



# Yeu thuong

FFSC Newsletter Quarter I-2025 (January-March 2025)

"Yeu thuong" means "love" in Vietnamese. We often use this word at FFSC wishing that children grow up with abundant love.



## FOREWORD

After the Lunar New Year holiday, the children returned to the Shelter after days of returning home to reunite with their families. The children at the center also continued their second semester program, entering a new phase with excitement.

In the first three months of 2025, the Friends For Street Children Program was honored to welcome many delegations of visitors. Along with studying, the center always creates opportunities for children to participate in useful activities and exchanges with friends at other schools. For children in difficult circumstances, the Program constantly seeks and maintains connections with godparents and benefactors to support scholarships to help them cover their studies. In addition, the center actively visits the children's families to understand their circumstances and have appropriate support plans.

We would like to express our sincere thanks to the organizations, sponsors, godparents and volunteers who have always accompanied FFSC over the years. We hope you will continue to join hands so that we can take care of the children, help them develop comprehensively and be more confident in life.

Program Director

Sr. Nguyen Thi Bich Huyen

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# Let's join hands for children's future

## NEWS

## " SHARING SUNSHINE, SPREADING SMILES "

On the morning of Saturday, January 4th, the students from the Communication and Events team at Ho Chi Minh City University of Technology (HUTECH) held a joyful and engaging event at the Bình Triệu warm Shelter. This volunteer project, titled “Sharing Sunshine, Spreading Smiles”, aims to provide enriching activities while bringing smiles, love, and joy to the children.



In addition to entertaining games, the students shared valuable knowledge about self-protection through real-life situations that the children often face. Furthermore, the students prepared by themselves a simple yet heartfelt lunch, filled with care from everyone involved.

The Friends For Street Children Association sincerely thanks the students for bringing joy and love to the children. We hope that the positive energy from all participants would continue to reach other less fortunate children.



## NEWS

## " HEART CONNECTION "

*On the morning of January 16, the Binh Trieu Development Center (FFSC) was honored to welcome 16 distinguished guests from the Social Contribution Committee - Japan Business Association in Ho Chi Minh City (JCCH), as well as representatives from other businesses, to visit and organize a cultural exchange event titled "CONNECTING HEARTS AND SUPPORTING CHILDREN."*



In this event, the students of Binh Trieu Center had the opportunity to experience the paper airplane folding game and decorate paper fans. Besides interacting and playing with the students, JCCH and the businesses also presented meaningful gifts to them. On this occasion, we would like to sincerely thank the businesses that have donated the following items:

- Keizu Vietnam Co., Ltd.: 25 liters of cooking oil, 360 packs of instant noodles, 20kg of sugar, 240 cartons of milk
- Logitem Vietnam South Service Co. Ltd.: 500 instant noodle packets.
- MYNAVI Vietnam Co., Ltd.: 100 packs of instant noodles, 10kg of sugar.
- Japan Business Association in Ho Chi Minh City (JCCH): 150 bento and juice packages.
- Jupiter Pacific Forwarding JSC Co.: supports the transportation of goods
- Japan Airlines: supports organizing paper airplane folding games and paper fan decorations.



At the program's conclusion, Sister Bich Huyen, speaking on behalf of FFSC, conveyed her deep appreciation and gave a LETTER OF THANKS to the JCCH Social Contribution Committee and business leaders for planning a happy and significant exchange for the center's pupils.

## NEWS

## " FIRST SEMESTER SUMMARIES AND THE SNAKE NEW LUNAR YEAR CELEBRATIONS "

*On January 20th, 22nd and 23rd, 2025, FFSC centers held semester I summaries for the 2024-2025 school year and Spring At Ty (the Snake New Lunar Year) celebrations. Attending the ceremony were Sister Bich Huyen - Head of FFSC, Mr. and Mrs. Frances Phil Maclaurin - who have accompanied and been with FFSC for many years, volunteers, staff, teachers and more than 600 students.*



This 1<sup>st</sup> semester, there were about 100 students with good and excellent academic achievements. Through that, the Program also awarded prizes to encourage the students' learning spirit. The students also presented everyone with very special and joyful spring-themed performances. In that jubilant atmosphere, the Head Sister as well as the center's management sisters sent their New Year wishes to the teachers, guests and students. Speaking at the ceremony, Mr. and Mrs. Frances Phil expressed their sincere thanks to the Sisters and teachers who have taught the children, and what is even more special is that they have had the opportunity to accompany the Program over the past many years. In addition, they also told the students to try harder in the new year and celebrate Tet with their families happily.



At the end of the ceremony, the children received Tet lucky money envelopes from the grandparents and the center also gave them small gifts.

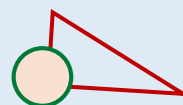
## NEWS

## "LINKING – SHARING – LOVING"

*During the last two weekend days (March 8–9), the kids at Binh Trieu Shelter (FFSC) had the chance to network and engage with Le Qui Don High School, class 11A9 students as well as US students.*



All language, culture, or geography barriers seemed to vanish in a cosy and full of friendly environment, making way for joyful smiles and eyes. Everyone immediately threw themselves into the group activities, where applause and support echoed incessantly, boosting spirits and fostering relationships.



The children at the shelter were able to not only experience everyone's love and care through the exchange, but also helped them grow more self-assured, receptive, and appreciative of the emotions they were given. Simultaneously, students and college students had the chance to hear, learn, and comprehend the importance of sharing value. The warm embraces, heartfelt laughter, and loving eyes said it all.



There are undoubtedly lovely and significant memories in everyone's heart even though the event is over. This is a time to connect, share, and spread love despite all linguistic and cultural barriers, in addition to having fun.



## NEWS

**"AEM VISITS FFSC: LONG-TERM CONNECTION"**

On March 10 and 11, Mr. Jean Luc Maltaverne – Chairman and Mr. Bernard Waucheul representing Les Amis Des Enfants Du Monde (AEM) – France, made a meaningful visit to the two centers, Binh An and Binh Trieu (FFSC), leaving many memorable memories.



The visit began with a visit to classrooms at both centers, meeting teachers to better understand the teaching situation and the difficulties that teachers are facing.



A notable highlight of this trip was the delegation visiting some families of students who received scholarships from the organization. This was an opportunity to share, listen and understand the difficulties that families are going through. At the same time, the organization felt the determination and efforts of the students in their journey to overcome adversity to conquer knowledge.



Not only that, the delegation also spent time working with the FFSC office. Here, the members exchanged on financial issues and current difficulties, ongoing activities as well as discussed together on future development plans.

The visit ended in a warm and grateful atmosphere. The FFSC Director expressed her sincere thanks to the AEM organization for its great and meaningful contributions. At the same time, FFSC also expressed hope for long-term cooperation, together bringing good values to the community. This is not just a visit, but also a beautiful story about friendship, sharing spirit, and solidarity.

## NEWS

## "AWARDING SCHOLARSHIPS TO STUDENTS"

*On March 30, FFSC collaborated with the "Breaking Barriers" scholarship fund to organize a fun-filled picnic for 45 students from disadvantaged backgrounds at Thuy Chau eco-tourism area (Binh Duong).*

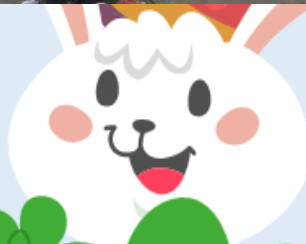


The program started with a series of super cool physical games such as juggling a ball while wearing pants, blindfolded pouring water into a bottle, bubble train, swimming across the stream to capture the flag... The atmosphere was so exciting that not only the competing teams "screamed their lungs out" but also the tourists enthusiastically cheered!



In the afternoon, guest Huynh Minh Chi shared useful information about the topic "Restructuring cognition". Within the framework of the sharing, the students not only learned how to identify problems but also knew how to "turn the tables" to look at things from a new and more positive perspective.

At the end of the program, FFSC, on behalf of the organization "Association Leon", awarded scholarships for the second semester, school year 2024-2025 to 22 students. Those who achieved excellent results in the past semester were also given super cute gifts.



## NEWS

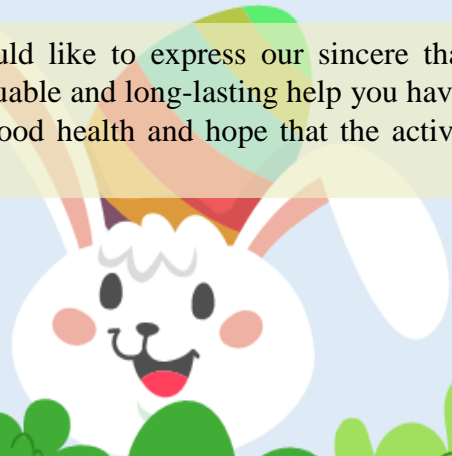
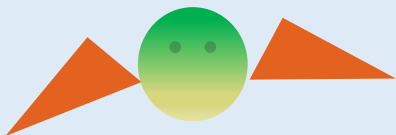
## " AWARDING SCHOLARSHIPS TO STUDENTS " (continued)

Emotions surged when the program ended. Final year students, such as Truong Quang Dinh - a final year student at Van Hien University - could not hide their emotions and shared: "I am grateful to the sponsor Leon, grateful to FFSC for giving me the opportunity to study and develop myself. And, of course, I am grateful to my mother - who learned about and encouraged me to come to FFSC. I hope that when you encounter difficulties, you will be brave enough to face and talk to your parents, because there are always people around you who are ready to help".

Even though you have to leave the roof of FFSC, I hope that you will always carry with you the memorable memories and the love from here as provisions for the future.



The Friends of Street Children Program (FFSC) would like to express our sincere thanks to "Association Leon" and "Breaking Barriers" for the valuable and long-lasting help you have given to students in difficult circumstances. We wish you good health and hope that the activities of your association will continue to develop.



## HEALTH

## "DNOW DENTAL EXAMINATION"

*On the morning of February 21, 2025, a group of dentists from the Dentist Network from Okayama to the World (DNOw) - Japan came to Binh Trieu Development Center to examine children's teeth.*

*First of all, the dentists spent 45 minutes training children on the knowledge and skills needed to protect their teeth. Through storytelling and illustrations, the dentists explained the causes of tooth decay to the children and how to properly protect their teeth.*



In the morning and afternoon of the same day, the dentists examined and treated a total of 180 children. The examination and treatment process was carried out in a very careful manner, including the following steps: creating information forms for children, general oral examination, taking photos of the entire jaw, cleaning teeth with fluoride, and finally treating cases of tooth decay.

With the dedication and care of the dentists, the children overcame their anxiety and fear and felt comfortable and satisfied before leaving the treatment counter. After the dental examination, each student also received lovely small gifts from the dentists.



On this occasion, FFSC would like to express our deep gratitude to all the dentists, assistants and volunteers who have wholeheartedly supported and accompanied FFSC in the activities of taking care of children's health, and at the same time wish DNOw's activities to grow and achieve much success.

**SHORT NEWS - VISITORS**

***On February 16, 2025***, Uncle Daren's family had a warm and meaningful meeting with the children at the Shelter. Even happier, everyone gathered together for an intimate dinner, sharing moments filled with love. The meeting not only brought joy but also a memorable memory for everyone.



***On the morning of February 28, 2025, Mr. Mizushima represented the Asunaro-kai organization to visit the Binh Trieu Development Center (FFSC).*** During this visit, Mr. Mizushima, on behalf of Asunaro-kai, donated 6 boxes of Campus notebooks (720 books) to the children. In addition, he also represented KINSEI Vietnam Co., Ltd to donate 4 boxes of printed paper to the *FFSC office*.



The joy of the center was doubled when Uncle Paul and Uncle Tung visited. Every time he had the opportunity to return to Vietnam, Uncle Paul arranged time to visit, play and chat with the children.

The Friends of Street Children (FFSC) program is grateful and appreciates the affection that the two Uncles have given to the children here. Wishing the two Uncles and their family always full of happiness, peace and success.



***On the morning of March 28, 2025, the Red Cross Association of Tang Nhon Phu A ward visited and presented 250 boxes of porridge and bread to children studying at Binh Trieu center.***