

# RAISING CONFIDENT & RESILIENT CHILDREN



care services to support young families, but also to provide more professional development opportunities for our early childhood educators.

In February 2017, the Early Childhood Development Centres Bill was also passed in Parliament, and marks a milestone for the early childhood sector. With this, parents will be assured of higher and more consistent quality of care and education across all child care centres and kindergartens. More than ever, our early childhood educators play a key role in making a positive difference in the lives of our young children.

This year, the Early Childhood Conference will be held from 6 to 7 October at Suntec Convention and Exhibition Centre. The theme is "Inspiring Leadership: Nurturing the Future". We invite educators, parents and children to join this exciting event, especially the resource-rich and fun-filled exhibition.

Our children look to us as role models to support and guide them. Lao Tzu once said, "Give a man a fish and you feed him for a day. Teach him how to fish and you feed him for a lifetime." Let's work together to equip our children with the right skills, values and mindset to meet life's challenges!

**H**ealthy social-emotional development matters! Many studies have linked happiness and success in later years to a young child's quality of relationships and well-being in their early formative years. "Happiness is love. Full stop," said George Vaillant, the principal investigator in the 75-year Grant Study at Harvard University. As early childhood educators and parents, we can build positive relationships with our children, with a healthy dose of love. Such relationships enable them to develop the resilience to bounce back from life's challenges, and lead a happy and successful life.

ECDA is committed to continue working closely with the sector and parents to ensure that all our children have a good start in life. During the recent Committee of Supply debate, we shared plans not only to increase the provision of infant

MR EUGENE LEONG

Chief Executive Officer  
Early Childhood Development Agency (ECDA)



# Contents

## FOCUS

**02 Strong And Steady**  
Nurturing social-emotional development in children to grow up confident and resilient

## IN THE NEWS

**06 A Bill For The Better**  
An overview of the new Early Childhood Development Centres Bill

**08 A Is For Art**  
A museum resource kit for educators to guide children's appreciation of art

## EC LANDSCAPE

**10 EC Professionals Trade Tips**  
An exchange of knowledge at the inaugural Project Showcase for Early Childhood Leaders

**12 A Calling To Care and Educate**  
New initiatives to boost early childhood care and education

**INNOVATION & RESEARCH**  
**13 Hello, Neighbour!**  
Children of MOE Kindergarten @ Farrer Park learn to be good neighbours



## MY TEACHER, MY SCHOOL

**14 Learning And Moving To The Beat**  
Picking up self-expression skills and creativity through the Artist-in-School Scheme

**15 Back To Basics**  
Emotional development is the cornerstone of teaching at My First Skool @ Blk 264 Serangoon Central

## ASK THE EXPERTS

**16 Q&A**  
Supporting the social-emotional development of infants and toddlers

## THRIVE

**18 Mindful Matters**  
Children's mental wellness helps them to navigate life's ups and downs

**21 A Yummy Surprise**  
A fruit bouquet for Mum on her special day

**22 High Up In The Sky**  
Make a mini paper kite with Dad and fly it together on Father's Day

## WELLNESS

**23 Let's Go Outside**  
SportSG lists the benefits of outdoor play for children

## MAILBAG

**24 We've Got Mail!**  
Parents on how they instil confidence in their child

## FUNTIMES

**25 Faces and Feelings**  
A matching game for children to identify emotions



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