

# FROM SELF TO OTHERS



spearheaded by the Early Childhood Development Agency (ECDA), is doing just that. A total of 670 preschools and some 39,000 children are now on board the 4<sup>th</sup> annual edition of "Start Small Dream Big", which affirms the importance of service learning and volunteerism. It is nearly five times as many participants as the inaugural launch in 2015.

Art and music can also help nurture and broaden young minds. We invite parents and educators to the ECDA-National Library Board Expert Series Seminar, which will be held on 28 July (Saturday) at the Woodlands Regional Library. At this seminar, you can pick up practical tips to develop your children's critical thinking and problem-solving skills.

Our early childhood educators play a significant role in our children's early years. It is vitally important for parents to work with our educators to support their development and learning. This Teachers' Day, please join us in affirming and appreciating the role, commitment and passion of our educators.

Former US President Franklin D. Roosevelt once said, "We cannot always build the future for our youth, but we can build our youth for the future."

As parents and educators, let us work together to nurture our children to be globally-minded – to have compassion for others, to care for the environment and to contribute towards a better community, country and the world at large!

MR EUGENE LEONG

Chief Executive Officer  
Early Childhood Development Agency (ECDA)

The Information Age is fast creating a world without borders. For our children to thrive in this interconnected world, they need to be aware of the world around them, appreciate different perspectives and cultures, embrace new ideas, as well as acquire the skills and attitude for creative thinking, problem solving and global citizenship.

At the same time, our children should be secure and rooted in their identity as Singaporeans, and in our collective heritage and culture.

Research suggests that our children should have opportunities to be engaged in culturally rich and diverse experiences, participate in environmental and sustainable practices and to volunteer in community service. These opportunities enable them to develop a value-system that is based on respect, care and compassion.

"Start Small Dream Big", a President's Challenge initiative



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