

**OPENING REMARKS BY MR NG CHEE MENG, ACTING MINISTER FOR
EDUCATION (SCHOOLS), AT SHARITY DAY 2016,
ON FRIDAY, 30 SEPTEMBER 2016 AT 2.50PM**

1. I'm delighted to be with all of you today. To all our young ones, a very "Happy Children's Day" in advance!

2. Since 2015, I am heartened that the Community Chest has been reaching out to our Primary School students through its Sharity Club Programmes to inculcate values of service and compassion.

3. To date, over 72,000 Primary 3 students have participated in the "Good Deeds with Sharity" initiative, where they think about six good deeds to be done at home, in school, and in the community. For example:
 - Ian Tey from Anchor Green Primary School who packs lunch for the needy at Willing Hearts and donated his old toys to Salvation Army;
 - Heidi Chua from Temasak Primary who helped a disabled person by holding the door open; and
 - Yeong Shi Xuan from Raffles Girls' Primary who helped a blind person cross the road.

4. Well done Ian, Heidi, and Shi Xuan! I hope your stories will encourage other students and also adults to contribute to a more caring society.

5. Under Community Chest's new initiative "Family Time with Sharity", younger kids – those in Primary 1, are encouraged to carry out small acts of service and care for their family members. After the children have completed four good deeds, family members can pen down words of encouragement to affirm their efforts.

6. I look forward to more of such positive initiatives from community partners like the Community Chest. This will encourage our young to develop a heart to care for

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their friends, family, and their community, not just in schools, but also in their daily lives. Good values become part of their lives.

7. Today's Sharity Day is also part of Community Chest's efforts to provide opportunities for service and meaningful interactions. Through Sharity Day, all of us can get to make new friends with students from Metta School, Grace Orchard, Lighthouse School, and MINDS Fernvale.

8. Let us continue to show compassion and care when engaging with the wider community, especially those who are less fortunate. Let us always remember the happy feelings we get from helping others too. Working together, we can shape a more caring and inclusive Singapore.

9. I wish everyone a wonderful afternoon at the River Safari.

10. Thank you.