



21st March 2012

MEDIA RELEASE

EMBARGOED TILL AFTER DELIVERY

THE NATIONAL TEAM PADDLERS TO PLAY BIG BROTHERS AND BIG SISTERS TO CHILDREN FROM GRACE ORCHARD SCHOOL FOR A DAY AT UNIVERSAL STUDIOS SINGAPORE

The national table tennis team has made a personal commitment to reach out to the local community every year. In 2010, the national team visited the boys at Muhammadiyah Home and in 2011, the team brought cheer to the elderly at Brighthill Evergreen Home. This year, the paddlers will play big brothers and big sisters to students from Grace Orchard School; each member of the team will spend one to one quality time with the students at Universal Studios Singapore before leaving for the World Team Table Tennis Championships.

The students at the Grace Orchard School have been diagnosed with Mild Intellectual Disability (MID) or Mild Autism Spectrum Disorders (ASD). The school caters specifically to students ranging from 7-18 years old who have Intellectual Quotient (IQ) which falls within the range of 50-70.

Resorts World Sentosa is the proud sponsor of this community outreach programme. "It has always been heartwarming to see the many smiles on the faces of the children who have visited Universal Studios Singapore. Hence, it is with utmost pleasure that we support this initiative of STTA, which falls very well in line with the cornerstone of Resorts World Sentosa's business philosophy, which is to give back to society and it's great to know that our national paddlers are making this commitment as well," said Mr. John Hallenbeck, Vice President, Park Operations, Universal Studios Singapore.

"The national paddlers share a common passion for helping people and reaching out to the local community. We believe that reaching out to communities in which we live and work, volunteering our time and efforts, and our acts of kindness will go a long way to touch the hearts of those in need. Furthermore, we hope that through this outreach programme, our national paddlers will inspire these young students to play the game of table tennis and live better through sports," said Er. Dr. Lee Bee Wah, Member of Parliament for Nee Soon GRC & President of STTA

National paddler Feng Tianwei, added, "I'm really looking forward to meeting these young students and I hope to share my experiences with these students and that they will feel motivated to learn to play table tennis. In addition, my team members and I would like to take this opportunity to spread the Olympic values of respect, friendship, personal excellence, courage, determination, inspiration and equality to the students so that they can then go back to their school and inspire and motivate other young people."