

GROUNDING IN HEALTHY VALUES



mentors to help our children develop healthy values.

This is why we continue to invest in our educators' training and professional development so that they are better equipped and motivated to pursue this calling. At this year's Committee of Supply debate, the Minister for Social and Family Development announced several exciting initiatives. Existing and potential leaders in the EC sector will be able to leverage on a new Leadership Development Framework to strengthen their leadership competencies. Educators can harness the EC Learning Communities to advance their pedagogical learning in specific domain areas through peer learning, and become experts.

A new Quality Teaching Tool will be developed to guide instructional and pedagogical practices, while the Early Years Development Framework will be reviewed in line with research developments on the importance of the early years from birth to three. More support will also be given to children from low-income families with the nationwide expansion of KidSTART.

A well-functioning and caring society thrives on the healthy values we instil in our next generation. I look forward to working with our parents and preschool educators to nurture such values in our children.

MR TAN CHEE WEE
Chief Executive Officer
Early Childhood Development Agency (ECDA)

Values influence one's thinking, behaviour and outlook on life, and exert great influence in making choices and decisions at critical junctures. They are critical in shaping individuals, families and societies.

In the words of Glenn C. Stewart, a human behaviour consultant, "Values are the guiding principles that help you determine what is right or wrong." It is essential to instil healthy values in our children from young so that they can be well-guided along their life journey.

This issue's focus on values coincides with the launch of the Year of Celebrating SG Families in March. The celebrations emphasise family values such as love, commitment, care and concern, and respect. Children learn by observing and imitating adults, such as their parents and teachers. While parents play a key role in nurturing a child's values, early childhood (EC) educators are also important



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ON THE COVER
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Beanstalk clinched the APEX 2021 Award of Excellence in the One-of-a-Kind Publications (Education & Training) category!

Some photos in this issue were taken before the Circuit Breaker period, and feature children/adults without masks on.