

# YYDE Connection, 2H of 2017

The official bi-annual official newsletter of YYDEC

30 Dec 2017

## Racial Harmony Day Celebration July, 2017

Racial Harmony was celebrated in YYDEC in the month of July.



Hands-on time! Designing dolls to represent different ethnic groups.

The students learnt about the history of how Racial Harmony Day came about 20 years ago and the importance of racial harmony in a country where different races come together to build a nation.

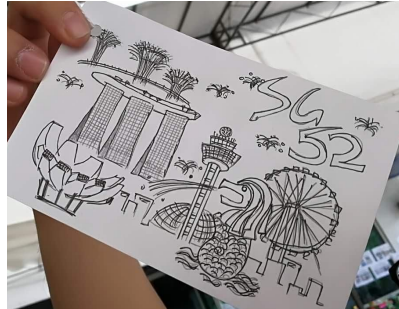


The final product...

The learning took place in form of PowerPoint presentation which showed the students the different cultures and the measures Singapore takes to ensure tolerance and harmony.

The children then came together in groups of 4-5 and design dolls representing the various ethnic groups.

*"In Singapore, we must always stay united as one people, and never allow any such event to break or divide us." - Prime Minister, Lee Hsien Loong*



Student's artwork on their favourite landscape of Singapore

## National Day Celebration August, 2017

YYDEC celebrated National Day in the month of August, with an activity requiring the children to design a postcard and writing to an imaginary friend overseas telling them what a beautiful country Singapore is and to invite them over for a visit.

In this activity, the children learnt about the components of a postcard and how to write an invitation.



Beautiful scenes of Singapore drawn by the students

*The theme of this year's parade - #OneNationTogether - is a "call-to-action for all Singaporeans to take pride in our achievements, and to be confident in our collective future as we overcome all odds together". - The Straits Times*

## Trendy Eyes Project September-November, 2017

Trendy Eyes, located in Bedok Point, has partnered YYDEC to provide complimentary eye check-up and glasses for more than 100 of our students.

Eye examinations are an important part of health maintenance for everyone. For children, eye exams can play an important role in normal development and learning.

Vision is closely linked to the learning process. Children who have trouble seeing or interpreting what they see will often have trouble with their schoolwork. Many times, children will not complain of vision problems simply because they don't know what "normal" vision looks like.



YYDEC in collaboration with Trendy Eyes, Bedok Point

Thanks to Trendy Eyes, our students are equipped to embark on their learning journey.

*"By far the most important organs of sense are our eyes. We perceive up to 80% of all impressions by means of our sight. And if other senses such as taste or smell stop working, it's the eyes that best protect us from danger."* -

[www.zeiss.com](http://www.zeiss.com)

## Paper Tower Challenge

### September, 2017

In conjunction with YYDEC Fund Raising Day, we have invited Tony Sun, a member of former Taiwanese boy band 5566 and Pianoman Su Yang to join our students in their Paper Tower Challenge (S.T.E.M. activity) held over a weekend in September.



Students brainstorming on how to build a stable paper tower

The students were first shown the 10 tallest building in the modern world and briefly told the history of how tall buildings came about. They were then instructed to form teams and construct the tallest free-standing paper tower that was able to stand for at least 10 seconds without any form of support.

The children were engaged in critical thinking by using their problem-solving skills to determine the best techniques to build the tallest tower using just pieces of recycled A4-sized paper.



The completed Paper Tower with the Pianoman, Su Yang

S.T.E.M. activities are beneficial to children not only because they focus on technical and scientific skills, group activities as such also promote cooperation skills, negotiation skills and foster sense of leadership in some children..



Helping each other to build the leprechaun trap.

## Holiday Project - Character Study: The Leprechaun

### December, 2017

It was after the final year examinations and the children definitely deserved a good a break. Therefore we have decided to ease their stress of transitioning to the next level by having them work on a fun holiday project - a character study of the leprechaun.



A leprechaun trap drawn and planned by a P2 student.

Why Leprechaun? Leprechaun is a less-known fictional creature in our part of the world - Asia. Its traits - both physical appearance and its mischievous character made it a great choice for the children to analyse and find ways to capture this creature in order to negotiate for three wishes, including the information of the location of the pot of gold at the end of the rainbow..

### Another S.T.E.M. Activity

The children had fun illustrating the leprechaun following a step-by-step instructions, listing out all the characteristics of the creature, its likes and dislikes as well as its movements in order to plan for a leprechaun trap.

### Teamwork is the key

The children worked in groups to discuss how they could capture a leprechaun by devising a plan and drawing the trap. They would then discuss how the trap would work, and improve on their plan.

Then, according to their illustrations, they submitted a list of materials they would need for the trap. Most of the materials used were household recyclables such as tissue boxes and wooden chopsticks or popsicle sticks.



Discussing and drawing up the plan for a Leprechaun trap as a team.

The brainstorming sessions revealed the children's creativity as well their love for science and design. Although they could not quite explain their concepts in words, their final work told the story.



The students proudly showing off their project work during the bursary award ceremony.

All the centres successfully completed the project just before our annual bursary award ceremony where their project work went on display for the proud parents and our Guests-of-Honour to view.



Our Guest-of-Honour Mr. Ng Chee Meng, Minister of Education.