

## CAPLE, off to a good start

CAPLE now in its twelfth run (known as The Learning Family Programme in 2008 until 2013) kicked off on June 22 with fourteen students and their respective accompanying parents attending this parent and child course. Now in its fourth session out of twenty, we could see how these children are excited to come on Saturday afternoons.



CAPLE, acronym for 'Child And Parent Learning Experience', is designed to help K1 and K2 students prepare for Primary One education with emphasis on phonics and numeracy concepts. By involving and coaching parents too, this programme aims to promote parental support in their children's studies. By getting parents invested in their children's learning journey from a young age, BCCS hopes to level the playing field for the young ones in partnership with their parents.

A training and briefing session was conducted the Saturday before the programme started which was attended by fourteen volunteers who had signed up to help. They will be divided into two teams and be rostered on alternate weeks. These volunteer teachers will play an important role in making the learning environment fun, inspiring and encouraging for both the children and their parents.



If you enjoy working with kids and can commit 2½ hours once a week for at least ten to twelve weeks, do consider volunteering with BCCS for the CAPLE programme.

For enquiries, please contact:  
Mrs Deborah Pay @ 98267215

SMS | 98514492



[www.bccs.org.sg](http://www.bccs.org.sg)



[bccsgiving@bccs.org.sg](mailto:bccsgiving@bccs.org.sg)



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# Heart 2 Heart

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Your Giving,  
Their Hope

**Bartley**  
Community Care Services

*Touching hearts, building lives.*

## *In the spirit of Ramadan*

Iftar which literally means 'Break fast' is a practice of Muslims at the end of a day of fasting during the Ramadan month (May 5 – June 4, 2019). At sunset, family members gather to break their fast and for prayers. For many of our disadvantaged friends, breaking of fast will probably be just a simple meal like any other day.

On May 29, BCCS chose to bless our beneficiaries in the Ramadan spirit of sharing where ladies involved in our HOPE programmes, youths from our YouthZone programme, a cleaner for HOPE centre and a town council worker were invited for a meal specially catered for their Iftar that day. BCCS staff and some volunteers joined in at HOPE Centre for the 'makan makan', a hearty meal indeed welcomed by ten single moms, and fifteen youths in BCCS' programmes.

After dinner, attendees were presented with Hari Raya cookies in preparation for their Hari Raya Puasa celebration which fell on June 5 this year. The youths and children also had a rare treat of playing with sparklers at the field outside HOPE Centre.

This is an example of BCCS' holistic approach to helping the disadvantaged in our community. Simple acts of showing interest and care for them in what's meaningful to them can make a big difference in their lives. If you have a skill you can teach, do consider volunteering with BCCS in the HOPE programme or YouthZone.

For enquiries, please contact: Mr Kenneth Teo @ 97468002.

## *Practising of self-control and developing empathy for the Poor*

The above was the correct answer to the question "What is the purpose of fasting during Ramadan?" As part of Hari Raya celebration for children in BCCS' Tuition@Bartley programme and their family members, a couple of Hari Raya themed games were played which helped all present to understand better what Ramadan and Hari Raya were about. Young and old were seen enthusiastically participating in the unscrambling of words and quizzes as there were plenty of prizes to be won. Quizzes helped non-Muslims present as well to appreciate the objectives of fasting.

This celebration was held on a Saturday, July 6, after their usual tuition session. After the games, everyone made a beeline for the buffet spread which saw our volunteer tutors and BCCS Council members mingling with our beneficiaries for a good meal.

The celebration did not end with just the makan; there was a performance of a special Malay traditional dance by the youths from YouthZone. Then in their relaxed uninhibited mood, karaoke singing commenced with some of the mothers who love to sing, followed by some young enthusiasts belting out theme songs from popular movies. And of course, the highlight of the day was the lucky draw which got many excited with many going home heavier with their 'loot'.

This event is another way BCCS engages our beneficiaries to show our interest in them and their culture, and to help them strike a balance between work and play. If you too have a heart for teaching children in Maths, English or Science, do come join our many volunteers in our tuition programme.

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