

THE NEW LIFE NEWS

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CHILDREN'S FEST 2016: LET'S CELEBRATE!

For the sixth year in its running now, Children's Fest 2016 has further deepened the engagement with the community and allowed New Life to serve the children and parents, and partner the grassroots to serve the community together.

More than 3000 children flocked to the ninja-themed carnival – continuation of the previous years' theme, on a sunny morning of 26 June in Bukit Panjang and Woodlands.

"Children's Fest is the product of immense teamwork. We are very grateful with the support, collaboration and partnership of grassroots leaders, schools and an army of more than 500 volunteers," shared Elder Johnny Tan, Executive Director of New Life Community Services.

Ministers gracing the event this year were Mr Vikram Nair, MP for Sembawang GRC, Mr Liang Eng Hwa, MP for Holland-Bukit Timah GRC (Zhenghua), Mr Vivian Balakrishnan, Minister for Foreign Affairs and also joining us for the first time, Ms Sim Ann, Senior Minister of State, Ministry of Culture, Community and Youth.

"It is my first time at Children's Fest, and it is a very good community event. I can see that the volunteers have put in tremendous efforts to set up the stalls and games to engage the children. It is also very nice to see a lot of family bonding going on amongst the residents," shared Ms Sim Ann joyfully.

Not only did the children enjoyed the appealing game

stations but they also learnt to overcome the challenges that tested their knowledge, skills and characters. Other attractions that gave delight to the children were the highlight stations such as nerf blasters and bouncy inflatable which garnered the longest queues.



"Children's Fest was fun-filled! My child always look forward to it every year and he's always very excited. I am really thankful to the organisers because the event was well organised even at such a hot weather. The volunteers are also very helpful and enjoyable. They incorporated the games with kids of all ages," shared Mdm Harpeet Kaur, a parent-participant of Children's Fest.

New Life aims to continue to bring joy and blessings to the community not only through fun activities but also to leave meaningful impact to the lives of the next generation.

Watch out for a more exciting Children's Fest in 2017!

Both children and parents were already familiarized with the three Ninjas, but upon seeing the real-life mascots, many of them excitedly flocked around the mascots to meet them personally.



To find out more about New Life's Children's Fest community event such as volunteering or sponsorship, please call 6892 7249 or email email@newlife.org.sg

CHILDCARE PARENTS' DAY

New Life Childcare centres celebrate Parents' Day. Our centre at Bukit Panjang celebrated it on May 6. First proclaimed by the United Nations, Parents Day aims to honor parents throughout the world by appreciating their selfless commitment to children and their lifelong sacrifice.

Waves of laughter were heard as parents enjoyed a hilarious skit performed by the K1 and K2 children while children from PG to N2 showed off their moves as they danced to the beat of pumped up music.



The celebration ended after parents had a hands-on arts and crafts session with their child with some making puppets, flowers and the others necklaces. It was certainly a memorable time of bonding!

"The celebration was a good way to remind us there are little things we can do with our children that will mean a lot to them. The best highlight was the handicraft session which gave us some personal time with our boy. I would also like to thank the teachers for challenging the children with stage performances that inspires confidence and teamwork within them," shared Ruth Tan, mother of Samuel.



FUN WITH SUN, SAND AND WATER

Children from New Life Childcare @ Bukit Panjang and Junction 10 experienced an unforgettable day of fun on 15 July when they went on an outing to Gardens by the Bay. There was excitement all around as they maneuvered the mini obstacle course, raced one another on playground slides and built castles out of sand before changing into their swim gear for water play!

LEARNING OUT OF CLASSROOM

56 students from New Life Student Care took a trip to the Singapore Philatelic Museum on 24 June to learn more about how stamps are related to Singapore's nation building.

Students also attended workshops relating to Singapore's heritage and had hands on crafts sessions.



MINISTRY PARTNER Q&A CORNER

Joyce Ho is one of the volunteer mentors of New Life Steady Readers programme. Below are some of her thoughts on being a New Life Ministry Partner.

Q: What made you decide to volunteer?

I came across the Steady Readers programme some years back and during one of New Life's outreach programmes. Knowing that it gives me the opportunity to give back to the community made me decide to be a volunteer. The bonus was I have always loved working with children!

Q: How do you feel every time you volunteer?

I see the smiles of the children every week as I coach them. Their joy of learning makes me love to come back each time as I impart reading skills to them every week. Every lesson is worthwhile and the liveliness of children kept me going.

Q: What was your most memorable experience?

I believe every moment is a teachable one. There was one when the children in my group who decided to try their luck by disobeying the rules. It was really nothing very serious but I decided that it was one instance where discipline was needed to be instilled in them. I removed their much awaited games session that evening just to bring home the point that rules are meant to be obeyed and not broken.

Q: What have you learnt from volunteering? Any lessons you wish to share?

Volunteering at Steady Readers has taught me to be humble and to love the children even though they are not my own. Since I've decided to give my few waking hours, I might as well do a good job and to make it worth the while. I derive lots of joy through these sessions myself. I would like to encourage those who are still hesitating to volunteer to step out of their comfort zone. You will never know what joy and happiness lies ahead in serving!



THE CLAN CAMP

36 youths participated in a special one-day youth camp in June. "The camp named as 'Clan Camp' aimed to encourage and instill values such as tenacity, resilience and unity," shared Joycelyn Wong, Senior Programme Assistant & overall camp in-charge.

Partnering with Barclays, 8 volunteers also assisted to facilitate and support the camp. One of the highlights of the camp was the dragon boat activity where the youth campers raced against each other.

"One of the valuable lessons I had learnt from the camp was teamwork. Especially during the dragon boat activity, all of us had to row together as one in order to reach our destination and win the race," recalled Wei Kang vividly.



STEADY READERS PARENTS' WORKSHOP

19 parents of children from Steady Readers Programme attended a parents workshop held in April. Guest speaker Margaret Chan shared on phonics and its application to enable parents to better help their child improve their reading skills. Additionally, parents also learnt how they can help motivate their child to develop a love and interest for reading.



PARENT-CHILD BONDING DAY

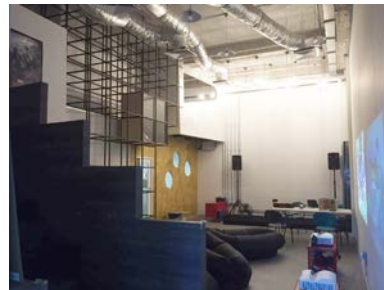


A meaningful time of bonding was organised by New Life Children Programmes & Support team in June. 30 children with their parents participated in a fun time of games which encouraged partnership and teamwork amongst parents and their children.

In a recent survey conducted by the National Youth Council, it was revealed that families are spending less time together, with approximately less than 10 hours a week on average.

"We encourage parents to spend more quality time with their children. Through our parent-child bonding day, we provide opportunities for parents to interact with their children in fun and meaningful ways," shared Koh Ser Lian, Director of New Life Children.

YOUTH HUB @ JUNCTION 10 OPENS



New Life's third and newest youth drop-in hub located at level 4 of Junction 10 mall is now open to the public from Thursday 2pm - 6:20pm and Friday 1:30pm - 5:50pm. Youths from the community can hang out in this safe environment with gaming facilities, study corner as well as engage in positive influences of mentors.

For more information, contact Keith Chan at 68920085 or keithchan@newlife.org.sg.

NEW LIFE CHILDCARE @ WOODLANDS OFFICIAL OPENING

With exuberant cheers and thunderous applause, Mr Vikram Nair, MP for Sembawang GRC (Admiralty), officially commemorated the opening of New Life's second childcare centre at Blk 580 Woodlands Dr 16 on 17 April 2016.

Welcomed by a total of 150 guests which includes parents, children and staff of New Life, Mr Nair toured the centre joyfully while participating in different activities which encouraged meaningful interactions with the children, parents and teachers of New Life.



"I'm delighted to have New Life in Admiralty and for New Life to meet the needs in the community. New Life childcare provides a great school environment and for Admiralty parents who are looking for childcare spaces, New Life will serve your needs," shared Mr Vikram Nair confidently.

YOU CAN BE A NEW LIFE MINISTRY PARTNER!

Your support allows young lives to be transformed, dreams to be realised and destinies to be changed!

New Life Community Services is a not-for-profit voluntary welfare organisation committed to mentor the next generation and meet the needs of the community.

Donations received by 31 December will be 2.5 times tax deductible the following year. Kindly provide your NRIC, FIN or CRN to enjoy tax benefits.

For more information, call 6892 8100 or email donate@newlife.org.sg

New Life Community Services is affiliated to Covenant Evangelical Free Church and a member of the National Council of Social Service (NCSS).

OUR SERVICES

New Life Childcare

Nurturing wholesome children in partnership with families & the community.

New Life Children & Student Care

Mentoring children to become disciplined and confident individuals.

studentcare@newlife.org.sg
6892 8040

New Life Children Programmes and Support

Loving children by mentoring them to become character champions.

children@newlife.org.sg
6892 8020

New Life Youth

Building character and developing resilience in youths through life-transforming purpose.

youth@newlife.org.sg
6892 7119

New Life Casework & Counselling

Promoting social change and empowerment to individuals to enhance their well-being.

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