

**SPEECH OF MDM RAHAYU MOHAMAD, PRESIDENT
PPIS K2 GRADUATION CEREMONY
18 NOVEMBER 2017, MDIS AUDITORIUM**

Assalamualaikum Wr Wb

A very good morning to my fellow Board members, guests, parents, teachers and our wonderful children.

Today is an exciting day for all of us, and especially to our young graduands. This marks the beginning of many more accomplishments for them and I am sure, a significant milestone that we as parents will look back with pride and fond memories.

For PPIS, this year holds a special significance as we mark our 65th anniversary as a Muslim women's association; and 34 years of involvement in the field of early childhood education.

I would like to share with you a few key achievements by PPIS this year:

PPIS SPARK ACCREDITATION

1. Since the announcement of Ministry of Social and Family Department on the Singapore Preschool Accreditation Framework (SPARK) recognition, all our six (6) centres have undergone the accreditation assessment. Five (5) of our centres namely PRC1, PRC2, SBV, BBC and JRC1 are now SPARKS accredited while our Bedok Reservoir Centre (BRC) is waiting for their results. We are confident that with the hard work put in by the BRC team and the support from all our other centres, we will achieve our 6th SPARKS accreditation by the end of this year.

AWARDS

2. We are also pleased to inform that our Bukit Batok Centre (BBC) under the leadership of our Senior Principal Ms Zulaihabe Talip, was nominated for a mentorship programme under the 'Singapore's Little Treasures Mentor-Initiative', one of three initiatives under the Early Childhood Development Agency (ECDA) Innovation Projects, in partnership with the National Heritage Board (NHB).

3. In July 2017, the Centre was also awarded the School Heritage Champion Award by National Heritage Board for their contribution in setting up a Malay Heritage Corner at their premise and also sharing with other organisations their expertise. Well done BBC!

4. I would also like to share with all of you that all our centres are fully on board with the Healthy Meals in Childcare Centres Programme (HMCCP). This is our commitment to provide healthy and balanced meals for children in school as well as to offer programmes that cover physical, intellectual and psychological aspects of children, in nurturing healthier and happier children. As parents, we want our children to not only learn well, but also to live a healthy lifestyle.

5. Most of our centres have also been rejuvenated, with some even having extension bays. For example, Sembawang Vista Centre (SBV), Pasir Ris Centre 1 and 2 will be able to accommodate more children that are on our waiting list. We hope to provide better learning and caring environments for the children that have been entrusted to us.

6. Our seventh Child Development Centre, at Jurong West Street 91, would be opening its doors in December 2017. This will be our first centre to pilot Mandarin as a second language for the children - an initiative to encourage diverse cultural understanding and inclusivity.

7. As a commitment to our staff development and professional growth, PPIS facilitated learning journeys for our staff. Cluster Principal Ms Yasmin Yunus, Teacher Ms Sa'idah Suhaimi and Teacher Ms Siti Ruqaiya Nasharudin were sent to Taiwan while our ECE Curriculum Executive Ms Nur Hudah Hamzah and Senior Principal Ms Zulaihabe Talip went to a conference and study visit in Finland this year. These training and learning journeys are important as they enable our teachers to broaden their knowledge and experiences, so that they can share and improve on current developmental techniques as well as facilitate better learning.

IMPROVING OUR OPERATIONS

8. We are proud to announce that PPIS Child Development Centres will be embarking on new technologies to automate systems and processes at centres. Inshaallah, come January 2018, parents will be using an iPad to sign in and sign out whenever they send and

fetch their child from our centres. With digital applications, running a childcare centre now becomes easier and manageable so that teachers can do what they do best, which is - to teach!

2017 GRADUATION THEME

9. This year's PPIS K2 graduation's theme is 'Values in the Future World' with emphasis on our core values such as passionate, progressive, integrity and servant leadership. Each value holds a significant meaning which we embody in our lessons and across our centres. We believe in the pursuit of lifelong learning. We strive to be progressive in providing quality care and education, we uphold moral values and we commit to serve, and serve first.

CLOSING

10. Before I conclude, I must thank the teachers for their tireless contributions and effort in making today's event a memorable one for all of us and most importantly for the children here today. In PPIS, we groom our teachers to not only teach but also to inspire and impart life lessons to our children.

11. I would like to congratulate our young graduands present here today. Let us give a round of applause to them for their hard work and perseverance and to you, our parents, for believing in us and putting your child under our care.

12. Thus, from this day forward, let us rejoice at their achievements and wish them all the best for their future endeavours.

Thank you.

Wassalaamu'alaikum Wr Wb