

# ANNUAL REPORT

FINANCIAL YEAR  
2022/23

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# About The Fund

The setting up of the Fund was announced on 28 November 2011 by Singapore's Founding Prime Minister, the late Mr Lee Kuan Yew, at the launch of his book *My Lifelong Challenge: Singapore's Bilingual Journey*. The Fund was incorporated on 22 February 2012 as a Company Limited by Guarantee and registered under the Charities Act on 4 March 2012 as a Charity with the Institution of Public Character ("IPC") status. The Fund is governed by its Memorandum and Articles of Association.

IPC Number

IPC000756

Company Registration Number

201204335M

Registered Address

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Singapore 138675

Website

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Auditor

RSM Chio Lim LLP

Company Secretary

Ms Tan Siew Hua and Mr Liu Weikang

Banker

DBS Bank



# **Chair's Message**



## Chair's Message

FY2022/23 marks a crossroad for the Fund as we look beyond its 10th Anniversary. We have continued to focus on ensuring a steady pipeline of locally contextualised age-appropriate resources and programmes to foster bilingualism in children. In the past year, we also established more strategic partnerships to amplify outreach for Fund-supported resources.

Resources with quality content contribute to meaningful language learning experiences in young children. To date, the Fund has supported over 200 publications that are bilingual or in the Mother Tongue Languages (MTLs). Available for public borrowing at the National Library Board (NLB) branches, they have been popular with parents, educators and young children. Our collaboration with NLB progressed a step further with the signing of a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) on 27 September 2022. The MOU included an initiative for the Fund to provide grants for converting print books that it had earlier supported into e-books. Parents and young children may borrow these e-books from NLB to enjoy language learning at home or on the go.

To boost content creators' capability to develop quality content, the Fund collaborated with the Singapore Book Council to organise a series of workshops and talks in May 2022, leading up to the Fund's Special Call for Proposals (Picture Books). The Special Call strove to reinforce authentic and continued language learning through supporting children's

book series with sustained narratives across 3 to 5 book titles, set in familiar scenes and cultures immediate to young children's environment. Nine local content creators were awarded grants to develop one book series each, supplemented with conversation cues targeted at young children aged 0 to 4 and 5 to 6.

Honouring the late Mr Lee Kuan Yew's legacy and vision of promoting bilingualism, the LKY100 Fun with Bilingualism Carnival held on 8 April 2023 was organised by SPH Media Limited and supported by the Fund. With themes reinforcing Singapore's unique culture, the Carnival saw children and their parents enjoying the activities and performances while being engaged in meaningful language learning. Highlights of the Carnival included learning booths for children and the play 'What's Inside the Red Box?', which helped our children appreciate living in a bilingual and multicultural society.

The Fund has also enhanced its Community Series programme for parents and educators to be equipped with practical tips and resources, to facilitate enjoyable language learning experiences for their young. Three sharing sessions were held on 26 August 2023 in conjunction with the Mother Tongue Languages Symposium (MTLS). Three workshops were conducted at selected NLB branches by academia and prolific storytellers.

The bilingual landscape continues to evolve due to changing needs and demographics. It is time for the Fund to reflect on what bilingualism means to us today so that promotion efforts continue to remain effective and relevant. Going forward, the Fund hopes to play a bigger catalytic role to promote bilingualism among youths and young adults, leveraging multiple platforms including social media. The Fund also seeks to establish strategic partnerships to build greater

synergy across preschools and Institutes of Higher Learning (IHLs) in the promotion of bilingualism. With concerted efforts on outreach and exploring new possibilities, I am confident that the Fund will continue to engage strategic partners to implement meaningful projects that promote bilingualism in innovative ways.

A handwritten signature in black ink, consisting of a large, stylized 'C' followed by a horizontal line and a small flourish.

**Chan Chun Sing**

Chair

Lee Kuan Yew Fund for Bilingualism





## 主席前言

2022/2023财政年度是李光耀双语基金于十周年庆典之后的一个转折点。自成立以来，我们致力于持续开发具有本地特色，适合孩童的资源 and 项目，培养孩童掌握双语的能力。我们也与各机构建立更多合作关系，以扩大资源的推广范围。

高质量的资源能为孩童提供有意义的语言学习体验。至今，基金已资助超过200项双语或母语资源。这些资源深受大家的喜爱，老师、家长与孩童也可从各国家图书馆借阅这些资源。2022年9月27日，基金也与国家图书馆管理局签署谅解备忘录，更进一步地加强合作关系。该备忘录包含基金让国家图书馆管理局把早前资助的实体书转换成电子书，方便家长与孩童借阅携带，享受学习语言的乐趣。

为了提升本地作者的创作素质，基金和新加坡书籍理事会在2022年5月联合举办一系列的工作坊和讲座，并主办儿童绘本专项提案征集。基金希望通过征集提案，资助贴近孩童生活及本地文化情境的儿童绘本系列（以三至五册为一套），强化孩童学习语言的实用性和持续性。有九名本地作者成功获得基金的资助。他们将各出版适合4岁以下或5至6岁的孩童阅读的绘本系列。绘本中也附有学习指南，为家长提供引导孩童展开话题、进行对话的提示。

为了实现李光耀先生推广双语的愿景，新加坡报业控股在基金的支持下，在2023年4月8日举办了双语嘉年华。嘉年华以新加坡文化特色为主题，通过儿歌表演、《小红书大梦想》短剧、有趣的游戏和活动等，吸引了不少家长陪同孩童参加，让孩童体会活在双语和多元文化社会的意义。

基金也通过多个平台，把社区讲座系列延伸至更广大的群体，与老师和家长们分享实用的导读建议和资源，激发孩童学习母语的兴趣。除了在2023年8月26日的母语学习论坛中举办三场社区讲座，基金还邀请了资深的教育人士和知名故事演说家在指定的国家图书馆举办另外三场“阅读乐”工作坊。

随着新加坡人口结构和社会需求的变化，我国的双语大环境正在不断地演变。因此，基金会及时反思双语对我们意味着什么，以确保推广工作与时俱进。基金期望能发挥更大的催化作用，通过更多平台以及社交媒体，促进青少年掌握双语的能力。基金也希望与学前教育 and 高等教育机构建立更密切的合作关系，加强彼此之间推广双语的协调作用。在推广活动和探索新的可能性上，只要大家同心协力，我有信心基金能够与合作伙伴们携手实施更有意义的项目，以创新的方式推广双语。



陈振声

主席  
李光耀双语基金



## Perutusan Pengerusi

TK2022/23 merupakan titik-tolak untuk Dana Kedwibahasaan Lee Kuan Yew (LKYFB) berdaya maju seusai ulang tahun yang ke-10. LKYFB telah meneruskan fokus dalam menyediakan bahan-bahan pembelajaran yang berkontekskan tempatan dan program-program yang memupuk kedwibahasaan dalam kalangan kanak-kanak. Sejak setahun yang lalu, LKYFB juga telah menjalinkan beberapa hubungan strategik untuk memperluas rangkaian bagi bahan-bahan yang disokong oleh LKYFB. Bahan-bahan dengan kandungan berkualiti menyumbang kepada pengalaman pembelajaran bahasa yang bermakna dalam kalangan kanak-kanak.

Sehingga kini, LKYFB ini telah menyokong lebih daripada 200 terbitan dwibahasa dan bahasa ibunda (MTLs). Bahan-bahan pembelajaran ini boleh dipinjam oleh orang awam di cawangan-cawangan Lembaga Perpustakaan Negara (NLB), dan telah mendapat sambutan yang baik daripada ibu bapa, pendidik dan kanak-kanak. Kerjasama LKYFB dengan NLB telah diperkukuh dengan memeterai Memorandum Persefahaman (MOU) pada 27 September 2022. MOU ini merangkumi inisiatif LKYFB untuk memberi geran bagi mengalih bentuk buku bercetak yang telah disokong LKYFB sebelum ini kepada e-buku. Ibu bapa dan kanak-kanak boleh meminjam e-buku ini dari NLB untuk menikmati pembelajaran bahasa di rumah atau di mana-mana sahaja.

Untuk mempertingkatkan kemahiran penulis dan penerbit bahan untuk menghasilkan kandungan berkualiti, LKYFB telah bekerjasama dengan Majlis Buku Singapura untuk

menganjurkan siri bengkel dan ceramah pada Mei 2022, menjelang Panggilan Khas untuk Kertas Cadangan (Buku Bergambar). Panggilan Khas ini bertujuan untuk memperkukuh pembelajaran bahasa yang autentik dan berterusan dengan menyokong siri buku kanak-kanak. Siri ini haruslah mempunyai cerita yang berangkai merentasi 3 hingga 5 judul buku dan berkontekskan latar dan budaya yang dikenali kanak-kanak. Sembilan penulis tempatan telah dianugerahkan geran untuk menghasilkan satu siri buku setiap seorang. Siri-siri buku ini akan disertakan juga dengan rangsangan perbualan buat kanak-kanak berusia 0 hingga 4 tahun dan 5 hingga 6 tahun.

Dalam memperingati legasi dan visi Allahyarham Encik Lee Kuan Yew mempromosikan kedwibahasaan, SPH Media Limited telah menganjurkan Karnival 'LKY100 Fun with Bilingualism' yang diadakan pada 8 April 2023 dan disokong oleh LKYFB. Dengan tema-tema yang memperkukuh budaya unik Singapura, Karnival ini telah memberi peluang kepada kanak-kanak dan ibu bapa mereka untuk mempelajari Bahasa Ibunda melalui aktiviti-aktiviti dan persembahan-persembahan yang menarik lagi bermakna. Acara kemuncak Karnival ialah pementasan 'What's Inside the Red Box', yang membantu kanak-kanak menghargai kehidupan dalam masyarakat berbilang bahasa dan budaya.

LKYFB juga telah mempertingkatkan program Siri Kemasyarakatan yang bertujuan melengkapi ibu bapa dan para pendidik dengan tip-tip praktikal dan bahan-bahan menarik yang memudahkan pengalaman pembelajaran bahasa yang seronok untuk kanak-kanak. Tiga sesi perkongsian telah dijalankan pada 26 Ogos 2023 bersempena Simposium Bahasa Ibunda (MTLS). Tiga lagi bengkel pula dianjurkan di cawangan-cawangan NLB yang terpilih dan dikendalikan oleh para akademik dan pencerita-pencerita prolifik.

Lanskap kedwibahasaan melalui evolusi yang berterusan disebabkan keperluan dan demografik yang sentiasa berubah. Sudah tiba masanya LKYFB merenungkan semula kepentingan kedwibahasaan pada hari ini agar usaha untuk mempromosikannya terus berkesan dan kekal relevan. Dana ini berharap dapat menjadi pemangkin untuk mempromosikan kedwibahasaan dalam kalangan belia dengan memanfaatkan pelbagai wadah termasuk media sosial.

LKYFB juga ingin memastikan hubungan strategik terjalin agar timbul rasa kebersamaan yang lebih utuh melangkaui prasekolah hingga Institusi Pengajian Tinggi (IHLs) dalam mempromosikan kedwibahasaan. Dengan usaha bersama untuk menerokai peluang-peluang baharu, saya yakin LKYFB akan terus melibatkan rakan strategik dalam pelaksanaan projek-projek bermakna untuk mempromosikan kedwibahasaan secara inovatif.



**Chan Chun Sing**

Pengerusi

Dana Kedwibahasaan Lee Kuan Yew

## தலைவர் உரை

2022/23 நிதியாண்டில், தம் பத்தாம் ஆண்டு நிறைவுக்கு அப்பால் அடுத்த நிலைக்கு இட்டுச் செல்வதற்கான முக்கியக் கட்டத்தை நிதி எட்டியுள்ளது. குழந்தைகளிடத்தில் இருமொழிக் கல்வியை ஊக்குவிப்பதற்கான வளங்களும் நிகழ்ச்சிகளும் உள்ளூர்ச் சூழல்களை மையமாகக் கொண்டமைந்திருக்கும் வகையிலும் அந்தந்த வயதுப் பிரிவினருக்குப் பொருத்தமாக அமைந்திருக்கும் வகையிலும் உருவாக்கப்படுவதை நாங்கள் தொடர்ந்து உறுதிசெய்து வந்துள்ளோம். நிதி ஆதரவுபெற்ற வளங்கள் மேலும் பரந்துபட்ட நிலையில் அனைவரையும் சென்றடைவதற்குச் சென்ற ஆண்டு எங்கள் உத்தியோக பங்காளித்துவத்தையும் நாங்கள் விரிவுபடுத்தினோம்.

தரமான பயிற்றுவளங்கள் இளங்குழந்தைகளுக்கு அர்த்தமுள்ள மொழிகற்றல் அனுபவங்களை அளிக்கின்றன. இதுவரை, இருமொழியிலோ தாய்மொழிகளிலோ அமைந்துள்ள 200-க்கும் மேற்பட்ட வெளியீடுகளுக்கு இந்நிதி ஆதரவளித்துள்ளது. பெற்றோர்கள், கல்வியாளர்கள், இளங்குழந்தைகள் ஆகியோரிடத்தில் பிரபலம் பெற்றுள்ள இவ்வெளியீடுகளைப் பொதுமக்கள் தேசிய நூலக வாரியத்தின் கிளை நூலகங்களில் இரவல் பெற்றுக்கொள்ள முடியும். 2022-ஆம் ஆண்டு செப்டம்பர் 27-ஆம் தேதி தேசிய நூலக வாரியத்துடன் புரிந்துணர்வு ஒப்பந்தம் ஒன்றில் கையெழுத்திட்டதன்வழி, அதனோடு நாங்கள் கொண்டுள்ள உடனிணைவு மேலும் ஒரு படி உயர்ந்துள்ளது. ஏற்கெனவே நிதியின் ஆதரவில் அச்சிடப்பட்ட புத்தகங்களை மின்னூல்களாக்குவதற்குரிய மானியங்கள் வழங்கப்படுவதற்கு இப்புரிந்துணர்வு ஒப்பந்தம் வழிவகுக்கிறது. இல்லத்திலோ வெளியிடத்திலோ மொழியை மகிழ்வுறக் கற்பதற்கு இம்மின்னூல்களைப் பெற்றோர்களும்



இளங்குழந்தைகளும் தேசிய நூலக வாரியத்தில் இரவல் பெற்றுக்கொள்ளலாம்.

உள்ளடக்க உருவாக்குநர்களின் திறனை மேம்படுத்தித் தரமான படைப்புகளை உருவாக்க, இந்நிதி கடந்த 2022-ஆம் ஆண்டின் மே மாதத்தில் சிங்கப்பூர்ப் புத்தக மன்றத்தோடு உடனணைந்து தொடர்பயிலரங்குகளுக்கும் உரைநிகழ்வுகளுக்கும் ஏற்பாடு செய்தது. இதனைத் தொடர்ந்து திட்டப் பரிந்துரைகளுக்கான சிறப்பு அழைப்பு (படப் புத்தகங்கள்) விடுக்கப்பட்டது. குழந்தைகள் மிக எளிதில் தம்மைத் தொடர்புபடுத்திக்கொள்ளும் வகையில் அவற்றுக்குப் பரிச்சயமான சூழல்களையும் தனித்துவமிக்க கலாசாரங்களையும் கொண்டமைந்த 3-இலிருந்து 5 கதைத்தொடர்களுக்கு ஆதரவளிப்பதன்வழி, மொழி கற்றலைத் தொடர்ந்து வலுப்பெறச் செய்ய இச்சிறப்பு அழைப்பு முனைந்தது. அந்த வகையில், ஒன்பது உள்ளூர் உள்ளடக்க உருவாக்குநர்கள் 0-இலிருந்து 4 வயதுடைய குழந்தைகளுக்கும் 5-இலிருந்து 6 வயதுடைய குழந்தைகளுக்கும் ஏற்புடைய புத்தகத் தொடர்களையும் அவற்றிற்குரிய உரையாடல் குறிப்புகளையும் உருவாக்குவதற்கு மானியங்களைப் பெற்றனர்.

இருமொழிக் கல்வியை ஊக்குவிக்கும் அமரர் திரு லீ குவான் இயுவின் அறிவுக்கொடையையும் தொலைநோக்குப் பார்வையையும் சிறப்பிக்கும் வண்ணம், எஸ்.பி.எச் மீடியா டிரஸ்ட் லிமிட்டெட் நிறுவனத்தால், 2023-ஆம் ஆண்டு ஏப்ரல் மாதம் 8-ஆம் தேதியன்று ஏற்பாடு செய்யப்பட்ட 'LKY100 இருமொழி கேளிக்கை விழா'வுக்கு இந்நிதி ஆதரவு அளித்தது. இக்கேளிக்கை விழாவில் சிங்கப்பூரின் தனித்துவமிக்க கலாசாரத்தை வலியுறுத்தும் கருப்பொருள்களைக்கொண்ட பலதரப்பட்ட நடவடிக்கைகளும் படைப்புகளும் இடம்பெற்றிருந்தன. அவற்றில் பெற்றோர்களும் அவர்தம் குழந்தைகளும் கலந்துகொண்டு அர்த்தமுள்ள மொழி கற்றலில் ஈடுபட்டிருந்ததைக் கண்கூடாகப் பார்க்க முடிந்தது. இக்கேளிக்கை விழாவில் இடம்பெற்றிருந்த குழந்தைகளுக்கான

கற்றல் முனையங்களும் 'சிவப்புப் பெட்டிக்குள் என்ன இருக்கிறது?' என்னும் குறுநாடகமும் இருமொழி மற்றும் பன்முகக் கலாசார சமூகத்தில் வாழும் சூழலை நம் குழந்தைகளுக்கு எடுத்துரைத்ததுடன், அதன் மதிப்பறிந்து போற்றவும் உதவி புரிந்தன என்பது குறிப்பிடத்தக்கது.

பிள்ளைகளுக்கு மொழி கற்றல் அனுபவங்களை மகிழ்வுறும் வகையில் வழிநடத்துவதற்கான நடைமுறைக் குறிப்புகளையும் வளங்களையும் பெற்றோர்களுக்கும் கல்வியாளர்களுக்கும் வழங்கும் நோக்கில், நிதி தனது சமூகத் தொடர்களை மேலும் மெருகூட்டியது. 2023-ஆம் ஆண்டு 26-ஆம் தேதியன்று தாய்மொழிகளுக்கான கருத்தரங்கையொட்டி 3 பகிர்வரங்குகளுக்கும், தேசிய நூலக வாரியத்தின் கிளைகளில் மேலும் 3 பயிலரங்குகளுக்கும் நிதி ஏற்பாடு செய்திருந்தது. கல்வியாளர்களும் கதைசொல்வதில் நிபுணத்துவம் பெற்றவர்களும் இப்பகிர்வரங்குகளையும் பயிலரங்குகளையும் நடத்தினர்.

மாறிவரும் தேவைகள், குடிமரபியல் ஆகியவற்றுக்கேற்ப இருமொழிச் சூழல் தொடர்ந்து பல பரிணாம மாற்றங்களைக் கண்டு வருகிறது. இருமொழிக் கல்வி என்பது இன்றைய காலக்கட்டத்தில் நமக்கு உணர்த்தும் பொருள் என்ன என்பதை நிதி எண்ணப் பிரதிபலிப்பு செய்யும் தருணம் இது. அப்போதுதான் இருமொழிக் கல்வியை ஊக்குவிக்கும் முயற்சிகள் தொடர்ந்து பயனுள்ளவையாகவும் தொடர்புடையவனாகவும் அமையப்பெறும். முன்னோக்கிச் செல்லுகையில், சமூக ஊடகங்கள் உட்பட்ட பல்வேறு தளங்களைப் பயன்படுத்தி இளைய தலைமுறையினரிடத்தில் இருமொழிக் கல்வியை ஊக்குவிப்பதற்கான பங்கினைப் பெருமளவில் ஆற்ற வேண்டும் என்று நிதி விரும்புகிறது. மேலும், இருமொழிக் கல்வியை ஊக்குவிப்பதற்குப் பாலர் பள்ளிகளோடும் உயர்கல்வி நிலையங்களோடும் ஒன்றிணைந்து செயற்பட அவற்றோடு உத்தியோக பங்காளித்துவத்தை நிறுவ வேண்டும் என்றும் நிதி விரும்புகிறது. பரந்துபட்ட நிலையில் பலரைச் சென்றடைவதற்குரிய







# Board of Directors

The Board comprises leaders from the private sector and the community, academics and senior public servants. The Board provides strategic direction for the Fund. Its members have oversight of the management, administration, as well as publicity and outreach activities related to the Fund.

The members of the Board are:



**Mr Chan Chun Sing** 陈振声

Chair

*Appointed on 22 May 2021*

Minister for Education

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**Ms Gan Siow Huang** 颜晓芳

Vice-Chair

*Appointed on 5 July 2022*

Minister of State

Ministry of Education & Ministry of Manpower

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**Ms Goh Poh Gek** 吴宝玉

Treasurer

*Appointed on 1 April 2022*

Chief Financial Officer

Finance & Procurement Division

Ministry of Education

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**Mr Wong Siew Hoong** 王斯芸

Member

*Appointed on 1 April 2018*

Advisor

Ministry of Education

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**Mr Ong Chao Choon** 王绍春

Member

*Appointed on 12 October 2020*

Former Deputy Chairman & Advisory Leader

PricewaterhouseCoopers (PwC) Singapore

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### **Mr Lim Jim Koon** 林任君

**Member**

*Appointed on 1 April 2022*

Former Editor-in-Chief  
Chinese Newspapers  
Singapore Press Holdings Limited

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### **Associate Professor Tan Chee Lay** 陈志锐

**Member**

*Appointed on 1 April 2022*

Deputy Head  
Asian Languages and Cultures  
National Institute of Education  
Nanyang Technological University

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### **Mr K Ramamoorthy** கி. ராமமூர்த்தி

**Member**

*Appointed on 1 April 2022*

Senior Lecturer  
Republic Polytechnic

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### **Mr Hawazi Daipi**

**Member**

*Appointed on 1 April 2018*

Singapore's Non-Resident High Commissioner to the Republic of  
Ghana and Non-Resident Representative to the Palestine National  
Authority

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### **Mdm Rahayu Mahzam**

**Member**

*Appointed on 1 April 2018*

Senior Parliamentary Secretary  
Ministry of Health & Ministry of Law

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**Mr Chua Chim Kang** 蔡深江

Member

*Appointed on 1 April 2018*

Chief Editor  
Chinese News and Current Affairs  
Mediacorp Pte Ltd

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**Ms Lee Huay Leng** 李慧玲

Member

*Appointed on 1 April 2022*

Editor-in-Chief  
Chinese Media Group  
SPH Media Limited

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**Mr Kuek Yu Chuang** 郭又铨

Member

*Appointed on 1 April 2022*

Vice-President  
International Business  
iQIYI International Singapore

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# **Governance Structure & Policies**

# Governance Structure

The Fund has set up five committees in support of its work.

## Executive Committee

The Executive Committee assists the Board in the stewardship and oversight of the Fund. The Executive Committee exercises such powers and functions on behalf of the Board on matters that have been specifically delegated to the committee.

## Audit Committee

The Audit Committee oversees the corporate governance and ensures that the Fund practises good corporate governance. The Audit Committee periodically reviews the Fund's key processes and practices, and checks that they comply with regulatory requirements. It also reviews related-party transactions for potential conflicts of interest and ensures that proper measures to mitigate such conflicts of interests have been put in place.

## Investment Advisory Committee

The Investment Advisory Committee oversees the investment of the Fund in accordance with the broad investment policy approved by the Board.

## Research Advisory Panel

The Research Advisory Panel comprises locally based academics in the field of bilingualism. The Research Advisory Panel advises the Board in the area of research and how it can be used to support the Fund's work.

## Project Evaluation Committee

The Project Evaluation Committee oversees the proposals that are submitted to the Fund for funding. The Project Evaluation Committee evaluates proposals for funding support and monitors the progress of the supported proposals.



# Governance Policies

## Conflict of Interest Policy

The Fund practises a documented procedure for its Board and Committee members to declare any conflict of interest at the earliest opportunity possible. Any Board or committee member who has conflict of interest is required to abstain from voting in the interested transaction.

## Whistle-blowing Policy

The Fund has a whistle-blowing policy that enables stakeholders to report and disclose improper or illegal activities. It is the Fund's policy to fully investigate such reports and disclosures. All reports will be treated strictly confidential and promptly investigated. Reports can be made anonymously, if desired. Details on the Fund's Whistle-blowing Policy can be found on the Fund's website.

## Remuneration Policy

Board and Committee members are not paid for their services by the Fund. The Fund does not employ any staff.

## Reserves Policy

The reserves of the Fund provide financial stability and a means for the development of the Fund's activities. The Fund intends to maintain the reserves at no less than five years of its operating expenditure. The Board of Directors reviews the level of reserves regularly for the Fund's continued obligations.

## Compliance with Code of Governance Evaluation Checklist

The Fund has complied with the Code of Governance for Charities and IPCs that was launched by the Charity Council. A copy of the Governance Evaluation Checklist is attached with this report.



## Term Limit of the Board

To ensure steady renewal of the Board, the Board has a term limit of nine years. The Treasurer position has a term limit of four consecutive years of service. Where appropriate, the Board may approve to extend the term limit for some Board members to 10 years.

## Board Meeting and Attendance

A total of two Board meetings were held between 1 April 2022 and 31 March 2023. The individual Board members' attendance at the meetings is as follows:

<b>Name of Board Members</b>	<b>Attendance</b>
Mr Chan Chun Sing	2 out of 2
Ms Gan Siow Huang	2 out of 2
Mr Wong Siew Hoong	2 out of 2
Ms Goh Poh Gek	2 out of 2
Mr Ong Chao Choon	2 out of 2
Mr Lim Jim Koon	2 out of 2
AP Tan Chee Lay	2 out of 2
Mr K Ramamoorthy	2 out of 2
Mr Hawazi Daipi	1 out of 2
Mdm Rahayu Mahzam	1 out of 2
Mr Chua Chim Kang	1 out of 2
Ms Lee Huay Leng	2 out of 2
Mr Kuek Yu Chuang	2 out of 2



# **Special Call for Proposals (Picture Books)**



# SPECIAL CALL FOR PROPOSALS (PICTURE BOOKS)

专项提案征集（儿童绘本）

Panggilan Khas untuk Kertas Cadangan  
(Siri Buku Bergambar)

திட்டப் பரிந்துரைகளுக்கான சிறப்பு அழைப்பு  
(படப் புத்தகங்கள்)

**Keen to produce children's books  
with a local flavour?**

Come apply for the  
Lee Kuan Yew Fund for Bilingualism's  
Special Call for Proposals (Picture Books)!

**Where to learn more about the Special Call?**

Join us at any ONE of the virtual briefing sessions.

**7 May** 2022  
SATURDAY  
10 AM to 12 PM

OR

**12 May** 2022  
THURSDAY  
7 PM to 9 PM

**Interested?**

Scan the QR code NOW to register  
for the virtual briefing\*!

\*Limited slots available.



## Special Call for Proposals (Picture Books)

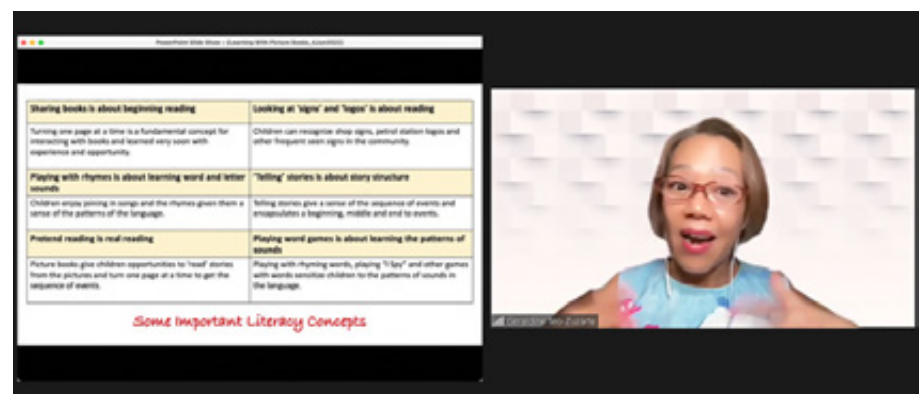
As part of the Fund's efforts to develop interest and promote picture books for young children up to six years of age, the Fund has set aside \$800,000 for the Special Call for Proposals (Picture Books) initiative in August 2022. Supporting parents and educators in facilitating their young's bilingual learning, the supported children's picture book series will include conversation cues and/or learning guides. The children picture book series developed will also add to the rich repository of language learning resources set in the Singapore context.

Two briefing sessions held on 7 and 12 May 2022 respectively reached out to 300 participants and provided the platform for interested applicants to learn more about the Special Call and its application eligibility.

Leading up to the Fund's Special Call initiative, the Fund collaborated with Singapore Book Council to organise a series of eight workshops and talks on writing, illustration and publishing with the aim of building the capacity of aspiring content creators on the ground. The eight sessions of virtual workshops and talks held between June and July 2022 saw good traction with the ground, with participants from diverse backgrounds attending the various workshops.

A total of 31 resources in bilingual and mother tongue formats were awarded the grant to be developed into book series of three to five titles under the Special Call for Proposals (Picture Books).

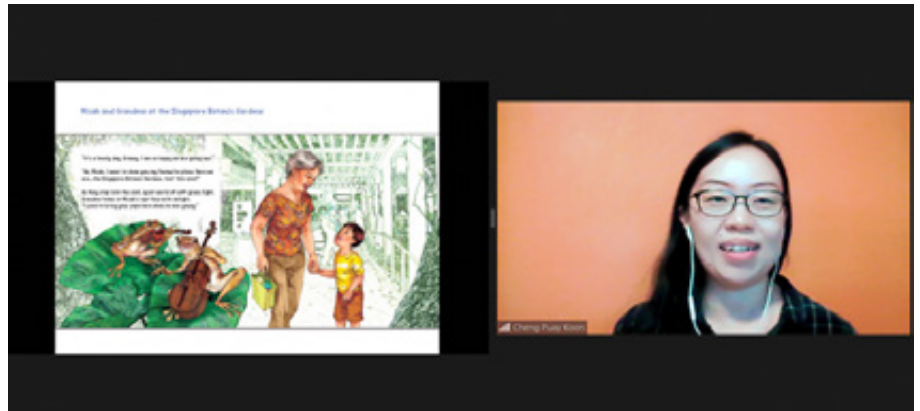
## Support For Local Content Creators: Fund's Collaboration With Singapore Book Council



(Right) Dr Geraldine-Teo Zuzarte fervently sharing some important literacy concepts.

Starting with the talk titled 'Learning with Picture Books', speaker Dr Geraldine-Teo Zuzarte, Early Childhood Education Practitioner and Leader, shed light on young children's development of early literacy concepts through picture books and how content creators, parents and educators can support children in the development of their early literacy skills. The talk was moderated by Ms Angela Chng, Manager for Curriculum and Research at Pre-School By-The-Park.

(Right) Ms Cheng Puay Koon talking about her illustrations in the book titled 'Micah and Grandma at the Singapore Botanic Gardens'.



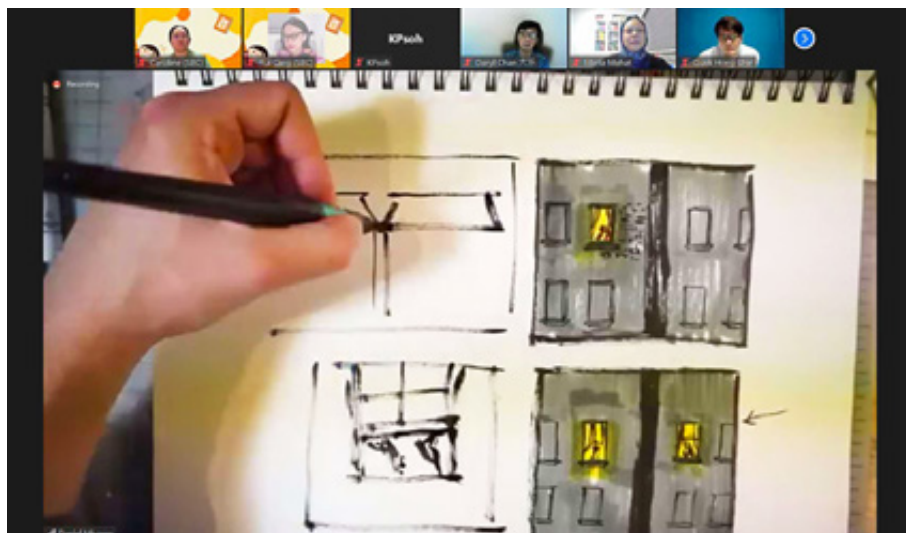
Broadening perspectives on writing and illustrating for young children, local and international experts were engaged to be the speakers of the respective workshops and talks. Prolific local illustrator, Ms Cheng Puay Koon, brought participants through the role of illustrations in a picture book. Mr Daniel Miyares, renowned picture book author and illustrator from the United States of America, and Ms Lim Mei Chin, famous picture book writer and lecturer from Taiwan, shared effective tips with the participants on honing their craft. Local picture book writers such as Ms Maria Mahat and Ms Abhi Krish also shared their personal journeys in writing children's picture books. Sessions conducted by Mr Daniel Miyares and Dr Geraldine Teo-Zuzarte introduced participants to the concept of wordless picture books for young children and the skills in literacy development they could gain from wordless picture books.

The series of talks and workshops concluded with a panel discussion, where local publishers came together to discuss trends in the publishing scene for Chinese, Malay and Tamil picture books in Singapore. The panel comprised Ms Lim Geok Leng, Senior Consultant with the Marshall Cavendish Education Publishing Group, Ms Hana Mohd, Founder and Director of Alam Cahaya, and Mr Vijayanand Thamocharan, Director of Crimson Earth. Moderating the panel discussion was Ms Jane Wee, Senior Head (Chinese Language) of Collection Planning and Development at the National Library Board.



The workshops and talks gained good traction with the ground and attracted 591 participants. Overall, participants found the sessions useful and enjoyed the speakers' insights.

(Right) Mr Daniel Miyares' live demonstration of sketching to depict an effective story.



## SERIES OF TALKS & WORKSHOPS ON WRITING, ILLUSTRATION & PUBLISHING

4 June 2022 **Learning with Picture Books**  
by Geraldine Teo-Zuzarte (Speaker) & Angela Chng (Moderator)

**Illustrate Your Story**  
by Cheng Puay Khoon (Speaker)

12 & 18 June, 9 July 2022 **Writing Picture Books (Chinese)**  
by Lin Mei Chin

11, 18 & 25 June 2022 **Writing Picture Books (Malay)**  
by Maria Mahat

11, 18 & 19 June 2022 **Writing Picture Books (Tamil)**  
by Abhi Krish

2 July 2022 **Creating Wordless Picture Books with Geraldine Zuzarte** (Speaker)

14 July 2022 **Creating Wordless Picture Books with Daniel Miyares** (Speaker)

16 July 2022 **Publishing in the Mother Tongue Languages**  
Lim Geok Leng (Panellist)  
Hana Mohd (Panellist)  
Vijayanand Tharmotharan (Panellist)  
Jane Wee (Moderator)



# **Love Our Languages!**

## **LKYFB Community Series On Language Learning And Teaching**

One of our annual highlights, the “Love Our Languages! Lee Kuan Yew Fund for Bilingualism Community Series on Language Learning and Teaching” (Community Series) aims to help parents and educators nurture a love for languages in our children through workshops that equip parents and educators with skills and knowledge to support their children in using and learning MTLs at home.

## Community Series 2022: Home Where Bilingual Learning Begins

Themed “Home Where Bilingual Learning Begins”, the Fund’s Community Series 2022 featured a series of virtual talks to provide parents and caregivers with practical tips to nurture bilingual children at home from an early age. Speakers interweave personal stories while sharing knowledge on early bilingual learning. Talks were light-hearted and included live demonstration of good practices and strategies.

In conjunction with MTLS 2022 held on 27 August 2022, the virtual talks were pre-recorded and uploaded on the MTLS 2022 microsite, which was made available for viewing until July 2023. For the public’s on-demand viewing, the Community Series 2022 talks can be accessed via the [Fund’s YouTube channel](#).



► Click [here](#) to watch the video on the Fund's YouTube channel.

### ***Home, Where the Learning of Chinese Begins!***

《家－学习华文的摇篮!》

Parent-daughter duo Mdm Cheah Sin Wei and Ms Chan Yan shared their challenges and success stories of their deliberate attempt to adopt Chinese as the main home language. The talk was facilitated by Ms Renee Tan, Founder & Managing Director of HashTaq Pte Ltd and Founder of H.E.R. Entrepreneur.





► Click [here](#) to watch the video on the Fund's YouTube channel.

### ***Raising Bilingual Children: Developing Oral Competencies at Home***

***(Mengasuh Penutur Dwibahasa: Strategi Mengasah Kemahiran Lisan di Rumah)***

Two awardees of the Outstanding Pre-school Mother Tongue Language Teacher Awards, Ms Aimuniliyana Md Rahim and Ms Almi Roafuziah binte Mohamed shared pivotal oral strategies such as role play, puppetry and dramatisation that parents may adopt for use at home to cultivate their young children's love for Malay language.



► Click [here](#) to watch the video on the Fund's YouTube channel.

### ***Creating Enjoyable Moments with Your Kids through Storytelling!***

***( கதை சொல்வதன்மூலம் உங்கள் பிள்ளைகளோடு மகிழ்வூட்டும் தருணங்களை உருவாக்குங்கள்! )***

Experienced and well-versed in storytelling, Mdm Rani Kanna, a professional storyteller and Founder Director of AKT Creations conducted the talk, which included a live storytelling demonstration with a young child. She introduced various practical storytelling techniques that busy parents may adopt as tips to engage their young children in speaking Tamil language.



# **MOU Signing with National Library Board**

## MOU Signing with National Library Board

(Right) Representatives for the signing of the MOU were Ms Catherine Lau, Assistant Chief Executive, Archives & Libraries Group, NLB, and Mr Lim Jim Koon, Chair of the Publicity and Outreach Resource Panel, LKYFB.

Photo credit: National Library Board, Singapore



The National Library Board (NLB) and the Fund signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) on 27 September 2022, officiating a three-year strategic collaboration between NLB and the Fund to develop content and enhance access for MTL/bilingual resources.

Under the MOU, NLB and the Fund will work on building an ecosystem of support for local writers to help them create and contribute works which will enhance the discovery of bilingualism/MTLs and the respective cultural heritage. To mark the partnership, the Fund will collaborate with NLB to provide more MTL/bilingual resources and programmes to promote bilingualism from a young age and grow the pool of local writers. The Fund will also continue to provide grants to convert print books it had earlier supported to e-books, which can be accessed by the public via NLB's mobile app, Libby, and at NLB's physical and digital storytelling sessions.



(Above) The Fund's grantees, from left to right, Ms Norlin Samat, Ms Chen Wei Teng, Ms Chew Lee Ching and Ms Hana Mohd signed the agreement for their Fund-supported book to be converted to e-book format. Their e-books are now available for loan on NLB's mobile app or on Libby.

Photo credit: National Library Board, Singapore

Children and parents/educators can look forward to more books, including e-books in English and/or MTLs by local writers. More Fund-supported titles will be added over the next few years and NLB will host book launches and incorporate these books into its programmes and future outreach activities.



# Fund's Activities

Since Lee Kuan Yew Fund for Bilingualism's inception in 2011, it has supported numerous initiatives to promote the using and learning of MTLs among young children and young adults. In FY2022/23, the Fund supported various proposals to develop print, audio and multi-modal resources, and programmes that encourage bilingualism and the learning of our MTLs/bilingualism as living languages and a lifelong endeavour.



## PERIODICALS

Reach Preschool children

***Thumbs Up Little Junior* 《小小拇指》**  
by SPH Media Limited, Lianhe Zaobao 联合早报



(Top) Covers of *TULJ* depicting themes/settings familiar to young children – a trip to a farm, reusing recycled materials, and celebrating Deepavali.

The Fund supported *Thumbs Up Little Junior*, a fortnightly periodical that comes with an online learning guide, a mobile app, workshops for preschool teachers and parents, and a nursery rhymes competition.

Bringing Kindergarten 1 and 2 children through familiar local settings while introducing key Chinese vocabulary words, the periodicals are now enhanced with an online learning guide. The learning guide further encourages young children to pick up reading and speaking in Chinese in fun and creative ways. The periodical also explores young children's day-to-day experiences to inculcate good habits and values, such as consideration for the environment and kindness. Replete with colourful visuals and fun facts, *TULJ* also depicts Singapore's unique social and cultural experiences, such as enjoying local food or showcasing ethnic costumes. The periodical engages young minds through mini-games, craft activities and wordless comics to help young children build content-specific vocabulary.



(Above) The *TULJ* mobile app icon: The mobile app includes content from the print periodical that young children can engage in, on the go.

The *TULJ* mobile app, a complementary learning tool to the periodical, is updated periodically with selected content from the print periodical to facilitate young children's Chinese language learning on the go.



▲ (Above) Preschoolers performed the top winning entry nursery rhyme from TULJ's Nursery Rhyme Competition. The nursery rhyme depicts various ways of enjoying *roti prata*.

Photo Credit: SPH Media Limited

Targeted at parents and preschool educators respectively, two workshops were held to equip participants with simple tips and tools to make Chinese language learning fun and interactive for young children.

The parents' workshop was conducted on 11 June 2022 by Dr Cheng Wan-Ni, the Dean of Early Childhood Care and Education from the Singapore Centre for Chinese Language. On top of learning useful tips, parents were guided to create simple yet interesting toys to stimulate young children's Chinese language learning.

Over 150 preschool educators attended the online workshop that shared more about tapping on outdoor environments for young children to have more opportunities to use Chinese language and be introduced to new vocabulary. The online workshop was conducted by Ms Qian Xiaoli, Senior Language Specialist from PAP Community Foundation.

The annual *TULJ Nursery Rhymes Competition* 《儿歌创作比赛》 held on 17 September 2022 received almost 170 entries and the winning entries were published in the periodical.

▼ (Bottom left) Dr Cheng Wan-Ni facilitating the parents' workshop.

Photo Credit: SPH Media Limited



▼ (Bottom right) A young child immersed in the demonstration during the parents' workshop.

Photo Credit: SPH Media Limited





Reach Preschool children

**Smart Kids Magazine (Cilik Cerdik)**

by SPH Media Limited, Berita Harian



(Top) Covers of *Cilik Cerdik* featuring topics relevant to young children, such as 'Keeping yourself and your environment clean', 'Being respectful during visitations' and 'Do not give up!'.

The Fund supported SPH Media Limited, Berita Harian, in the development of *Smart Kids Magazine*, a bilingual monthly periodical in Malay and English language. Targeted at K1 and K2 preschoolers, each issue of the periodical focuses on exploring and teaching a good value. Designed for young children to reinforce the value of the month, the periodical features short stories, simple language games, art and craft and poetry. Each issue also ends with a photo story segment that exposes young children to local bite-sized current affairs.

The periodical is well-received by preschool educators who have incorporated the use of *Cilik Cerdik* in their Malay language lessons.

(Bottom left) Each issue comes with a short poetry on the issue's theme.

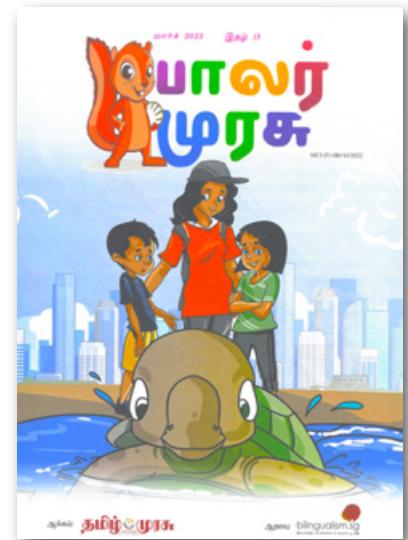


(Bottom right) Language games featured in *Cilik Cerdik* include crossword puzzles that are thematically related to the short story explored in each issue.



Reach Preschool children

## **Balar Murasu (பாலர் முரசு)** by SPH Media Limited, Tamil Murasu



(Top) Covers of *Balar Murasu* featuring themes relevant to young children such as 'Learning about Community Gardens', 'Celebrating Chinese New Year' and 'Animal and Environment Conservation'.

*Balar Murasu* by SPH Media Limited is a Fund-supported monthly periodical in Tamil language for preschool children. The attractively illustrated and colourful periodical takes preschool children through theme-based articles with relatable local content close to their hearts, such as celebrating festivals in Singapore.



(Above) Parents/caregivers may scan the QR code on selected pages of the periodical to access video demonstration or animated stories respectively.

(Right) Children can access the 2D animated stories that correspond to the comics within the periodical. Let the stories come alive!



## COMBINATION (PRINT AND DIGITAL RESOURCES)

**Reach** Preschool children

**When** October 2022

**Where** Book launch held at Singapore Chinese Cultural Centre

### ***The Nursery Rhymes Project 3***

《儿歌新唱计划3：我们的儿歌画故事》

by The Theatre Practice Ltd



The Fund supported *The Nursery Rhymes Project 3* by The Theatre Practice Ltd, a curated album of 12 Mandarin nursery rhymes refreshed, rearranged, and sung with a contemporary touch by local music talents. Adding a dash of local flavour to the imaginative wonders of nursery rhymes, soundtracks are accompanied with a song book replete with vivid and expressive illustrations by prolific illustrator Lee Kow Fong (also known as Ah Guo).

Promoting further language learning, the song book comes with bilingual conversation cues for parents to facilitate parent-child interaction based on the themes within the nursery rhymes.

On 8 October 2022, Singapore Chinese Cultural Centre and The Theatre Practice Ltd jointly presented the launch of *The Nursery Rhymes Project 3* on 8 October 2022. The launch was graced by Ms Gan Siow Huang, Minister of State, Ministry of Education and Ministry of Manpower and included a live performance of some of the nursery rhymes.

The Fund had previously supported *The Nursery Rhymes Project* and *The Nursery Rhymes Project 2*.

▲ (Above) Both the USB card and the song book cover featuring whimsical illustration of two young children enjoying their time with musical instruments.





**Reach** Preschool children

**When** September 2022

**Where** Book launch held at Malay Heritage Centre

### ***Cockatoo Series (Siri Burung Kakaktua)*** by UNGU PEN

The *Cockatoo Series* by UNGU PEN was developed with the support of the Fund. Consisting of two titles, the book series in Malay language is targeted at young children aged zero to four years. For a more enriching reading experience, the books are supplemented with animated short videos and original theme songs accessible via QR codes within the books. With this multi-modal approach, the series also facilitates Malay language learning through alphabet-recognition and introduction to phonics.



(Above) One of the many songs within the book titled *Pokok Saga Istimewa* (loosely translated as *Special Saga Tree*) incorporates simple phonics for young children's Malay language learning.

(Bottom) The author poses with Mdm Rahayu Mahzam, Senior Parliamentary Secretary for Health, Ministry of Health and Ministry of Law. Photo Credit: UNGU PEN



On 4 September 2022, the book launch was held at the Malay Heritage Centre, graced by Mdm Rahayu Mahzam, Senior Parliamentary Secretary, Ministry of Health and Ministry of Law. The launch featured an interactive dramatisation of the books with active participation from the young audience.

The book launch was featured by Berita Mediacorp and Berita Harian.

## DIGITAL MEDIA

**Reach** Preschool children & children aged 6 to 7

**When** April 2022



(Top) The mobile application icon for *Little Lion Reading Park* and the app's opening frame.

### ***Little Lion Reading Park*** 《幼师爱读园地》 by Creative Knowledge Labs Pte Ltd



The Fund supported the development of *Little Lion Reading Park* (LLRP), a Chinese language learning mobile application by Creative Knowledge Labs Pte Ltd. Downloadable on iOS and Android, the mobile application offers access to an e-reading platform with 490 levelled books curated for children aged three to seven. *LLRP* aims to stimulate children's interest in learning Chinese language with various functions catered to different language learning needs. Useful functions that serve as scaffolding tools are available to make language learning more accessible. These functions include Read-to-Me, Dictionary with Click-to-Display, and Recording and Grading.

*LLRP* received positive feedback from parents and preschool teachers. They found the app a useful digital resource that supports parents, educators and caregivers in nurturing a Mandarin-speaking home environment.

*LLRP* is available on both [iOS App Store](#) and [Android Google Play Store](#).

**Reach** Youths & young adults

**When** Released in phases between December 2021 & May 2022

## Advocating Conversational Malay Among Local Singaporeans

by The Smart Local Pte Ltd

(Right) Fauzi, one of the TSL talents, shares about current affairs in Malay language.



The Fund supported the development of a video series featuring the use of conversational Malay. Produced by The Smart Local Pte Ltd, the light-hearted series acquainted viewers with simple greetings, basic phrases and pronunciation of words in Malay language. Entertaining yet educational, the *Makcik Reveals* episodes shed light on using easy, accessible Malay words and phrases in local familiar situations, such as ordering food in a neighbourhood Nasi Padang stall and having meals with family and friends.

Inspiring more youths and young adults to pick up conversational Malay, the *Singaporeans Try* episodes serve to demonstrate that conversational Malay can be acquired and used in authentic settings. The two episodes feature hosts, of varying proficiency in Malay language, being put in situations where they could only use Malay to communicate.

The video series won a Silver Award for the 'Most Creative – Multicultural Marketing' category at the MARKies Awards 2023. Well-received by the public, the video series also achieved a total of 1 million video views, with an extensive reach of 1.9 million and positive engagement with the target audience.

(Above) Two episodes from the *Makcik Reveals* series, showing that the use of conversational Malay adds to a flavourful and unique Singaporean experience.



## BOOKS<sup>1</sup>

**Reach** Lower primary school children

**When** 28 May 2022

**Where** Virtual book launch held on Zoom

### ***Translation of Children's Picture Book - Murphy, See How You Shine!***

《菲菲，你真棒！》

by Chen Wei Teng



(Right) The cover of the translated book with use of entrancing colours and an illustrative style for appeal to primary school children.

The Fund supported the Chinese translation of an award-winning book titled *Murphy, See How You Shine!*. The book takes readers through a story of a visually impaired service dog's companionship with a young lady who is afflicted with Type 1 diabetes. A heart-warming story, the book explores themes including self-acceptance, kindness and friendship. The book seeks to convey to readers the joy in finding meaning amid life's imperfections and improving the world we live in, in small ways.

Young children and their parents attended the virtual book launch conducted in Chinese language. With storytelling, song-singing and a handicraft activity, the book launch was enjoyed by young participants who sang along with the author-cum-storyteller and made their very own Murphy, out of origami.

<sup>1</sup> Copies of the books supported by the Fund are available for loan at various National Library Board (NLB) branches. Fund-supported books are also distributed to beneficiaries such as preschools operated by Anchor Operators (AOPs) and Social Service Agencies (SSAs).

**Reach** Preschool children

**When** June 2022

## ***Bu Bu's Treasure Hunt***

《布布找到宝藏了》

by Sentosa Development Corporation



(Right) Cover features Bu Bu with a magnifying glass, ready to embark on an adventure with young readers.

With support from the Fund, Sentosa Development Corporation (SDC) developed a Chinese picture book titled *Bu Bu's Treasure Hunt*. The book invites educators, parents and their children to embark on an adventure along with Bu Bu who uncovers Sentosa's hidden gems. At the end of his treasure hunt, Bu Bu discovers that his family is his greatest treasure.

Set to promote experiential learning, exploration and observation through Chinese language, the book features attractions and places of interest within Sentosa and includes reading activities for parents and educators to use with their children.



(Top) Covers of the three titles from *Siri Adam di Kota Singa*.

**Reach** Preschool children

**When** 13 August 2022

**Where** Book launch at Lifelong Learning Institute

## *Siri Adam di Kota Singa* by Hana Mohd

*Siri Adam di Kota Singa* by Hana Mohd comprises three Malay book titles supported by the Fund for preschool children aged five to six years. Aimed to pique young children's curiosity and sense of wonder in Singapore's rich yet diverse cultural landscape, the books take young children through Adam's discoveries of places of interest in Singapore. The books feature familiar and relevant settings including the Singapore Science Centre and Singapore Zoo, with the story told through simple, repetitive sentence structures to support young children's Malay language learning.

Graced by Dr Mohamad Maliki Bin Osman, Minister in the Prime Minister's Office, Second Minister for the Ministry of Education and the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, the book series was launched on 13 August 2022 at the Lifelong Learning Institute.

The launch was featured in *Berita Harian*.

(Left) The author, Hana Mohd, autographing the books at her book signing session.

(Right) Dr Mohamad Maliki Bin Osman (third from right) graced the book launch.

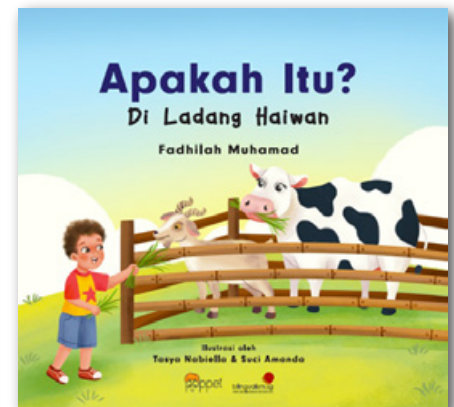


**Reach** Preschool children

**When** 27 November 2022

**Where** Book launch at Tampines Hub

## ***Apakah Itu?*** by Fadhilah Muhamad



(Top) The cover of the two book titles, loosely translated as 'What is that? At the Beach' and 'What is that? At the Farm'.

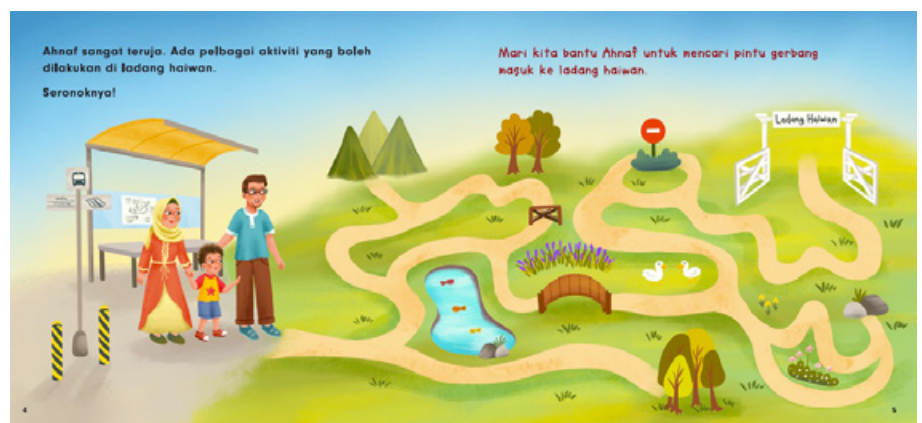
Comprising two picture books targeted at young children aged four to six years, the *Apakah Itu?* Malay book series was supported by the Fund. The books share Ahnaf's observations and sights when he travels to locations relatable to young children, such as the beach and the farm.

Promoting active and rich Malay language learning, the books are interspersed with interactive activities, including finger-tracing mazes, matching exercises and counting games. The books also engage young children to speak Malay language through questions.

A launch for the book series was held at Tampines Hub on 29 November 2022. The book launch was featured by Berita Harian.



(Bottom) The books are interspersed with interactive activities to engage young readers.





**Reach** Preschool children

**When** 11 March 2023

**Where** Choa Chu Kang Public Library & Tampines Regional Library

## ***Siri Buku: Bumiku Bumimu*** by Insyirah Abdullah



(Right) The covers of the two book titles, loosely translated as *Po, The Lost Polar Bear* and *Po, Moves to the South Pole*.

The Fund supported Insyirah Abdullah in the development of a children's book series titled *Siri Buku: Bumiku Bumimu*. The series centers around the friendship formed between a young polar bear cub named Po and a young girl named Aina. Together, they embark on fun adventures to help Po cope with and settle down in Singapore's tropical climate, and finally getting Po back to his rightful home. A book series depicting young children's innocence, the books also demonstrate Aina's problem-solving skills while helping a friend in need.

On 11 March 2023, the book series was launched at Tampines Regional Library with an interactive book reading session. Another book reading session was held at Choa Chu Kang Public Library on 17 March 2023. The book reading sessions saw young participants engaged in the story by following Po on his adventures and taking part in related activities including binoculars-making, dramatisation and singing.

The book reading sessions received positive feedback from both parents and young participants.

(Above & right) Young children immersed in the book reading sessions and the activities at Tampines Regional Library, gleaning a greater understanding of the books while picking up new Malay vocabulary.





(Top) Book covers from *Buku Siri Hadi (Sekolah)* and the *Hadi Book Series (School)*.

**Reach** Preschool children

**When** 18 March 2023

**Where** Book launch at Madrasah Alsagoff Al-Arabiah

### ***Buku Siri Hadi (Sekolah) & Hadi Book Series (School)*** by Karl Zubin

The Fund supported Mr Karl Zubin Jumairi in the development of a book series in Malay and English language respectively. Titled *Siri Buku Hadi (Sekolah)* in Malay and *Hadi Book Series (School)* in English, the book series comprises four books per language. Featuring settings familiar to young children, the series tells of Hadi's adventures and teaches key values and qualities such as responsibility, respect, and kindness to animals.

(Bottom) The author, Mr Karl Zubin, posing with the Fund-supported books at the launch of the book series.



For greater engagement with the books, questions are included for parents and educators to facilitate meaningful conversations with their children.

Graced by Mdm Zakiah Halim, Head of Malay Community Division at Mediacorp Pte Ltd, the book series was launched on 18 March 2023 at Madrasah Alsagoff Al-Arabiah. The book launch was featured by Berita Harian and the radio station, Warna 94.2.



**Reach** Preschool & Primary 1 to 2 children

**When** 31 July 2022

**Where** Virtual storytelling session on Zoom

## ***The Poony Series (Phase 2)*** by Claritex International Pte Ltd



(Right) Covers of the 4 heartwarming books featuring Punniamoorthy's day-to-day interactions with his parents and friends.

The Fund supported Claritex International Pte Ltd in the production of another four books from *The Poony Series*. The stories feature daily activities of a boy named Punniamoorthy and his family. Aimed to inculcate values such as love, respect, humility and loyalty, the series sparks an interest and love for learning Tamil language among young children.

Approximately 80 participants, made up of preschool educators, parents and young children, attended the virtual storytelling session held on 31 July 2022.

The Fund had supported Books 1 to 4 from *The Poony Series* in 2017.



(Top & right) Vibrantly illustrated, the covers feature Baby King and his friends in familiar settings.

**Reach** Preschool children

**When** 15 January & 5 June 2022

**Where** First book launch on Zoom for first two supported titles & second book launch held at Central National Library

## ***Baby King and Friends Series***

《小金金和小伙伴們》

by Chew Lee Ching

The Fund supported Chew Lee Ching in the development of four Chinese-English bilingual storybooks within the *Baby King and Friends Series*. Set in local parks, the stories feature the unique flora and fauna and their habitats of each location. With themes promoting social emotional learning in young children, the stories take children on an adventure with Baby King, a baby kingfisher, and his friends as they visit different parks.

A virtual book launch was held on 15 January 2022 for *Fergie Loses His Way* 《小斐迷路了》 and *Hello, Mr No-Tail!* 《无尾先生, 你好!》, followed by a physical book launch at The Reading Corner @ Central National Library on 5 June 2022 for the remaining two titles, *Fly, Oli, Fly!* 《飞吧, 小欧欧!》 and *Stari's Wonderful World* 《小夏的美妙世界》.

The book launches for the *Baby King and Friends Series* were featured by The Straits Times and Lianhe Zaobao.

**Reach** Preschool children

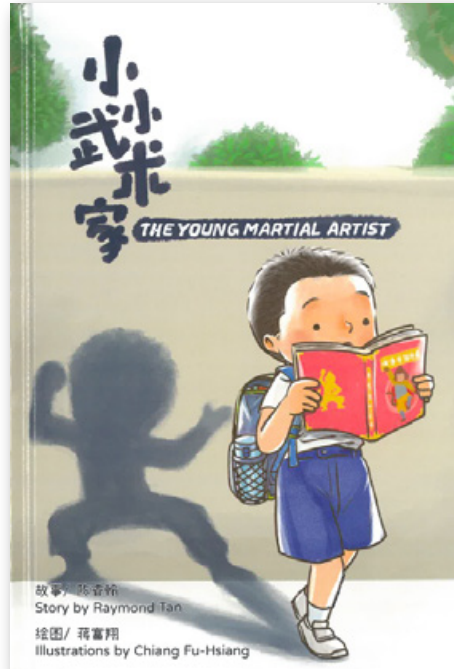
**When** 10 September 2022

**Where** Book launch held at Goo Loo Club

## ***The Young Martial Artist***

《小小武术家》

by Brainchild Pictures Pte Ltd



(Right) Making use of Yu Wei's shadow, the book cover depicts Yu Wei's love for wushu.

(Bottom) The book launch began with a demonstration of wushu by a young martial artist.



*The Young Martial Artist* is a bilingual Chinese-English picture book supported by the Fund. The story tells of a school boy, Yu Wei, and his passion in learning wushu. This passion brought about a new friendship as Yu Wei learns wushu with his new friend, Rohana, who also loves martial arts. Both children go on to support each other in their learning, forging a strong friendship, and building perseverance and resilience in the process.

The book launch for *The Young Martial Artist* was held at Goh Loo Club on 10 September 2022 and graced by Mr Vincent Ng, a martial arts champion.



**Reach** Preschool children

**When** 11 & 25 February 2023

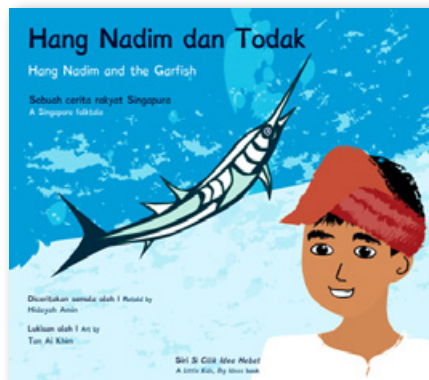
**Where** Bilingual storytelling sessions held at Punggol Regional Library & Woodlands Regional Library

## ***Little Kids, Big Ideas Bilingual Series***

《小孩子大点子》

### ***Siri Si Silik Idea Hebat***

by Lee Seow Ser (Li Xiaosi)



(Right) The covers of the book titles in the *Little Kids, Big Ideas Bilingual Series*.

Supported by the Fund, *Little Kids, Big Ideas Bilingual Series* comprises two Chinese-English and two Malay-English bilingual titles that are translated respectively from the original books titled *Sima Guang and the Giant Jar*, and *Hang Nadim and the Garfish*. Through folklores from the Chinese and Malay cultures respectively, the Chinese-English and Malay-English books seek to promote an understanding and appreciation of the importance of MTLs in a multicultural Singapore.

Promoting learning bilingual languages in a fun and entertaining way, two bilingual storytelling-cum-dramatisation sessions were organised for each translated title at Punggol Regional Library and Woodlands Regional Library respectively. The sessions attracted a total of 155 young participants.

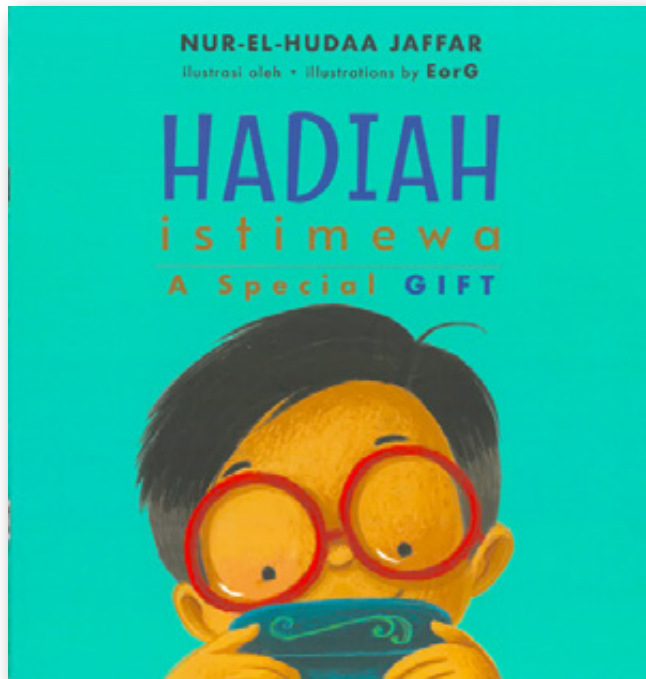
**Reach** Preschool children

**When** 29 May 2022

**Where** Book launch held at Wisma Geylang Serai

## ***Azim Series (Siri Azim)***

by Nur-El-Hudaa Binte Jaafar



(Top) Replete with minimalistic but captivating illustrations, the *Azim Series* interweaves traditional Malay art and culture within its stories for a meaningful language learning experience.

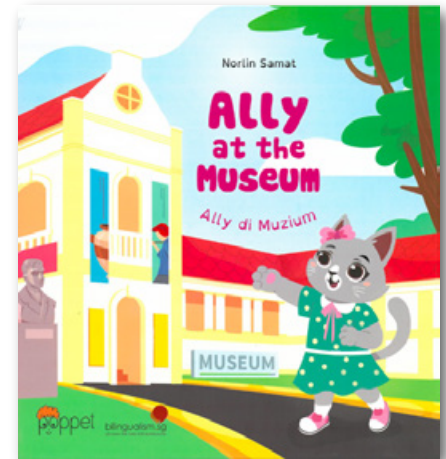
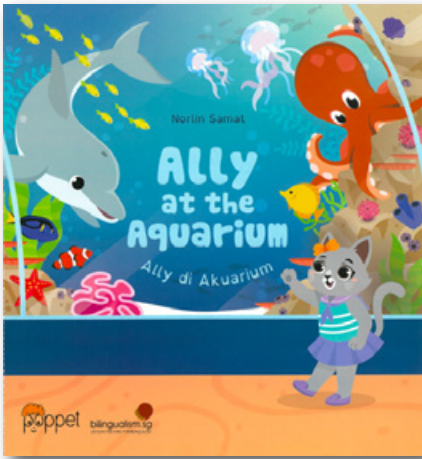
The Fund-supported book series titled *Azim Series* by Nur-El-Hudaa comprises of two Malay-English bilingual titles targeted at children aged four to six. The inspiring stories in the series tells of a young boy named Azim who is mired in difficult situations. Turning to traditional Malay art of batik painting and learning to play the kompang, Azim learns to transform his sense of loss and frustrations into positive outcomes and emotions.



Attendees of the book launch on 29 May 2022 at Wisma Geylang Serai had the opportunity to immerse in Azim's new hobbies through a first-hand experience on batik painting and playing the kompang. Dr Faishal Ibrahim, Minister of State, Ministry of Home Affairs and Ministry of National Development, graced the launch.

(Above) Dr Faishal Ibrahim trying his hand at batik painting.

The launch was featured by Berita Mediacorp and Berita Harian.



(Top) The vibrant book covers of Books 6 to 8 in the *Ally's Adventures Series* invite young children to go on explorations with the girl-cat, Ally.

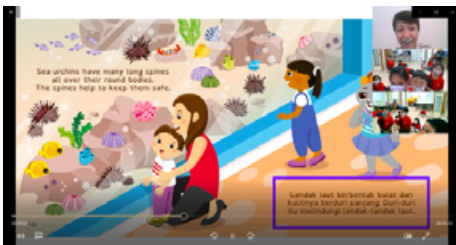
**Reach** Preschool & lower primary children

**When** January 2022 to March 2023

**Where** Virtual storytelling sessions held on Zoom & physical storytelling sessions held at Changi Airport and various other community venues

## ***Ally's Adventures – Going Further*** by Norlin Samat

The Fund supported Norlin Samat in the development of another three books in the Malay-English bilingual picture book series titled *Ally's Adventures*. Set in familiar Singapore settings, the book series depicts a young girl-cat's experiences at the aquarium, the airport and the museum. The books are designed to encourage early literacy, promote bilingualism, and help develop communication skills in young readers.



(Above) Owing to Covid-19 restrictions, the first storytelling session was held virtually at the beginning of 2022.

(Below) Held at the Children's Museum of Singapore on 18 February 2023, the storytelling session of the book, *Ally at the Museum*, sees artefacts come alive!



Reaching out to young readers, storytelling sessions were held at venues such as the Changi Airport and Children's Museum of Singapore in tandem with the stories' settings. As an extension to the storytelling sessions, sing-along and craft-making activities with themes relating to the books were conducted to encourage participants to listen to and speak in Malay.

The interactive books and events were well-received by parents, which made the learning of Malay language fun and engaging for their young. The books received positive media coverage in *Berita Harian*.

The Fund had previously supported *Ally's Adventures*, Books 1 to 5.



# PLAYS AND MUSICAL PRODUCTIONS

**Reach** Preschool children

**When** 3 January to 6 June 2022

**Where** Virtual viewing of the performance

## *Duckie Can't Swim*

《不会游泳的小鸭》

by Paper Monkey Theatre Ltd



(Right) Starring Little Duckie, the e-direct mailer evokes curiosity in viewers. How does Little Duckie get by without being able to quack and swim?

The Fund supported Paper Monkey Theatre Ltd in the production of *Duckie Can't Swim*, a Chinese language drama held in a digital format for children aged three to six. The play revolves around Little Duckie who is unable to swim and quack, unlike his peers. Little Duckie eventually discovers that his peers are in danger and saves them with his wit. *Duckie Can't Swim* is a play that encourages children to find and celebrate their strengths, which are gifts deep within them.

(Bottom) The ending scene of *Duckie Can't Swim*, where Little Duckie's peers acknowledge his strengths and appreciate him for saving them.



To motivate young children and spark their interest to speak and interact using Chinese language, the Fund also supported the development of an activity sheet and a tutorial video for post-performance class activities to be facilitated by preschool educators.

Well-received by more than 10,000 preschool children and educators, many were intrigued by the relatable storyline and the use of puppets for the drama.



**Reach** Preschool children

**When** 27 July to 8 September 2022

**Where** KC Arts Centre

## ***Gretel and Hansel in Mandarin***

《糖果屋历险记》

by The Little Company (a subsidiary of Singapore Repertory Theatre)



Adapted from the Brothers Grimm classic fairy tale, the Fund supported the development of the teacher's pack in Chinese language and ticket subsidies for the Fund's beneficiaries. The teacher's pack included suggested post-performance activities for preschool educators' use to facilitate Chinese language learning with their students.

The performance was engaging in that the young audiences were participative and keen to help the characters in the play get out of tricky situations. Overall, the interactive play helped young children appreciate and enjoy Chinese language learning.

▲  
(Top and above) Coupled with sound effects and music, the actor and actress' lively expressions set the various atmosphere onstage.





▲ (Top) The policeman tells the main protagonists not to follow strangers.

**Reach** Primary 1 children

**When** September 2022

**Where** Singapore Hokkien Huay Kuan Cultural Academy

### ***“Beware of the Big Grey Wolf” in Mandarin*** 戏里戏外 - 《宝贝！宝贝！小心啊！》

by Singapore Hokkien Huay Kuan Cultural Academy Pte Ltd

The Fund supported Singapore Hokkien Huay Kuan Cultural Academy Pte Ltd (SHHKCA) in the production of *Play in Mandarin*, “Beware of the Big Grey Wolf” and a post-performance activity for Primary 1 children. The storyline raises awareness of stranger danger as the young characters spend more time outdoors and away from their mobile devices.



▲ (Above) The character playing the big grey wolf invites the main protagonists to hop onto his bus for a joy ride - with malicious intent!

Held at Singapore Hokkien Huay Kuan Cultural Academy, the lively play saw more than 2,000 students immersed in a fun and engaging theatre experience. To encourage the young participants in using Chinese language meaningfully, participants could choose either a speech and drama or a language enrichment lesson as their post-performance activity.



**Reach** Preschool children

**When** 5 to 30 September 2022

**Where** Respective preschool centres

## ***Bringing Chinese Drama to Your Doorstep*** by Arts Theatre of Singapore Ltd



▲ (Top) The onsite performances held in preschool centres gave preschool children a different drama experience.

Aptly titled *Bringing Chinese Drama to Your Doorstep*, this Fund-supported project by Arts Theatre of Singapore Ltd. brought two mobile skits with accompanying post-performance activities to the Fund's beneficiaries at their site. Performed in Chinese language, the mobile skits conveyed the importance of nature conservation and demonstrated the value of compassion and spirit of sharing.



▲ (Above) The actors depicting a scene where the forest animals encounter a flood.

More than 1,300 preschool students attended the performance. The interactive and entertaining performance received positive compliments from educators. Students were eager to express their views in Chinese language and the performance sparked students' interest in learning Chinese language.

## EVENTS AND PROGRAMMES

**Reach** Secondary school adolescents & primary school children respectively

**When** 29 October & 12 November 2022

**Where** Virtual workshops held on Zoom

### ***Pelekat Digital (Instagram & WhatsApp)***

by Epilogue Multimedia Pte. Ltd.



(Top) The posters of the respective digital sticker creation workshops.

In conjunction with the Malay Language month, Epilogue Multimedia Pte. Ltd. organised two virtual workshops targeted at primary school children and secondary school adolescents respectively. The workshops equipped the participants with skills to conceptualise and design personalised digital stickers in Malay language for use on Instagram and WhatsApp. Promoting appreciation for Malay language in a fun and innovative way, participants were encouraged to create the digital stickers with content from motivational phrases, idioms and similes.



(Above) Some of the digital stickers designed in Malay language by secondary school adolescents through Canva, a design tool.

A total of 47 meaningfully created digital stickers were designed by the workshop participants. The digital stickers were made available for public use on Instagram and WhatsApp from January 2023 onwards.

(Right) Hand-drawn digital stickers carefully designed by primary school children who attended the workshop.



**Reach** Upper primary school children & secondary school adolescents

**When** 12 March & 2 April 2022

**Where** Competition and workshops held on Zoom

## ***Tamil Ethical Stories in A Digital Era*** மின்னிலக்க யுகத்தில் தமிழ் பண்புநலக் கதைகள் by Singapore Kadayanallur Muslim League



(Top) The e-poster of the virtual event.

With the Fund's support, a digital story creation competition titled *Tamil Ethical Stories in A Digital Era* was held in conjunction with the Tamil Language Festival 2022. Targeted at students aged between 11 and 15 years old, participants of the competition presented their digital stories.

As a prelude to the competition, the workshops were conducted virtually on 12 March and 2 April 2022. Empowering students to read, write and speak Tamil language confidently, the workshops aimed to equip the participants with technical skills for digital story creations and presentation skills in Tamil language for the digital story creation competition.

The competition attracted over 230 participants with a total production of 73 digital stories. The virtual competition also received media coverage in Tamil Murasu.



**Reach** Preschool children, parents & guests

**When** 21 April 2022

**Where** Webinar held on Zoom

## ***Unity in Diversity*** **வேற்றுமையில் ஒற்றுமை** by PAP Community Foundation



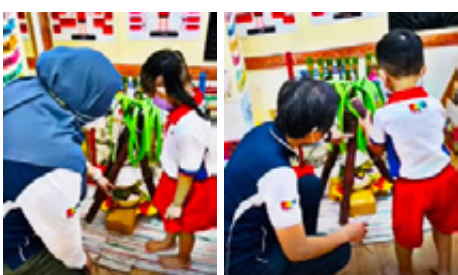
(Right) Students attempting the Tamil Folk dance, *Oyilaattam* (ஓயிலாட்டம்), to a Tamil song.



(Above) Preschool children learning to appreciate musical instruments and dance from the Tamil culture.

In conjunction with Tamil Language Festival 2022, *Unity in Diversity* was organised by PAP Community Foundation (PCF) with the Fund's support. The half-day virtual event livestreamed on Zoom comprised pre-recordings of storytelling sessions and digital presentations by preschool children in various formats such as dance, skits, poetry recitations. The event also featured snippets of grandparent-grandchild interactions and meaningful group discussions among preschool students on Tamil culture. Hosted by a preschool Tamil teacher and two student emcees from PCF, the event encouraged preschool students to speak and use Tamil with confidence, and promote Tamil culture through various activities.

(Bottom) Students belonging to other races participating in the re-enactment of Pongal celebration.



Parents, educators and 118 preschool students attended the virtual event graced by Mr Vikram Nair, Member of Parliament for Sembawang GRC (Admiralty) and Chairman of Sembawang Town Council.

*Unity in Diversity* received media coverage in Tamil Murasu.

**Reach** Youths & general public

**When** 30 April 2022

**Where** Webinar held on Zoom & social media platforms

## ***Azhagu Tamil***

**அழகு தமிழ்**

by Little India Shopkeepers and Heritage Association



(Right) Vadivalagan PVSS engaging the young interviewees in public.

The Fund supported *Azhagu Tamil*, a webinar for parents with children, teenagers and youths, in conjunction with Tamil Language Festival 2022. The two-hour webinar comprised conversations between two speakers, Naseer, an acclaimed media personality in the Indian film industry, and Vadivalagan PVSS, a popular Tamil local artiste. Both speakers shared their love and passion for Tamil language. The love for the language had inspired them to master Tamil language to become Tamil media personalities. They also engaged in a rich discussion on the opportunities and challenges in the use of Tamil language in Singapore. Simple and useful tips on developing interest in Tamil Literature and the Arts were also provided to the event attendees, especially youths.

(Bottom) Publicity poster for the webinar.



As a prelude to the webinar, a video was screened, featuring interviews conducted by Vadivalagan with youths at Little India. Appealing to youths, the interview helped the webinar audience gain an insight into the challenges that youths faced in the use of Tamil in Singapore.

The webinar attracted more than 2,300 viewers on Zoom and on livestream platforms.



(Top) The digital panels showcased some Fund-supported projects for language learning in the respective MTLs.

**Reach** Parents & educators

**When** 27 August 2022

**Where** Hybrid format with physical components held at the Republic Cultural Centre, Republic Polytechnic. Virtual components were hosted on the MTLS 2022 microsite.

## Mother Tongue Languages Symposium 2022 (MTLS 2022)

The Mother Tongue Languages Symposium (MTLS) is an annual event co-organised by the Ministry of Education (MOE) and the three Mother Tongue Language Learning and Promotion Committees. Held in a hybrid format on 27 August 2022, the event featured both physical and virtual components. As part of the Fund's public outreach efforts, the Fund put up a digital booth showcasing selected Fund-supported projects.

Fund-supported projects in the various MTLs were featured in a variety of formats, ranging from mobile applications, drama, publications to events and programmes. The digital panels comprised QR codes for parents and educators to receive updates on helpful Fund-supported initiatives and projects that could nurture their young children's bilingual learning.





# **The Year Ahead**



## The Year Ahead

The Fund will continue to actively engage potential applicants to identify and seed good ideas and proposals through two annual Call for Proposal windows in January and July. Through the Fund's support, a strong pipeline of quality language resources that are relevant and useful in multiple formats will be produced to support the cause of bilingualism. The Fund will also promote the lifelong learning of MTLs by supporting resources and programmes to encourage young adults to continue to be in touch with their MTLs.

Continuing to support parents of young children in nurturing their young's bilingualism in the home domain, the Community Series in 2023 will be conducted by speakers to share their knowledge, experience and good practices through talks. Three additional workshops held at various NLB branches would be added to the 2023 Community Series, for parents and educators to have a hands-on experience in applying the strategies and tips shared by speakers.

The Fund will work towards organising a few initiatives and programmes with like-minded organisations and partners to promote bilingualism in young children, youths and young adults. To commemorate the 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary of his birth, these initiatives and programme seek to honour the late Mr Lee Kuan Yew for his legacy and vision of promoting bilingualism.

The Fund will collaborate with SPH Media Limited to organise an early childhood carnival titled *Fun with Bilingualism*, featuring a medley of performances, a play, activity booths and a panel discussion, reaching out to parents and children.

In addition to featuring Fund-supported resources and an exhibition on the Fund's journey and role in promoting bilingualism, there will be a segment within the Fund's booth at the Mother Tongue Languages Symposium (MTLS 2023) on LKY100 commemorative efforts. Digital narratives

based on the book, *My Lifelong Challenge: Singapore's Bilingual Journey* will also be featured to share Mr Lee Kuan Yew's journey in bilingualism and to examine bilingualism from a larger societal perspective.

To encourage and inspire more young adults to use and speak in their MTLs, the Fund hopes to collaborate with polytechnics for further engagement of youths and young adults on social media platforms. Through collaboration with partners/organisations, the Fund also hopes to leverage social media to inspire ground-up participation to promote bilingualism, through a social media campaign relevant to National Day.



# **Financial Review**

## Financial Review

The financial statements for the Fund, for the year ended 31 March 2023 (FY2022/23), have been audited by RSM Chio Lim LLP. A copy of the statements is attached with this report.

The Fund's income for FY2022/23 amounted to \$2.2 million. This was made up primarily of donations and investment income.

The expenditure for FY2022/23 amounted to \$2.7 million, of which \$2.6 million was disbursed as grants to various recipients. Operating expenditure accounted for \$0.05 million.

The projects supported by the Fund could span more than one financial year and the grants disbursed in FY2022/23 comprised projects that were awarded in this financial year and in previous financial years. As at the end of FY2022/23, grants approved since the inception of the Fund totalled \$28.4 million. \$5.3 million of this has yet to be disbursed.

The Fund balance stands at a healthy \$108.7 million.





# Committees

## **Executive Committee**

### **Chair**

Ms Gan Siow Huang

### **Members**

Ms Goh Poh Gek

Mr Wong Siew Hoong

Mr Lim Jim Koon

## **Audit Committee**

### **Chair**

Mr Ong Chao Choon

### **Members**

Mr Chua Chim Kang

Mr Hawazi Daipi

## **Investment Advisory Committee**

### **Chair**

Mr Lim Chow Kiat

### **Members**

Ms Betty Tay

Ms Goh Poh Gek

Ms Deborah Ho

Mr Jin Yuen Yee

Ms Lim Li Ying

## **Publicity and Outreach Resource Panel**

### **Chair**

Mr Lim Jim Koon

Mr K Ramamoorthy

## **Research Advisory Panel**

### **Chair**

Associate Professor Tan Chee Lay

### **Members**

Dr Mukhlis Bin Abu Bakar

Associate Professor Yow Wei Quin

Dr S P Jeyarajadas Pandian

## **Project Evaluation Committee**

### **Chair**

Mr Wong Siew Hoong

### **Members**

Ms Goh Poh Gek

Dr Connie Lum May Lin

Dr Elizabeth Pang

Mdm Geraldine See

Associate Professor Hadijah Bte Rahmat<sup>2</sup>

Dr Mukhlis Abu Bakar<sup>3</sup>

Dr Soh Kay Cheng

Dr Soon Hong Lim

Dr S P Jeyarajadas Pandian

Mrs Caroline Wu

<sup>2</sup> Appointed from 2 March 2015 to 1 February 2023

<sup>3</sup> Appointed on 20 February 2023



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