

PRESS RELEASE

DATE: 20TH JULY 2010

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Ready for the real world - Preparing your child for Primary School

With confidence, she walks through the sea of taller and louder schoolmates, finds her class and gets ready for assembly. She looks around to see her peers waiting for their parents, but she is undeterred. Applause to that Primary One student on her first day of school!

Anxiety strikes almost every child (*and parents*) on the first year of Primary school. The best way to tackle this is to better prepare your child through a programme such as 'K2 Immersion'. This programme has been conducted by **Kidz Meadow Kindergarten and Kidz Meadow Childcare Centres** in collaboration with a few Primary schools since 2005.

For a day, K2 children are given a tour and feel of Primary school through interesting activities. The children get hands on experience in the computer room and experience buying food from the school canteen. In some schools, the children will be 'buddied' with a Primary 4 or 5 student. Towards the end of the programme, the children will get excited and have a more positive attitude about going to primary school.

Mdm Norliza Amin, Senior Manager, Early Childhood shared, "The children were more aware of what to expect in Primary 1. The immersion programme coupled with our parental talks on Transition to Primary One, have given both parents and children a better understanding of the transition. Parents of our 2007 K2 children have feedback that their children are more confident through the experience. They are also able to discuss the positive aspect of primary school even before the child enters primary school as the child is able to relate better, having gone through the programme."

Learning also starts early at Kidz Meadow as children are given the opportunity to explore beyond mere books. The school uses the project work approach, with the children carrying out a project every semester. The teachers may get the ball rolling by setting the first topic, but students can suggest their own subsequently.

A satisfied parent, Mr Muhd Halim, commented during a recent mini exhibition of children's project work, "The project which was done during the school holidays has instilled the desire to learn more

in the students. They will not only gain more knowledge but also have lots of fun in doing the project. Introducing Project Work is a good progress and such initiative should be continued." His daughter, 4 year-old Nabilah Halim, is enrolled in the Nursery 2 class.

Mdm Norliza Amin concluded "The children have gained a wealth of skills essential for academic success: better verbalization, richer vocabulary, better problem solving strategies, more curiosity, greater empathy, better emotional and social adjustment, more innovation, more imaginativeness and so on. All signs that this approach of letting children decide what they want to learn is a winner."

Drop by **Kidz Meadow Kindergarten and Childcare Centres' Open House this 24th July 2010, 10am – 4pm** to experience the learning journey of our students.

Kidz Meadow Kindergarten @ Pasir Ris (102 Pasir Ris Road, Tel: 6583 3522)

Kidz Meadow Childcare @ Buangkok (Blk 979C Buangkok Crescent, Tel: 6489 8670)

Kidz Meadow Childcare @ Woodlands (Blk 874 Woodlands St. 82, Tel: 6368 9634)

Kidz Meadow Childcare @ Yishun (Blk 173 Yishun Ave 7, Tel: 6759 5117)

About MERCUTM Learning Point

MERCUTM Learning Point is an education and training provider that offers a comprehensive range of programmes and services to the general public, corporate, grassroots organisations and other Voluntary Welfare Organisations (VWOs). Set up in 1999, MERCUTM has an extensive network of early childhood educational centres, student care centres and learning centres.

MERCUTM comprises of a kindergarten (Kidz Meadow Kindergarten), 3 childcare centres (Kidz Meadow Childcare Centres), 3 student care centres, and 3 learning centres that offer academic and enrichment for students and a private school offering full-time private GCE 'N' and 'O' Level programmes.

We kindly request the media's support and assistance to inform members of the public of these programmes so that they may take advantage of its benefits. Should you require more information, please contact Ms Adibah at 6346 8301 or e-mail: adibah@merculearning.com.

END

Issued by: Ms Adibah Ahmad

Contact No.: 6346 8301

E-mail: adibah@merculearning.com

Date of issue: 20th July 2010

Page 2 of 2