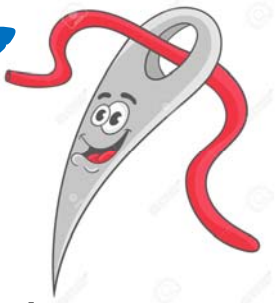
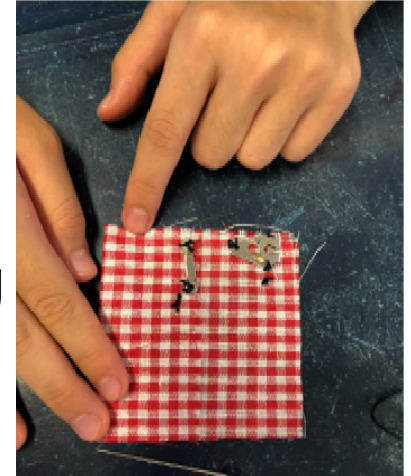




P5 Life Skills 16 May 2018



“We should use a double thread”, said one mum who had volunteered the year before. “Some girls cannot put the thread through the eye of the needle”, she explained. Such words of wisdom from fellow volunteer mums! Having gone through ten years of IJ education, and with my two daughters, one in P6 and another in P5, I felt compelled to give back to the school, albeit in a very small way, by volunteering on Life Skills Day, teaching the girls some basic sewing skills.



In my group of four, one girl struggled to understand the instructions and could not thread the needle; another girl was faster but still needed some help while the other two were racing ahead and were already making pouches. For a moment, I had a glimpse into how it must be for our teachers, having to teach 30 over students, each with varying abilities and learning styles.





I recalled my then principal, Sr Anne's words, "We must be a school for all", which resonated with my experience that morning. Leaving the classroom, while chatting with another parent volunteer, I apologised for not being able to spend more time with her daughter who was in my group. She very graciously reassured me, "That's life, she (her daughter) has to learn to wait her turn". I felt very heartened to meet likeminded parents at IJ and understood the wisdom of Sr Anne as well as our current principal, Mrs Tan in the conscious decision to be an inclusive school.

And that's how our world and society should be - one that is caring toward those who are lagging behind - the poor and the needy.

