

**Media Release**  
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## **SEVEN TEACHERS AWARDED THE INSPIRING TEACHER OF ENGLISH AWARD 2020**

**27 October 2020** – Seven educators received the Inspiring Teacher of English Award (ITEA) this year – four teachers received the Teaching Award for being exceptional teachers of English Language, Literature in English and/or General Paper, while three Heads of Department (HODs) received the Leadership Award for leading the development and implementation of an effective English programme in their schools. Minister for Education, Mr Lawrence Wong, congratulated the award recipients in a video message.

2. “Teachers are irreplaceable even in this cyber age. They don’t just impart knowledge, but strengthen life skills in students. They nurture them into individuals who can better express their views effectively, listen to differing opinions and debate constructively; and ultimately, be able to forge consensus on the way forward. A language that is as dynamic and expressive as English requires teachers who are passionate about their work, and who go about teaching the language in innovative and effective ways. We see these traits in all our recipients of this year’s Inspiring Teacher of English Award” Mr Wong said.

3. Mr Jason Leow, Chairman of Speak Good English Movement, said, “The Speak Good English Movement is pleased to continue to acknowledge English Language, Literature and General Paper teachers for the roles they play in inspiring a love for English. Language and communication are essentials for analytical thinking. A good grasp of the English language can help our young better understand and navigate the complexities in the world today. We thank the award recipients and nominees, for all the effort in nurturing our curious and creative critical thinkers for the future.”

4. The seven award recipients were selected from 97 teachers who were nominated for their excellence by their students, colleagues and parents of students. Each recipient received a trophy, certificate as well as cash award of \$2,000, and a virtual session was held in celebration of them.

5. For the full list of award recipients and award categories under ITEA, please refer to **Annexes A and B** respectively.



### **About the Inspiring Teacher of English Award**

The Inspiring Teacher of English Award acknowledges educators who have been instrumental in igniting a love for the English language and are effective in helping their students speak and write better. These teachers are passionate about making English interesting and relevant, and are innovative in engaging their students in the language learning process. The Award salutes these teachers for their constant efforts to improve themselves in order that their students and schools can benefit.

Presented by the Speak Good English Movement and The Straits Times, with support from the Ministry of Education, the award has recognised a total of 111 Inspiring Teacher of English awardees (as of 2020) since its inception in 2008.

### **About the Speak Good English Movement**

Launched in 2000, the Speak Good English Movement encourages Singaporeans to speak grammatically correct English that is universally understood, with the help of partners who run interesting programmes and develop learning content for the Movement. For more information, visit [www.goodenglish.org.sg](http://www.goodenglish.org.sg).

### **About the Ministry of Education**

The Ministry of Education (MOE) formulates and implements education policies on education structure, curriculum, pedagogy, and assessment. It oversees the management and development of Government-funded schools, and the Institute of Technical Education, polytechnics and universities. More information on the MOE can be found at [www.moe.gov.sg](http://www.moe.gov.sg).

### **About The Straits Times**

The Straits Times, the English-language flagship daily of Singapore Press Holdings, is the most-read newspaper in Singapore and is followed widely in the region for its comprehensive multimedia coverage of local, regional and world news, provided by its correspondents in 12 bureaus in major cities worldwide. Launched on July 15, 1845, The Straits Times has been moving with the times in its efforts to engage and grow its audience and exploring innovative ways of storytelling, as well as continuously refreshing its products to maintain quality and stay relevant to the changing needs of its readers. Its integrated newsroom operates round-the-clock, providing content as it happens on all platforms, from its website at [www.straitstimes.com](http://www.straitstimes.com), Apple and Android apps to social media.

The Straits Times is a member of two media networks - the Asia News Network and the Impact Journalism Day alliance of newspapers - and it has won multiple international media awards, including from the Society of Publishers in Asia, the World Association of Newspapers and News Publishers, the Pacific Area Newspaper Publishers' Association (Panpa), Society of News Design and WAN-IFRA. Its multimedia newsroom and innovative projects were recognised at the annual regional WAN-IFRA event in Hong Kong in November 2018 when it emerged the biggest winner, sweeping nine Asian Digital Media awards, including two golds for best innovation to engage youth audience, and best lifestyle, sports, entertainment website. The Straits Times won the INMA Global Media Awards in 2020 for campaign tailoring news on COVID-19 for students.

**ANNEX A**

**RECIPIENTS OF THE INSPIRING TEACHER OF ENGLISH AWARD**

**TEACHING AWARD 2020**

<b>PRIMARY</b>	
<b>NAME</b>	<b>SCHOOL</b>
Mr Ignatius Lim Buan Tie	Kheng Cheng School
<b>SECONDARY</b>	
<b>NAME</b>	<b>SCHOOL</b>
Ms Rheverie Chen Ying	Unity Secondary School
<b>JUNIOR COLLEGE</b>	
<b>NAME</b>	<b>SCHOOL</b>
Ms Ong Xin Yi	Anglo-Chinese Junior College
Mr Karthickeyen Govindaraj	St Joseph's Institution

**LEADERSHIP AWARD 2020**

<b>PRIMARY</b>	
<b>NAME</b>	<b>SCHOOL</b>
Mr Andrew Chong Wenyi	Opera Estate Primary School
Mdm Renee Yuanna Sulaiman	Punggol Green Primary School
<b>SECONDARY</b>	
<b>NAME</b>	<b>SCHOOL</b>
Mdm Sujatha Paramathayalan	St Andrew's Secondary School

## Annex B

### AWARD CATEGORIES UNDER THE INSPIRING TEACHER OF ENGLISH AWARD

#### 1. Inspiring Teacher of English – Teaching Award

Started in 2008, this award category recognises English teachers in Singapore schools who have:

- exemplified the use of good spoken and written English;
- promoted learning-focused interaction during English lessons; and
- chosen pedagogies appropriate to learners' readiness, interests and learning profiles.

#### 2. Inspiring Teacher of English – Leadership Award

Introduced in 2014, this award category recognises HODs/ Subject Heads/ Level Heads who have:

- communicated a shared vision for quality teaching and learning that reflects a strong understanding of the organisational culture and the learning needs of staff and students;
- planned an English Language/ Literature in English/ General Paper programme based on the requirements of the relevant national syllabuses to meet the readiness, interests and learning profiles of students of the school;
- effectively implemented the school-based instructional programme (including enrichment and/or remedial programmes); and
- developed the teaching competencies of teachers of English so that they are better able to enact their school-based instructional programmes.