



Media Release

23 August 2018

**RESTROOM ASSOCIATION (SINGAPORE) MARKS ITS 20<sup>th</sup> ANNIVERSARY WITH THE  
LAUNCH OF HAPPY TOILETS @ PRESCHOOLS BOOKLET AND HANDBOOK**

*The launch is a joint effort between the association and VISO Pte Ltd to promote hand  
washing and good toilet habits in preschools*

1. Today, Senior Parliamentary Secretary, Ministry of Education and Ministry of Social and Family Development A/Prof Muhammad Faishal Ibrahim launched the booklet for children and handbook for teachers and parents (**Annex A**) at Cherie Hearts @ Charlton. In collaboration with Dyson Airblade hand dryer distributor VISO Pte Ltd, the Restroom Association (Singapore) (RAS), developed the booklet and handbook to mark its 20<sup>th</sup> anniversary since its inception in 1998.

2. The booklet is an activity booklet for children to “Have Fun, Be Happy & Stay Healthy” by cultivating good toilet habits. The booklet educates the children about showing kindness to cleaning attendants and understanding interesting toilet names, toilet signages, germs and good toilet habits. Games and activities such as word puzzle, maze, spot the differences, connecting the dots, etc. are incorporated to make learning fun for the children.

3. The handbook is a guidebook for teachers and parents which aims at providing them with the necessary knowledge and resources to engage children on effective hygiene education. Learning points for children are provided for every games and activities. This includes a history of toilets, dos and don'ts, types of germs and fun steps of hand washing. There is also a segment on projects and activities, namely decorations, exhibitions, inspections and appreciations, for teachers and parents to work with the children.

4. RAS President Ms Tan Puay Hoon said, “Since the launch of our Happy Toilets @ Preschools Programme in 2015, we have reached out to more than 100 preschools. As we commemorate our 20th anniversary this year, it is timely for us to launch the booklet and handbook so as to encourage more preschools to take ownership of organising projects and activities for children. We will also be conducting training workshops for teachers as part of our Innovation Guidance Project (**Annex A**) with the Early Childhood Development Agency. As we continue to inculcate the young with good etiquette, we are not far from building a society embracing excellence in restroom culture”.

5. The children at Cherie Hearts @ Charlton also participated in a “Keep Clean, Go Green” activity on the eight steps of hand washing together with staff of VISO. Children dried their hands with Dyson Airblade hand dryers instead of paper towels not only to go green but also to lessen the cleaning attendants’ workload of regularly clearing litter bins.

For enquiries, please contact:

Mr Emerson Hee

Executive Director

Tel: 6297 9824

HP: 9113 6786

Email: [emerson@toilet.org.sg](mailto:emerson@toilet.org.sg)

### ***About Restroom Association (Singapore)***

*The vision of the Restroom Association (Singapore) or RAS is A Gracious Society Embracing Excellence in Restroom Culture. Started in 1998 as a non-profit organisation, RAS is dedicated to building an excellent restroom culture by actively engaging owners, the cleaning industry and users to play their part. Some of its programmes or activities – supported by the National Environment Agency (NEA) – initiated and conducted include the Happy Toilet Programme, Happy Toilet School Education programme for Preschools, STAR (Sustaining Toilets As Restrooms) Awards Programme, Eco-Assessor Programme and LOO (Let’s Observe Ourselves) Carnival & Awards. RAS is a strategic partner in national community events like Clean & Green Singapore and is also a founding member of the World Toilet Organization and the Keep Singapore Beautiful Movement.*

### ***Glossary of Chinese Terms (In alphabetical order)***

- President Tan Puay Hoon  
会长陈培芬
- Restroom Association (Singapore)  
新加坡卫浴文化协会
- Happy Toilets @ Preschools Booklet  
康乐公厕学前教育幼童册子
- Happy Toilets @ Preschools Handbook  
康乐公厕学前教育师长指南

## **ANNEX A**

### **Happy Toilets @ Preschools Booklet**

Happy Toilets @ Preschools Programme (HTPP) is a holistic programme (renewable annually) launched by Ms Low Yen Ling who was then the MSF Parliamentary Secretary in 2015. The programme aims at encouraging preschools to achieve the highest accreditation of completing the three phases on Design, Maintenance and Education within a three-month period. To encourage and recognise sustained achievement, preschools will be accredited with the Platinum Award if they achieve the highest accreditation for three consecutive years. This new programme adopts a more holistic approach that replaces the previous Happy Toilet School Education for Preschools (HTSEP) launched in 2007 by former Health Minister Khaw Boon Wan.

The Happy Toilets @ Preschools booklet is an activity booklet for children to “Have Fun, Be Happy & Stay Healthy” by cultivating good toilet habits. The booklet educates the children about showing kindness to cleaning attendants and understanding interesting toilet names, toilet signages, germs and good toilet habits. Games and activities such as word puzzles, mazes, spot the differences, connecting the dots, etc. are incorporated to educate children the fun way.

### **Happy Toilets @ Preschools Handbook**

The Happy Toilets @ Preschools handbook is a guidebook for teachers and parents which aims at providing them with the necessary knowledge and resources to engage children on effective hygiene education. Learning points for children are provided for every game and activity. This includes a history of toilets, dos and don'ts, types of germs and fun steps of hand washing. There is also a segment on projects and activities namely decorations, exhibitions, inspections and (cleaner) appreciations for teachers and parents to work with the children.

### **RAS' Innovation Guidance Project**

Under the Early Childhood Development Agency's (ECDA) community-based Innovation Guidance Projects (IGP), preschools could explore innovative ideas and approaches to enhance learning experiences of children, and promote community engagement and home-centre partnerships. Community partners are engaged to provide training for participating preschools to support teachers with the necessary skills and knowledge to carry out innovative activities with children.

As a community partner under ECDA IGP, RAS will conduct training for preschool teachers to embark on Happy Toilet Hygiene projects. The training aims to equip preschool teachers with the knowledge and resources to create a clean and hygienic environment for children from N1 to K2, and provide opportunities for them to develop healthy habits. Teachers are also guided to organise projects on hygiene issues that enhance children's communication, social-emotional skills, creativity and teamwork. A total of 10 preschools are participating in the pilot run of RAS's training.