call_newlife_frame.html (requires credit card number)

Donations received in current year are eligible for tax deduction in the following year. Until further notice, tax deduction will be twice the value of donations made. Individual donors need not claim tax deductions if they have furnished their full name and FIN/NRIC number, as New Life will submit details directly to IRAS.

For more help, contact **6892-0849** or simmuiliang@newlife.org.sg

Our Programmes & Services

CHILDCARE CENTRE

Playgroup
Nursery
Kindergarten

YOUTH CENTRE

New Life Youth Hub
(Youth Drop-In Centre)
S.U.P.E.R. Kidz Club
STEP-UP Programme
(Zhenghua Primary School)
(Zhenghua Secondary School)
(West Spring Secondary School)

FAMILY LIFE CENTRE

Counselling
Legal Advice
Family Assistance
Family Life Enrichment

COMMUNITY HEALTH CENTRE

Home Care
Health Care

New Life Community Services Centre is
affiliated to



Mastering
Life's
Transitions

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The

new life news

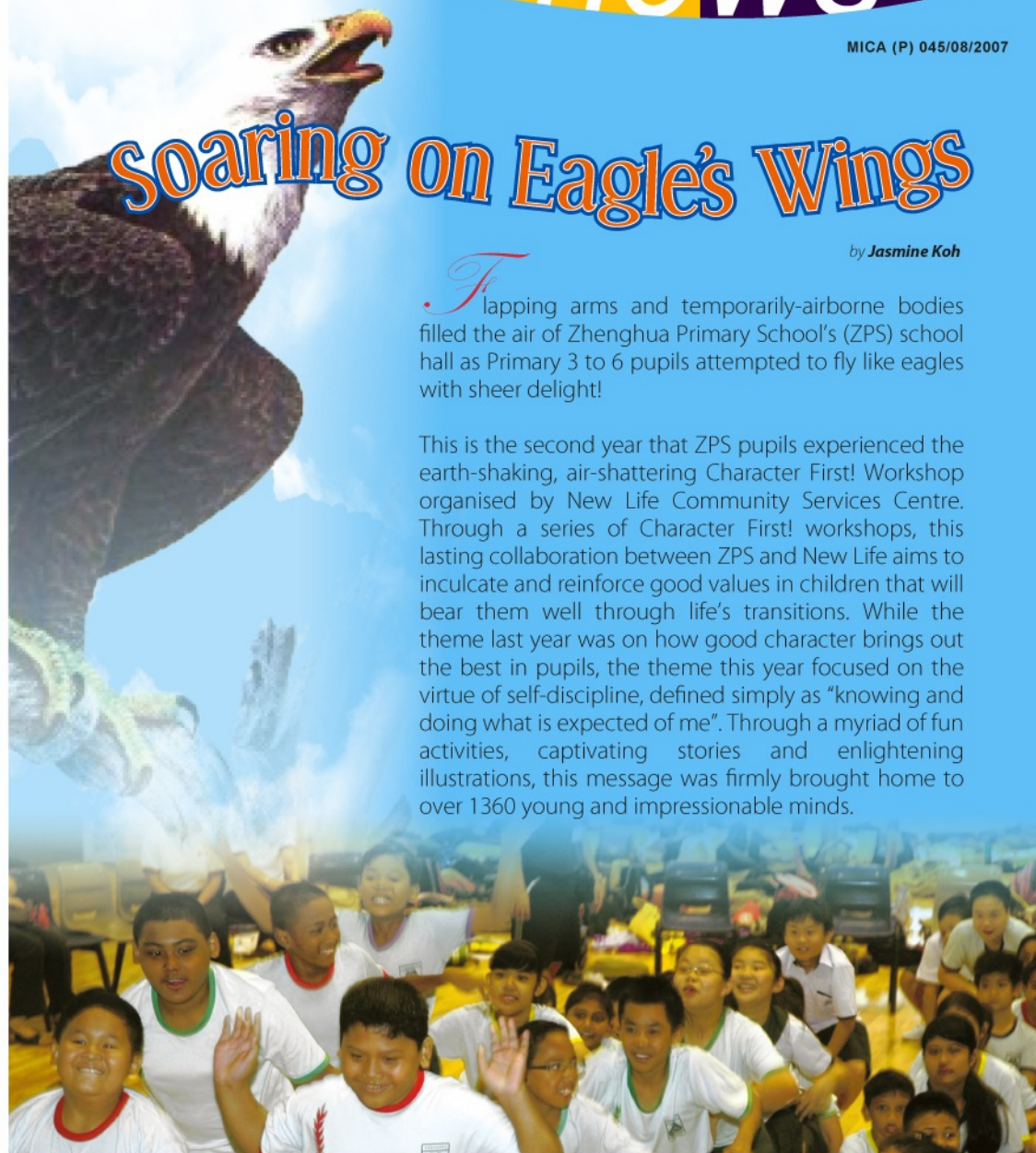
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Soaring on Eagle's Wings

by Jasmine Koh

*F*lapping arms and temporarily-airborne bodies filled the air of Zhenghua Primary School's (ZPS) school hall as Primary 3 to 6 pupils attempted to fly like eagles with sheer delight!

This is the second year that ZPS pupils experienced the earth-shaking, air-shattering Character First! Workshop organised by New Life Community Services Centre. Through a series of Character First! workshops, this lasting collaboration between ZPS and New Life aims to inculcate and reinforce good values in children that will bear them well through life's transitions. While the theme last year was on how good character brings out the best in pupils, the theme this year focused on the virtue of self-discipline, defined simply as "knowing and doing what is expected of me". Through a myriad of fun activities, captivating stories and enlightening illustrations, this message was firmly brought home to over 1360 young and impressionable minds.





The eagle was portrayed as a symbol of self-discipline, and aptly so, because the children soon found out that eagles carry out their responsibilities seriously; be it in building a nest which weighs up to 1000kg, hunting for food, defending their territories or raising their young. Though their tasks involve massive resources, eagles are determined to finish what they set out to accomplish, refusing to be waylaid by laziness, fatigue or even bad weather. Children learnt that it was important to emulate the eagle in this respect by practising self-discipline whether in finishing their homework, showing respect to their authorities or keeping their promises.

When asked if they would be willing to take up the commitment of practising self-discipline in their lives, many children raised their hands promptly, encouraging both trainers and teachers alike with their positive response. Though such a commitment is admittedly hard to keep, Nicole from Class 4D honestly quipped: "I'm not sure if I can do so, but I will try my best". Now surely those are wise and affirming words from such a young mind!

While a life-long principle such as this cannot be fully ingrained in the children through a half-day course alone, at least this one thing it

did – create awareness within the young minds of our next generation that good character has far more intrinsic value than mere studies or extrinsic enjoyment; that they have the capacity to withstand the dictates of their feelings to do what they know is rightfully expected of them; and that practising virtues like self-discipline will enable them to soar and achieve new heights like eagles.

The 5 "I Will"s, a characteristic memory tool of Character First! Workshops, emphasise five actions displaying self-discipline this time, such as keeping a promise and doing one's work the best one can, were cleverly strung together in a cool rap, allowing pupils to commit them to memory easily. This, along with the eagle memento that pupils made during the craft session, will hopefully serve as constant reminders for them to practise what they have learnt in the workshop.

As New Life Centre Manager, Diana Ooi, says: "...with prayers and continual reinforcements, the seeds sown today, will reap the potential of these growing into strong young trees...". Indeed, through continual positive reinforcement by both parents and teachers, we believe that the children will find sufficient water and sunlight to bear the fruits of an excellent character which in turn will bless many others in their lifetime.



雄鹰展翅飞翔

Translated by Mei Feng

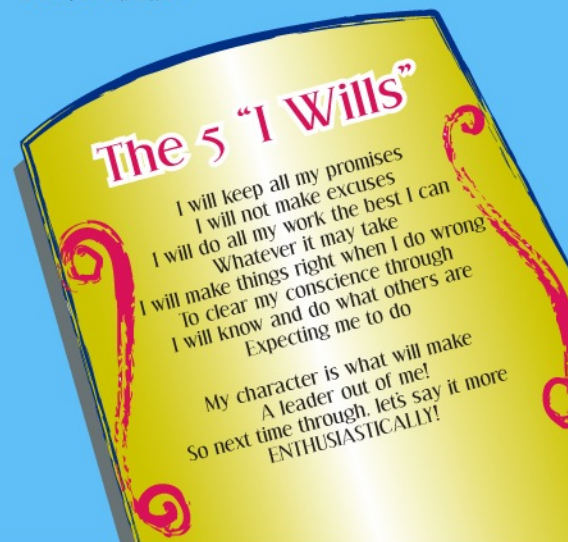


今年，新生民众服务中心和正华小学主办的品格优先讲习班所专注的主题是自律的美德，老鹰被做为具有启发意义的例子，巧妙地被描述成自律的象征：它们认真地负起自己的责任，尽管任务艰辛，但是它们不畏疲劳和恶劣的天气，仍很坚定地完成既定的目标，不半途而废。孩子们认识到，不管是完成家庭作业、尊敬师长或是谨守诺言，效仿老鹰学会自律是很重要的。

将成为枝繁叶茂的参天大树... .."。是的，通过家长和老师不断地正面引导，我们坚信在这些孩子的身上就像种子拥有了充足的水和阳光一样，会给出丰硕的成果，他们将拥有优秀的品格，并因此在日后的生活中给其他人带去祝福。

虽然短短半天的学习难以使这种人生道理根深蒂固地埋在他们的心里，但许多孩子都举起了他们的手，为在日后生活中学会自律而做出充满着智慧和坚定的承诺。而且，孩子们也用5个"I Wills"灵活地背下了活动的主题，方便日后经常回顾。最重要的是，他们了解到，好的品格远比单单学习或物质享受更有价值。养成自律的美德，将使他们有能力奋力拼搏，像老鹰一样在高空展翅飞翔。

新生经理黄宝珍说：“通过祷告和不断地引导，今天所播下的种子，日后



New Life Childcare Year End Concert 2007

New Life celebrates with the children of the graduating Kindergarten 2 class of 2007 through an entertaining concert held at Covenant EFC's Main Sanctuary on 10 November 2007.



Passing the Torch



by Lee Da-Win

*P*assionate to serve the community, a handful of Covenant Evangelical Free Church members came together and founded New Life in 2000. In the early years, many rolled up their own sleeves to give tuition, chit-chat with the elderly, conduct workshops and so on, just to kick-start the whole work of New Life. Today, New Life has established a range of professional social services across the lifespan, working collaboratively with various schools and community organisations, seeking to serve the young and old, comprising a 30-strong staff team, and a volunteer corps giving selflessly of their time to the cause. New Life has also grown deeply in its conviction, that is, to demonstrate God's love, through its good works in serving the community.

I have had the privilege of developing much depth and maturity during my stint. But most of all, perhaps, New Life - and especially the Board and staff whom I have worked with - has given me the opportunity to learn and practice servant leadership. Looking back, it has been an experience that I am both proud of and humbled by at the same time.

There is a time and season for everything. I believe that both I myself as well as New Life are entering into a new season. For myself, it is a season to reflect and recharge as I spend a year in study and internship, discerning God's will for me and preparing for the next chapter of my life ahead. For New Life, I believe that it is also a season for renewal and focused growth, which I am certain that Diana will ably lead New Life into.



*F*or 7 years, New Life has developed programmes that blessed the community and impacted lives. Under the dedicated leadership of Da-Win and his team, various programmes were established to meet the needs of individuals & families.

- 82** childcare enrolment per annum from 2001
- 135** participated in children community based activities per annum from 2003
- 300** registered as members with the youth hub per annum from 2005
- 6** school based programmes in 5 schools since 2005
- 65** families received help of various kinds per annum since 2003
- 122** families engaging health services per annum since 2003

With Da-Win moving forward to the next phase of his life, I am humbled by the honour to carry the torch; to grow and lead a team of like-minded colleagues whose desire is to make a difference in the community. We are committed to the vision of sowing seeds and touching lives for the long haul.

In the next lap, New Life will consolidate, concretise and concentrate on core programmes that we are passionate about and best at doing. Weaving these into the

fabric of the community, our core programmes seek to attain a higher level of impact, influence and relevance, touching not just the reachable but the 'un-reached'.

Targeting the children, youths and elderly, New Life's core programmes aim to go beyond our physical office boundary into schools and social spaces by stretching the sphere of contact and increasing collaborative efforts to reach those who have not been reached.

New Life must be to the community what Jesus is to them – Throughout his life on earth, he reached out to them by bringing good news and doing good works.



by Diana Ooi