

# LAKESTIDE NEWS

JUN 2019

## CELEBRATING PARENTING!

Let's hear from friends of Lakeside on the joy, challenges and life changes parenting has brought! Jane D. Hull once said, "At the end of the day, the most overwhelming key to a child's success is the positive involvement of parents." Parenting is never easy, but the outcome of pressing on and being consistent is never wasted. Children grow up observing their parents' actions, not just their words.

### 1. How has your life changed since you became a mom?

I've learnt to look at life differently. I no longer think for myself as Nate is completely dependent on me. Our daily activities have to be carefully planned and outings have to be baby-friendly. I take more time getting Nate ready than myself now. Even the bag I carry out is 95% his items.

But it is extremely exciting for me as every day is different. I am very blessed to be able to look after him so I don't miss any special moments.

### 2. What is one challenge/ expectation/ misconception of motherhood that most people don't know about?

The best investment you can give to your child is your undivided attention. And nurturing a child would take time and effort, lots of patience and is an ongoing process.

It was challenging at the beginning – a steep learning curve for me as a first-time mom – having to adapt to Nate's existence. He was totally dependent on me and I really wanted to give him my best. That took a toll on my physical and mental health too. I've since adapted and am better at taking care of him now.



Carissa, former staff of Lakeside, with her 6-month-old son

### 1. What's the best thing about being a dad?

Becoming my children's first home-school teacher and remaining so throughout their life.

### 2. How has your life changed since you became a dad?

I had to double up as a team player with my wife. The same amount of time I had all to myself, was to be shared with my wife and children. My faith in God took a whole new level as it involved trusting God beyond myself, marriage and my family. I am excited to see how my "tribe" turns out in the years to come!

### 3. What is one challenge of fatherhood that most people don't know about?

There isn't a finishing line. There isn't a sure-win formula. There certainly isn't a "10-year series for the pre-teen years", and no "teenage handbook" that could prepare me for this role.



Kenneth, staff of Lakeside, with his 3 children

### 1. One word to describe motherhood and why?

At this stage of my life, I would say motherhood is 'humbling'. There are so many things to learn and re-learn, from my own kids, from other mums, from my own mum and mum-in-law.

### 2. What is one misconception of motherhood that most people don't know about?

One misconception is "motherhood can only be experienced by giving birth to your own biological child." I became a mother to my beautiful daughter through adoption. It certainly doesn't make motherhood less real.

### 3. What do you hope to see in your child in the future?

I hope she will be happy, responsible, independent and compassionate and become a good role model and mentor to others in her own way.



Jasline, volunteer at Safe Place, with her daughter

## SPECIAL THANKS TO OUR PARTNERS/CORPORATES AND VOLUNTEERS!

### COMCHEST GETAI-XINYAO CHARITY CONCERT!

Thank you, Community Chest Singapore, for inviting our seniors from Kaki Kampong Seniors Wellness to the Getai-Xinyao Charity Concert 2019. Our seniors had a blast of a time singing along to the familiar classics and performing on stage with our Ministers and MPs!



### MAKING MOSAIC ART WITH SHELL VOLUNTEERS!



With the Shell Treasury volunteers, our Kaki Kampong seniors created their very own mosaic art! The most satisfying part of the process was applying putty to the tiles, which the seniors likened to spreading kaya on bread. For the seniors with less physical strength, the Shell volunteers gamely helped them bring their artistic vision to life.

### MONEY MANAGING WITH PRUDENTIAL SINGAPORE!



"Where does the money used to buy things at home come from?" was one of the questions posed by volunteers from Prudential Singapore, who ran a financial literacy workshop for Lakeside's children from The GRIT Project. "Cha-ching" introduced the money management concepts of Earning, Saving, Spending and Donating. Thank you, Prudential, for a fun day of learning!

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Lakeside Family Services



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