

SCHOOL GREEN AWARDS SPOTLIGHT YOUTHS LEADING THE ENVIRONMENTAL ACTION

In its 21st edition this year, the awards recognise future changemakers for their role in accelerating Singapore's sustainability and net zero goals by 2050, in schools and the community

Singapore, 18 November 2022 – At today's School Green Awards (SGA) 2022, the Singapore Environment Council (SEC) awarded 13 schools with top-tier awards, recognising them for their contributions toward helping Singapore achieve its 2050 net zero targets and advancing its national agenda on sustainable development. Held at Republic Polytechnic, the award ceremony was graced by Minister of State for Education, Ms Gan Siow Huang, who also made a speech to address the attendees.

In its 21st edition, the SGA is an annual flagship outreach programme by SEC that aims to empower students and staff to become responsible and innovative advocates of the environment. This year's SGA, supported by Keppel Corporation through its philanthropic arm, Keppel Care Foundation, saw 300 entries from 286 schools including pre-schools, primary schools, secondary schools, and Institutes of Higher Learning – highlighting the importance that youths place upon environmental sustainability. Prior to the start of the ceremony, 55 selected schools participated in an exhibition showcase – presenting the most noteworthy projects from the awards this year.

As part of the SGA, initiatives done by the participating schools had been assessed based on their energy, water and paper consumption. Since 2018, the schools had decreased their carbon emissions by an average of 1,162 tonnes – a 1.2 percent reduction year on year.

“It is very inspiring to see our future generation filled with passion and creativity to drive the change for a more sustainable and liveable society. We cannot emphasise enough how Singapore's journey towards net zero by 2050 will require commitment from all layers of society, and today's youths certainly have a special role to play,” said **Ms Jen Teo, SEC Executive Director**. “Over the years, the SGA has seen the type of projects evolve to address more complex climate concerns, such as food security and enhancing biodiversity. I am heartened to see how our youths are also integrating technology such as the Internet of Things (IoT) within their projects, to develop solutions that can tackle the problems of tomorrow.”

Centring around the theme of *Future Changemakers – Saving Tomorrow with Changes Today*, the SGA this year challenged schools to align their projects to the five pillars of the Singapore Green Plan 2030 – City in Nature, Energy Reset, Green Economy, Resilient Future and Sustainable Living. Schools were required to demonstrate their creativity and problem-solving skills to provide different solutions for a greener society – from our green landscape and renewable energy usage to Singapore’s green economy and future resiliency.

The top three categories for the SGA are: **Outstanding Environmental Project Award** – recognising the most innovative environmental projects, **Best 3R Award** – given to outstanding projects that reinforce practices and habits of the 3Rs, and **Vanda Miss Joaquim Sustained Achievement Award** – honouring schools that have attained an overall score of more than 90 percent during the project assessment, for the third year in a row. Please find a summarised list of the awardees in Annex A.

Bringing home all three awards today is Jurong-Pioneer Junior College (JPJC). Their sustained environmental project, called the JP Green Wave Movement 2022, consists of four sub-projects. The first was the JP Food Stories, where they piloted a vertical hydroponics set-up on campus and learned how to monitor them with Internet of Things (IoT). The second was the Project Work Innovation Programme, where 19 students participated in the SIA x SUTD Upcycling Challenge to raise awareness of waste management. As an outreach programme, they also conducted the Community Garden & Terrarium Workshop for elderly residents as their third project. Lastly, they executed Recycling Right!, where students applied creative measures to place transparent recycling bins at high-traffic areas around the school, which increased recycling significantly. As a whole, their project addressed three out of five of the Green Plan Pillars – City in Nature, Sustainability Living, and Resilient Future, and had passed the assessments and audits to clinch the highest honour.

Mr Ho Tong Yen, Chief Sustainability Officer of Keppel Corporation and CEO of Keppel Care Foundation, said, “Keppel is committed to sustainability and we are delighted to support the Singapore Environment Council in the organisation of School Green Awards 2022. Through collaborative efforts like these, we can not only contribute to Singapore’s Green Plan 2030, but empower the next generation to be even more focused on environmental sustainability and climate action.”



Since the SGA began in 2001, it has expanded significantly, with the number of schools participating increasing by almost tenfold. The annual ceremony plays an important role in spreading environmental awareness and messages to students, teachers and staff from preschools, primary, secondary and institutes of higher learning, as well as to the wider community. Through organising activities such as gardening and greenery, encouraging recycling in schools, and educating students on the urgency of climate change, the SGA has continued to inspire the next generation of changemakers to take ownership, and ultimately action, of their environmental future.

ANNEX A - SGA 2022 AWARD WINNERS

OUTSTANDING ENVIRONMENTAL PROJECT AWARD		
Level	Name of School	Key Highlights of Project
Preschool	PCF Sparkletots Preschool @ Zhenghua Blk 632A	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Instilled green habits in children (e.g.: saving water, reducing food wastage) - Reused recycled materials to create new items (e.g.: musical instruments, graduation costumes) - Tend to a plot in their neighbourhood garden
Primary School	St Stephen's School	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Collaborated with Circus Maximus International (CMI) to plan, cultivate and nurture seedlings and saplings for 6 months - Transplanted the trees after 6 months to organisational partners (e.g.: NParks, town councils, hospitals) - CMI pledged \$30 to charity organisations for every tree planted
	Chongzheng Primary School	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Conducted surveys to understand level of awareness among students - Started a campaign to increase adoption of greener practices among students (e.g.: recycling responsibly, conserving energy, growing own food) - Developed reflective model 'What? So What? Now What?' to implement project on platforms such as assemblies, FTGP lessons, recesses, etc.
Secondary School	Tampines Secondary School	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Held Green Week to establish an environmental literacy program, enhance biodiversity of school and cultivate habits of waste reduction - Set up a butterfly garden on campus - Built a whale sculpture out of wire, inspired by Bruges whale sculpture in Belgium

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Tree planting ceremony on campus with Tampines Primary School
JC/IHL/CI	Jurong Pioneer Junior College	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Collaborated with the Singapore Institute of Technology (SIT) to set up hydroponic units and monitor them using IoT - Participated in the SIA x SUTD Upcycling Challenge to inculcate the importance of upcycling as a means to reduce waste among students - Conducted terrarium workshops for elderly residents in Jurong Spring Estate and residents at Ayer Rajah estate - Made recycling more visible and convenient by placing transparent recycling bins at high traffic areas
	Republic Polytechnic	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Collaborated with Merchfoundry Asia, North West Community Development to conduct campus-wide clothes collection drive for two months - Collected approximately 2,636 items – most of the clothes were given to charity, while those unsuitable for redistribution were used for upcycling purposes
International	Tanglin Trust School	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Held Eco Week, where each day focused on one Sustainable Development Goal and activities were planned accordingly - Activities included a nature photo competition, a public speaking competition on sustainable cities, and a presentation on sustainable finance - Held non-uniform fundraising day and raised \$4,696 to donate to Conservation International
Special Education	Minds Woodlands Gardens School	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Observed Earth Day every day since Earth Day Assembly Talk on 22 April 2022 - Planted & harvested microgreens, yielding a total of 10kg worth

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Collaborated with NParks to nurture 30 saplings, and will be replanted in other parts of the community
BEST 3R AWARD		
Level	Name of School	Summary of Project
Preschool	Cherie Hearts @ Charlton	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Held a mixed media art bidding – art pieces were created with recycled materials, and parents were invited to bid for the artwork where proceeds were donated to charities - Organised multiple programmes to upcycle recycled materials - Trained teachers on 3D art exploration on how to use cardboard to make a variety of structures
Primary School	Yumin Primary School	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Introduced the Roving Vending Machine (RVM) to encourage children to recycle plastic bottles - Designed different approaches to educate fellow peers to pick up environment-friendly habits - Each level was encouraged to carry out positive actions according to assigned themes (e.g.: reducing food waste through mindful consumption, reducing paper waste, recycling e-waste)
Secondary School	St. Margaret's Secondary School	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Involved parents to encourage their children to bring reusable containers to reduce use of single-use containers in the canteen - Held a book donation drive and resold them alongside young adults with special needs - Conducted 'No Backpack Day' where staff and students brought their belongings in non-conventional bags (e.g.: picnic baskets, repurposed bags) to encourage upcycling

JC/IHL/CI	Jurong Pioneer Junior College	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Collaborated with the Singapore Institute of Technology (SIT) to set up hydroponic units and monitor them using the Internet of Things - Participated in the SIA x SUTD Upcycling Challenge to inculcate the importance of upcycling as a means to reduce waste among students - Conducted terrarium workshops for elderly residents in Jurong Spring Estate and residents at Ayer Rajah estate - Made recycling more visible and convenient by placing transparent recycling bins at high traffic areas
International	RKG Dav Public School, Guruharsahai	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Developed a harvesting system for rainwater - Campaigned to increase awareness about sustainability (e.g.: making posters) - Implemented sustainable practices (e.g.: recycling electronic waste, switching off unused fans and lights, reusing used paper to make decorative items)
Special Education	APSN Chaoyang School	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Collaborated with Food From the Heart to carry out Clean Plate Campaign to increase awareness of food waste - Maintained Farmer's Hub and harvested edible vegetables to distribute to needy students and community - Taught residents at Ang Mo Kio and Jalan Kayu how to upcycle cards and banners
VANDA MISS JOAQUIM SUSTAINED ACHIEVEMENT AWARD		
Anglo-Chinese School (Primary) APSN Chaoyang School Cherie Hearts @ Charlton CHIJ Our Lady Queen Of Peace Chongfu School		Mee Toh School Nan Chiau Primary School Park View Primary School Ping Yi Secondary School Punggol Primary School

Commonwealth Secondary School	Punggol Secondary School
Compassvale Primary School	Queenstown Secondary School
Compassvale Secondary School	Rulang Primary School
Crest Secondary School	St. Margaret's Secondary School
Damai Primary School	Tampines North Primary School
Dunearn Secondary School	Temasek Primary School
Elias Park Primary School	Westwood Primary School
First Toa Payoh Primary School	Woodgrove Primary School
Greendale Primary School	Woodlands Secondary School
Greenwood Primary School	Xinghua Primary School
Hwa Chong Institution	Xinmin Primary School
Jurong Pioneer Junior College	Yangzheng Primary School
Madrasah Al-Arabiah Al-Islamiah	Yio Chu Kang Secondary School
Marsiling Secondary School	Yumin Primary School

-ENDS-



About Singapore Environment Council

Established in 1995, the Singapore Environment Council (SEC) enables businesses in their sustainability journeys through its globally recognised environmental certification programme under the Global Ecolabelling Network (GEN). In line with the national targets outlined in the SG Green Plan 2030, SEC focuses on raising public awareness on sustainability issues and fosters capability and capacity building through Public Private People (3Ps) partnership. As a not-for-profit, non-governmental organisation (NGO), SEC is approved under the Institution of Public Character (IPC) which extends tax exemption to donors.

For details, please visit <https://www.sec.org.sg>

For media enquiries, please contact:

Singapore Environment Council

Ms Sharmila Hamid

Senior Manager, Marketing Comms, Outreach
and Sustainability

Tel: +65 8282 0272

Email: sharm.hamid@sec.org.sg

Finn Partners

Ms Nurfatim Rahim

Coordinator

Tel: +65 6016 1426

Email: nurfatin.rahim@finnpartners.com