



Happiness is When Learning is Fun, Say Children

Ever wondered what really makes children happy?

Ten young representatives from various schools in Singapore shared with five adult panellists and their audience of 300 what truly delighted them during the Singapore Children's Forum 2015, held at the NTUC Centre Auditorium on 6 June.

Themed 'What Makes You Happy?', the discussion, conducted in a talk show-format, centred on education, family and friendships. The topics were shortlisted by 120 children who participated in a pre-forum orientation.

On education, grades mattered as much as having fun while learning, they said, adding that even as they remained open to their teachers' suggestions, they wanted feedback to work both ways.

They also desired united and supportive families that spent quality time together, and in which members remained respectful and honest.

Finally, they wanted friendships based on loyalty, mutual understanding and respect.

Guest-of-Honour Ms Indranee Rajah, then Senior Minister of State, Ministry of Law and Ministry of Education, said the forum was an opportunity for children to take centre stage and let their voices be heard.

"I do hope that our children can find happiness in learning... I hope that even as our children seek their own happiness, they remember to be concerned about the happiness of others as well," she said.

Mr Alfred Tan, Chief Executive Officer at Singapore Children's Society, added: "The question of whether people in Singapore are happy or emotionless has been much talked about. How our children rank academically is less of a concern than their sense of well-being. The theme of the forum allows our children to explore and ask themselves what happiness truly means to them."

Besides hearing from the children, Children's Society also presented Most Outstanding Youth Volunteer awards to three deserving youth volunteers for their contribution to the Society, their schools and the community.

They were Beatty Secondary School student Cyril Koh Wen Hao, Chua Chu Kang Secondary School student Fatimah Bte Samsir, and Seow Ding Cheng of ITE College Central.

The Singapore Children's Forum acts as a platform for Singapore's children to discuss issues that affect and matter to them.

寓教于乐最快乐

来自本地各所学校的10名小代表,在6月6日于职总大厦礼堂举行的“新加坡儿童大会”上,同五名成人主讲者和300名与会者分享了真正让他们快乐的秘诀。

大会主题为“什么让你快乐?”。通过清谈节目的形式,大会围绕教育、家庭和友情等课题。这些课题是由120名参与初步讨论会的孩子们拟定的。

小代表们认为,寓教于乐跟学业成绩一样重要。他们也希望拥有一个团结、互相扶持的家庭,以及忠诚、互相信任和尊重的朋友。

大会特别嘉宾是时任律政兼教育部高级政务部长英兰妮小姐。她认为,大会为孩子们提供了一个说出心声的平台。

在这同时,儿童会也颁发“最佳青少年义工奖”给三名对儿童会、学校和社群有贡献的年轻义工。



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