

Greetings From the Chairman

Jul 2020—Dec 2020 Issue 2

HERE TO SERVE

When the circuit breaker was announced and then commenced on 7 April, our dedicated teams in different service centres acted immediately to ensure our children's safety and that studies would not be compromised. Parents working at the frontline and in essential services were assured that their children would continue to be cared for by our centres, and our needy beneficiaries will continue to receive food and financial support.

We were glad that we were granted permission to continue providing some of our services throughout the circuit breaker and its extension. As most of our students had to do home-based learning, our caring centres' teachers stayed in touch with them and their parents regularly.

We certainly look forward to the end of the circuit breaker on 1 June. All our pre-school staff have undergone the COVID-19 swab tests, and our centres have been cleaned up. All the required precautionary measures to welcome our children back to school have been put in place.

In Phase 1 of the safe reopening from 2 June, many activities will still be restricted. We are praying and looking forward to re-starting our TCM clinic, monthly haircuts and senior exercises again in the next two phases. Meanwhile, stay home as much as possible, stay healthy, exercise at home and stay happy; have happy thoughts. Together, we shall overcome COVID-19.

在宣布“阻断措施”于4月7日开始实行时，伯特利社区服务

的团队立即采取行动，以确保孩子们的安全，学习不会受到影响，并且向前线和基本服务工作的父母们保证，他们的孩子将继续受到我们社区服务的照顾，有需要的人将继续获得粮食和财政的支持。

我们很高兴获得许可，可以在整个“阻断措施”期间继续提供某些服务。由于我们大多数的学生都必须进行家中学习，因此，我们社区服务旗下的托管中心的老师定期与他们及其父母保持联系。

我们当然期待“阻断措施”于6月1日结束。我们所有的学前员工都经过了新冠肺炎（COVID-19）棉签测试，并且我们的旗下的托管中心已经清理干净。我们欢迎孩子们重返学校，所有必要的预防措施已经做到位。

从6月2日起重新开放的第一个阶段，许多活动仍将受到限制。我们祈祷并期待着在接下来的两个阶段中重新启动我们的中医诊所，每月剪发和乐龄运动锻炼。同时，尽量待在家里，保持健康，在家运动和保持心情开朗；有快乐的想法。我们将共同克服新冠肺炎疫情（COVID-19）。

Rev Dr Chia Beng Hock
Chairman

Greetings From the Executive Director

Jul 2020—Dec 2020 Issue 2

From the ED's Desk...

Despite the cloud of uncertainty over the COVID-19 pandemic's impact on our economy and subsequently our operations, we are continuing our effort to reach out to the community. Recently, we reached out to Ms X, who was referred to Bethel Community Services by one of our church youth members. Our youth came across Ms X in October 2018 during our church community prayer walk. Ms X is married with eight children. Currently, only her youngest daughter is staying with her. The rest of her children stay with her first husband or with a caregiver.

Ms X was diagnosed with terminal stage 4 cancer. Her doctor declared her condition incurable, and she was concerned about her youngest daughter's education. We addressed her concern by enrolling her daughter in our centre. Our social services arm further assisted her with monthly food rations and financial assistance. We are also in close contact with her assigned social worker from Thyee Hua Kwan Family Service Centre (THK FSC) that is providing mostly for her child's education on whether any other support is available. Ms X was undergoing chemotherapy and taking medication, but her cancer did not abate. Her condition deteriorated, and she was admitted to the hospital. Sadly, she passed away in May 2020.

The story of Ms X is sad. However, it made us realise that there is so much that we can continue to do to impact the community. As we reached out to her, we were reminded of Jesus' encounter with the Samaritan woman in the Bible (John 4:4-42). Jesus reached out to this woman, and consequently, her whole community was impacted (John 4:41-42).

Finally, I would like to appeal to you; amidst the challenges posed by the COVID-19 pandemic, would you consider supporting us? Do let us know if you would like to partner with us to do so. Most importantly, we cherish your prayers as we reach out to the community.

在这段不确定性，笼罩着冠状病毒疫情的当儿，我们还是在社区里不余遗力地去为需要帮助的人而做出努力。最近，一位教会青少组的成员向X女士介绍了社区服务，因此来到我们的社区服务中心。这位成员在2018年十月的一次祷告聚会中，得知X女士已婚，并拥有八名孩子。在目前，与最小的女儿同住，其他的孩子们则与第一任的丈夫或与看护者同住。

X女士被诊断患有末期癌症，状况被确诊为不治之症，而令她最担忧的莫过于她幼女的教育前途。得知这个情况，我们也把她的女儿纳入我们的托儿所。每个月里不仅为她安排粮食供应，在经济上也提供援助。除此之外，我们也与她的社工联系其他的福利团体 - 太和观，援助她幼女的教育经费。X女士正在接受化学疗法和药物治疗，但她的癌症并未减轻。后来因病情恶化而入院。很遗憾，她在2020年的五月逝世。

虽然X女士的故事很悲哀，这也让我们意识到，我们其实可以继续做很多事情，并为社区做出贡献。当我们与她接触时，我们想起了耶稣在圣经中与撒玛利亚妇女的相遇（约翰福音 4:4-42）。耶稣向这名妇女伸出援手，也因此影响了整个社区（约翰福音4:4-42）。

最后，我想呼吁冠状病毒疫情所带来的挑战，并呼吁您考虑支持或与我们合作。最重要的是，当我们与社区接触时，请为我们祈祷。

Bethel Child Development Centre

Jul 2020—Dec 2020 Issue 2

Navigating Through the Times



Early this year, news regarding the new coronavirus started spreading to us. As new cases emerged every day, more restrictions were put in place to safeguard the local community. Facing the ever-changing situation, there is no doubt that the adults and even the children were affected by it. As teachers, we feel that we should not sugar-coat the situation but to explain it to the children at a level they can understand.

Personal hygiene and cleanliness is the key to prevent the spread of the virus. Children in the Playgroup and Nursery 1 classes were taught the proper ways of washing their hands and keeping their environment clean. They were also taught to cover their mouths when they cough or sneeze and wash their hands after. Nursery 2 children learnt that the virus could

spread through surface contact, and as the virus strands are so tiny that we cannot see them with our eyes, it is important for us to wash our hands regularly. They also had an open conversation on their thoughts of the situation, understanding the reason for wearing the mask when they go out.

Children from Kindergarten 1 and 2 noticed and were confused by the changes in their daily activities. Many noticed that they could no longer go out for outdoor play and their favourite external classes. Liu Lao Shi made a picture book to explain to the children all about COVID-19. She explained that there is nothing to fear. Many people in the front line, the different healthcare staff, scientists and cleaners are helping us to overcome the situation. She further explained that we can be superheroes too by minimising the spread of the virus, staying at home when ill, minimising gatherings and practising good hygiene. The Kindergarten 2's further discussed how COVID-19 has affected people physically and psychologically. They discussed how we should not let fear get to us and affect our behaviour. During such times, we should show more kindness and appreciation to others. No one wishes for this pandemic to happen and these are tough times, but together, we can overcome!



Li Su Ru
Teacher

Bethel Child Development Centre

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新冠病毒阻断措施期间怎样进行家园合作



2020年，一种前所未有的病毒——“新冠病毒”席卷世界各国，被病毒感染后，轻则是呼吸道疾病，重则危及生命。因为现今世界相互联系十分密切，全球分工合作成为主流，人员相互往来频繁。这就成为了病毒传播的一个重要方式。为了防止病毒的扩散，各国纷纷采取了停工停学等居家隔离的措施来阻断病毒的传播。那么，在新冠病毒阻断措施实施期间，幼儿园与家长该怎样进行家园合作呢？

首先我们坚决贯彻执行政府和幼儿教育署发出的关于防控疫情所作出的各项政令，并按照规定的要求严格执行毫不放松。我园按照“防控疫情、延迟开学”特殊环境下的工作要求，本着“停课不停学”原则，给居家学生布置好家庭作业，请家长在家中帮助居家学生学习。老师定期对居家学生家长进行电话回访，了解学生在居家期间的学习进度，及时解决学习中的问题。

在幼儿园方面，要及时了解疫情发展动态，实时关注最新疫情信息和政府最新的指示，并按照最新要求调整方案并执行。对每天来学校的学生和老师有严格工作和上课规定，包括测体温，环境消毒，安全距离规定等等。另一方面要关注幼儿老师、孩子以及家长在居家期间应对疫情的情况。我们的老师积极开展线上专业知识研修、认真定计划和备课、根据学校各班的课程主题计划，设计了丰富有趣的学习内容，与家长幼儿搭建起空中“学习小课堂”，希望在这样的特殊时期，和家长携手协作，通过有趣的亲子学习方式，让孩子们宅在家里不寂寞，一起学习，一起游戏，收获了别样的精彩，用实际行动为抗击疫情出一份力。

与此同时，我们通过加强家长和幼儿园之间的合作，从正面宣传引导，从而使幼儿园、教师、家长形成有效的“三级”链动，家园携手帮助孩子养成良好的卫生和生活习惯，为战胜疫情打下坚实的基础。



Bethel Kinderlites

COVID-19, A Teaching Point

COVID-19 has become the world’s most talked about topic. Everywhere you go, people are talking about COVID-19 and it is affecting the world around us.

However, instead of dwelling on the circumstances we are in, teachers can turn the situation around by using it as a teaching point to educate children on personal hygiene, social responsibility and obeying authority.



Personal hygiene

The importance of washing hands with soap frequently is demonstrated through a science experiment of pepper and soap. This experiment shows that the virus can only be killed by soap and not water alone.

Social Responsibility

Using stuffed toys to tell a story that shows how they can play a part in society. By adhering to safe distancing measures, they can help to keep themselves, people around them and the environment safe. They can learn the importance of wearing masks if they have to go out and come in close contact with others. By doing so, it helps to protect others if one has the virus but shows no symptoms. Staying at home is the best measure to prevent the spread of the virus. Go out only for essential activities.



Obeying authority

The story of “Noah’s Ark” can be used to teach children to obey authority. Just like Noah and his family obeyed God and stayed in the Ark for forty days, they can also obey the authority and stay at home during the circuit breaker. Noah trusted the Lord, and after forty days, they came out of the ark safe and rejoicing. So we can also trust God and obey the government that God has given us and we will be able to lead a normal life when the circuit breaker ends.



The above are what Bethel Kinderlites teachers have been doing with their children to fight COVID-19 together. In addition, we teach the children to have grateful hearts by getting them to pray for the front-line workers and send them cards of appreciation. Stay healthy and safe!

Bethel Student Care Centre

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The Emergence of a Stronger “C”

The Coronavirus (COVID-19) outbreak in Singapore has turned the lives of many upside down and changed the way we live, work and study. Much has been reported on this fearful “C”.

Students have been told about the virus, how it spreads and the history of the pandemic. The first thing that students were taught through the weekly NewsTalk (article: Sunday Times, 8 March “Why Singapore Still so Dirty in the Midst of COVID-19”) was to be socially responsible both in the centre and in public areas. Cleanliness and hygiene are expected from the students daily. After lunch and tea break, we saw students springing into action by cleaning and wiping the table.

We have also shared with our students how the front-line and healthcare workers have done so much and sacrificed so much. They are the heroes to be lauded.

During the circuit breaker period when students have migrated to full Home Based Learning, we also understand the difficulty parents face, having to work from home and supervise their children at the same time. The centre has planned a wide range of light and interesting activities for our students to keep them occupied in the afternoon and on weekends.



There has been more Communication between parents and teachers, as we constantly check in on the students to ask about their well-being and how they are coping. Parents are also spending more time to Communicate with their children at home during this circuit breaker period.

More Care and Compassion have been shown to the less privileged and low-income families who are struggling to cope during this difficult period. We have seen many kind-hearted people who have donated in cash and in kind to this vulnerable people group. Case Coordinators from Bethel Community Service, together with the several hundreds of workers from the essential services, are also doing their part to extend assistance and support. They assess families with essential needs or who need financial support for their school fees but are not Singaporeans.

To end on a positive note, facing the fearful “C” COVID-19, we will emerge together as a stronger Community in Care, Compassion and in Communication. Cheers to all!

Bethel Student Care Centre

COVID-19, A learning point for the children

Teachers can impart knowledge by providing valid information to the children, telling them the seriousness of this deadly virus.

Sharing information and the simple facts about COVID-19 with the children

Letting the children know the cause/ symptoms that are caused by a germ (virus) that can make the body sick. People who have COVID-19 may develop fever, cough, and/or shortness of breath. These symptoms may appear within 14 days after being exposed to the disease.

Practice Good Personal Hygiene Daily

Encourage them to practice frequent and proper hand-washing – especially after reaching home, before meals and after blowing their nose, coughing or sneezing. Show them how to sneeze or cough into a tissue and dispose it in the trash. Encourage them to clean and disinfect frequently touched items and surfaces around the house. Telling them the importance of safe-distancing and to practice this at all times.

Be grateful and do not take things for granted

Sharing with the children many meaningful daily experiences that tend to be taken for granted. People may not savor those beautiful moments because they seem “obvious,” as if they would always be there. They are currently gone, and things might never be the same due to the impact of this COVID-19 pandemic. Telling them the times are changing us in many different ways. Hence, being appreciative, not taking things for granted, would be a positive change for us.



Working with Parents during this Difficult Situation

Communication

It is important to be in contact, to have a closed loop, because we are all in this together. Hence, communicating with parents and getting feedback from parents to find out how things are getting on is important. Staying connected with parents / children using various tools like Zoom, Google Meet; WhatsApp video chat, phone calls, FaceTime or similar apps. This can help to avoid feeling isolated as well as build and maintain relationships

Maintain a Daily Routine

Assist parents by encouraging them to create new family routines, such as learning activities, meal times, chores, relaxation and bed-times. This structure helps children predict what is planned, allowing them to feel in control of situations. Suggesting to parents on how

these can be done by using a whiteboard or paper to display a daily schedule at home. Checking off tasks can encourage a sense of accomplishment.

Helping out our Beneficiaries during Times in Need

Our case coordinators help to assess the families of those who are non-Singaporeans and require financial support for their fees or family needs.



Bethel Tots Centre

Jul 2020—Dec 2020 Issue 2

Partnering with Parents in Trying Times

During this circuit breaker period, as part of our teachers' responsibility towards the child's holistic development, our teachers have been checking in with parents to have a better understanding of the child's development at home. Most of the parents have given feedback that their children have been throwing tantrums due to the lack of companionship from their peers. Parents have also found that their children constantly require their attention and care, which can be difficult as they are often working and can only take shifts in caring for the child. To counter this and continually promote the holistic development of the children, the teachers have recommended a series of simple activities that parents can do with them. Parents have responded well to this initiative - one parent even shared photographs of their mother-son bonding.

As part of the MOH's guidelines, we have also ramped up cleaning efforts within the centre. Should our teachers find out a child is unwell, we will immediately report this to their parents. On the parents' end, we also strongly advise they bring their child to the doctor and that they should only bring their child back to the centre after he or she has fully recovered. This is done to reduce any potential transmission within the centre.

We are thankful for the cooperation and understanding from parents as we navigate hand-in-hand through these tough times.

BTC Teachers Janet Lee and Choa Siew Hong

冠状病毒期间为了阻断病毒的传播，我们伯特利婴幼儿中心首先会确保中心的环境是安全的。老师们每天都会对中心里所有的物品进行消毒。工作期间，老师们也会戴着口罩带孩子在不同的活动区里进行游戏。同事之间也会保持一米以上的距离。老师也教导幼儿不要把手和玩具放在嘴巴里咀嚼。并且会以正确的洗手方法教育孩子和帮助孩子勤洗手。让孩子从小养成良好的卫生习惯。做个讲卫生，爱干净的宝宝。



Hou Wenya and May Xiong
Teachers'

Bethel Community Services

Jul 2020—Dec 2020 Issue 2

Wear Our Values

“The worst of times can bring out the best in our people. How we respond to it, how our nation comes together, will show much about our values as a people, and the principles we hold dear.” – DPM Heng Swee Keat, Solidarity Budget Speech, 7 April 2020.



The impact of the coronavirus throughout the world and within our shores are well documented. While this pandemic is a war currently being fought, it is in times like these that we need to remind ourselves to live up to our Bethel Community Services (BCS) vision of being an expression of Christ’s love and showing care and compassion to the community.

Our assistance continues through times like these and to meet our beneficiaries’ more urgent needs, we have adapted to pack and provide food bundles for two months and have started to deliver food bundles to those within our community that are identified as part of the “Vulnerable” group. Our assistance would certainly not be able to tide them through the whole pandemic, but we hold hope that our little efforts play a small part in giving our beneficiaries hope and reminding them that we are all there for them as part of a community.

While we continue to do what we can, we would like to share that organisations like ourselves are not immune to times like these. Therefore, we need your help to make our efforts felt even further! We would like to take the opportunity to share the following initiatives to help organisations like ours. “SGUnited” and “Giving.sg” are avenues that provide individuals and corporates with ways to do their part for the nation, both during and outside of this pandemic. We sincerely hope that all of us will take a look at our BCS campaign at Giving.sg and contribute a little extra that we might have.

Elijah Xu and Gregory Yeo
BCS Case Coordinators

Bethel Community Services

Jul 2020—Dec 2020 Issue 2

Getting to know our New Staff



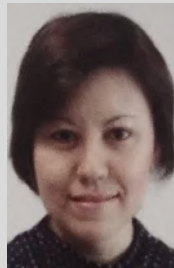
Angie Ng
BCS Accounts Officer



Carol Yap
BK Language Teacher



De Silva Yvonne Cecilia
BK Teacher



May Siew
BCS Admin Assistant



Matilda Toh
BK Admin



Reubena D/O Raphale
BCDC Teacher



Elijah Xu
BCS Case Coordinator



Gregory Yeo
BCS Case Coordinator

Management Committee (2019- 2021)

- Chairman:** Rev Dr Chia Beng Hock
Vice Chairman: Rev Dr Moses Pi
Hon Secretary: Mr Phillip Teo
Hon Treasurer: Pastor Siow Soon Chew
Members: Dr Ong Pui Sim
 Mr Chia Eng Giap
 Mr Steven Foo
 Dr Tan Eng Chun
 Mr Thomas Foo
 Mr Tay Soon Khuan

Due to current Covid-19 safety measures, do take note that some of our services are temporarily unavailable.

For more information, please call
6744 7422

Tuition is available for needy students, please call:
 伯特利社服班，予低收入家庭的学生:

6744 7422

INFANT CARE

- Infant Care (2 mths - 18 mths)
- Opening Hours:**
- Mon - Fri : 7am - 7pm
 - Closed on Sat, Sun & Public Holidays

Bethel Tots Centre

Blk 100 Aljunied Crescent
 #01-369
 T: 6841 8762

CHILDCARE

- Playgroup (18 mths - 30 mths)
- Nursery 1 (30 mths - 3 yrs)
- Nursery 2 (3 yrs - 4 yrs)
- Kindergarten 1 (4 - 5 yrs)
- Kindergarten 2 (5 - 6 yrs)

Opening Hours:

- Mon - Fri : 7am - 7pm
- Sat : 7am - 2pm
- Closed on Sun & Public Holidays

Bethel Child Development Centre

Blk 111 Aljunied Crescent
 #01-110
 T: 6846 9287 F: 6844 4915

KINDERGARTEN

Opening Hours:

- AM Session
 8.30am - 12.30pm

Bethel Kinderlites

Blk 114 Aljunied Ave 2 #03-75
 T: 6744 5860

TUITION SERVICE

Blk 114 Aljunied Ave 2
 #03-75
 T: 6744 7422

Opening Hours:

- Tue & Wed
 7.30pm - 9.00pm

STUDENT CARE

Opening Hours:

- Mon - Fri :
 1.30pm - 7pm
 7am - 7pm (school holidays)
- Closed on Sat, Sun & Public Holidays

Bethel Student Care Centre

Blk 114 Aljunied Ave 2 #03-75
 T: 6744 4243 F: 6744 5859

SOCIAL SERVICE & COUNSELLING

Blk 114 Aljunied Ave 2 #03-75
 T: 6744 7422

TRADITIONAL CHINESE MEDICINE (TCM) CLINIC

Blk 81 Aljunied Ave 2
 T: 6744 7422

Opening Hours:

- Wed & Fri
 8.30am - 1.00pm

Note: The above Services are only available for families and individuals residing in Aljunied Ave, Aljunied Crescent, Circuit Rd, Pipit Rd, Sims Drive, Geylang East, Balam Rd & Paya Lebar Way.

注意: 以上中医服务只限于指定地点

伯特利医务合作社区福利
BETHEL

PARTNERSHIP SERVICES
 Medical & Dental Clinic Services 医疗与牙医诊所服务

Student Crisis Financial Assistance 学生援助金

For more information, please call 6744 7422. 以上咨服 · 6744 7422

Our website: www.bethelcs.org.sg

Bethel Community Services (BCS) was registered with the Registrar of Societies in August 2004. It became a charity under the Charities Act in September 2004. BCS was admitted as a member of the National Council of Social Service in July 2007 and granted the Institution of a Public Character Status. Donors can give to Bethel Community Services and receive tax deduction for their donations.