

17 February 2014

**MINISTRY OF EDUCATION NOTIFICATION (GA/04/14)**  
**(General Information)**

**WORLD THINKING DAY 2014 MESSAGE**

Girl Guides Singapore will celebrate World Thinking Day 2014 on Saturday, 22 February 2014. School units will celebrate the event on Friday, 21 February 2014. All Brownies and Girl Guides in schools will wear their Brownie/Guide uniform to school on that day.

*The message from Mrs Joy Balakrishnan, President of the Girl Guides Singapore is attached. For schools with Brownie and Girl Guide units, the message is to be read out at school assemblies on Friday, 21 February 2014. This message is embargoed until after delivery on that day.*

For clarification, please contact:
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Miss Poon Mei Xian
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CCE Officer
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Character & Citizenship Education Branch
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Originator : Student Development Curriculum Division

Distribution : All Primary and Secondary Schools

## **GIRL GUIDES WORLD THINKING DAY 2014**

**22 FEBRUARY 2014**

### **MESSAGE FROM MRS JOY BALAKRISHNAN PRESIDENT, GIRL GUIDES SINGAPORE**

1 Every year on 22<sup>nd</sup> of February, Girl Guides around the world celebrate World Thinking Day. It is a day for us to celebrate international friendship and to learn and act on important issues. Our theme for World Thinking Day this year is “Education opens doors for all girls”.

2 Education improves the lives of people around the world. In Singapore, Education is provided for everyone. However, about 250 million children around the world still do not know how to read, write or count. We should think about how we can use the opportunities to help the less fortunate.

3 Funds you have raised for the World Thinking Day Fund will help to carry out education projects to benefit the communities in which our sister Guides live. Each year since 2010, World Thinking Day features five focus countries, one from each of our five regions. This year, the countries are St Vincent and the Grenadines, Egypt, Bangladesh, Armenia and Benin.

4 At Girl Guides Singapore, our programmes focus on inculcating the 5 “C” skills for the 21<sup>st</sup> Century - Character, Citizenship, Creativity, Communication, and Collaboration. These skills will prepare you to achieve your goals, help others and succeed in future.

5 Siak Ru Jing from Bendemeer Secondary said, “One of the best things about Guiding is being able to learn new things. It is not just about getting the badge but about learning life skills. I had many opportunities to set and achieve goals and to identify and develop my strengths. I am also able to work on meaningful projects with fellow Guides and school mates to help others.”

6 Making a difference in the lives of others is a core value of Girl Guides. How can you put what you have learnt in Guiding to make a difference? You can volunteer as a Jacob Ballas Green Ambassador at the Botanical Gardens. Interact with senior citizens at welfare homes or the Senior Citizen Corners in your neighbourhood and share ICT skills or simple craftwork with them. Gather your fellow Guides and come up with projects within your Division to help the needy in your community. I encourage everyone to put your learning into action and to help serve your community. "Together we can change our world".

7 I would like to thank school leaders, teachers, Guiders, adult leaders, parents and partners who have continuously supported the Girl Guide mission. Together, we shall continue to "enable girls and young women to develop their fullest potential as responsible citizens of the world".

8 I wish everyone a happy World Thinking Day 2014.