



Teacher Linda discussing the artwork with the children.

'SHE'S MY LIKE-MINDED PARTNER IN EDUCATION'

Teacher **LINDA ONG** School **BETHESDA SERANGOON CHURCH SUNBEAM KINDERGARTEN** Parent **MRS LOH YUEXIA**

My husband and I first met Teacher Linda in 2013, when my older son transferred to Sunbeam from another pre-school. Since then, I have been impressed with her professionalism and her innovative way of teaching. Ms Ong uses many creative ways to help my son understand concepts and strengthen his motor skills. Not only is she caring and dedicated, she also makes sure that parents are actively engaged in their children's development.

For example, earlier this year, I was invited to my son's class for a session, organised to show how hands-on and interactive experiences can make learning more fun for children, while helping them pick up social skills.

This was part of a series to help children learn about stamps, letter-writing and the post office. Teacher Linda also helped the children make a Mother's Day card. She guided each child throughout the process which included making the cards, placing them into envelopes, writing their own home addresses, affixing stamps onto the envelopes, and finally mailing them.

Teacher Linda echoes what I believe education is all about — kindness — and I'm glad to find this like-minded partner in education.

THANK YOU, TEACHER

The early years are a significant period in a child's life-stage. It is where firm foundations for learning, development and well-being are laid. An early childhood educator has a profound impact on a child's cognitive, language, physical and social-emotional development. Three happy parents tell *Beanstalk* about the impact their child's teacher has had on their children.



Ms Koh with Ferra and her three sons.

'SHE'S MY SUPPORT'

Teacher **MS ADELINE KOH** School **PCF SPARKLE TOTS PRE-SCHOOL @ TAMPINES EAST BLK 261**

Parent **FERRA HARTONO**

"Ms Koh has gone beyond being a teacher — the love, care and concern she has shown my three children and my family has touched me beyond words. She has been a form teacher to my middle son for the past two years.

Ms Koh has been a caring and patient educator not only to my son, but to all the children at the centre.

My son loves to share with me what Ms Koh has taught him in pre-school. He always comes home and tells me lots of lovely stories about Ms Koh. He always remembers the advice she gives, and her answers to his many questions. He is always happy and eager to go to pre-school every day.

Whenever I ask Ms Koh for advice, she is always willing to share her views and thoughts, even though our discussions take up a lot of her time. Whenever I am worried about some issue, she has always been there to encourage and give me moral support. She is not only a teacher to my boy, but also a friend to me.

'WE'VE BUILT A BOND'

Teacher **MS BETHANIE WONG KAI SHI** School **ORION PRESCHOOL**

Parent **MADAM MEENAKSHI**

When my son, Darsh, joined Orion Preschool in 2015, he was barely speaking at home. Other children his age were already talking so much, but he would utter only a few words like "mama" and "papa" even when he was at home. I was worried about his ability to cope with strangers at pre-school.

But within a few months at the centre, Darsh blossomed into a sociable child. I know that this change is due to his teacher, fondly known as Ms Beth. To draw my child out of his shell, she made an effort to find out which words and songs he liked, so she could use them as a "hook" to encourage him to participate in class.

Ms Beth is a very caring and affectionate teacher. She understands the power of kind words, hugs and smiles — things that children look for. When she's talking to Darsh, she gets down to his eye level, talks slowly and crinkles her eyes when she smiles at him. I also get regular updates from Ms Beth on how Darsh is doing in pre-school.

I know my child is happy in class, and that is what really matters!



Ms Beth with Madam Meenakshi and her two children.