

## \$13K RAISED FOR SICK KIDS

TEDDY bears have helped raised \$13,000 for sick children through book and toy sales.

Ms Emily Lim's illustrated children's story book, *Prince Bear And Pauper Bear*, is about a poorly stitched mute bear who is discriminated against by his peers.

"I hoped that the story would inspire children with disabilities to embrace life and handle problems with optimism and strength," said Ms Lim, 36.

The author donated 100 copies of her book to Club Rainbow last month, while C.K. Tang, together with TY Asia, donated 100 teddy bears for sale with the book.

"I picked Club Rainbow as it is a small and well-established charity which provides support to children with chronic illnesses," said Ms Lim.

The book and bear sets sold out within a month, with all the money going to Club Rainbow. The organisation is a registered charity that provides counselling and free tuition for children suffering from a range of chronic and life-threatening illnesses.

The story book was inspired by Ms Lim's own experience with spasmodic dysphonia, a condition which affects the throat muscles, causing her voice to sound broken and strained.

With motivation from her friends

and family, she overcame depression and is now able to speak.

"As I've discovered this Christmas, a small act of charity can have a great multiplier effect. That is perhaps the true meaning of Christmas," said Ms Lim.

## ART: FOOD FOR THE SOUL

THE Tan Chin Tuan Foundation organised a tour for 60 beneficiaries of the As-Salaam PPIS family support centre to view Greek art pieces at the National Museum of Singapore.

The rationale: "To encourage the less fortunate to pursue art, as well as to allow them to appreciate the beauty and culture of the art pieces", said Ms Yap Su-yin, programme director of the foundation.

Children and their parents from single-parent families counselled by the family support centre got to admire the Greek art exhibits, shipped here from the Louvre museum in France. The event took place on Thursday.

Stories from Greek mythology were also performed by speech and drama teachers from Graces Speech and Drama Studio, who volunteered for the event.

The foundation donated \$150,000 to help bring in the exhibition, which will run from next month to March.

It will also organise free tours and excursions for its other beneficiaries.

## Charity listings

### » THE BIG DRAW

Cartoonist Peter Draw will embark on a 24-hour marathon effort to draw the caricature of anyone who approaches him. Donations will go to Habitat for Humanity Singapore.

**Where:** McDonald's @ East Coast Park

**When:** The marathon starts at 7pm today

### » GIFT OF LIFE

Blood drives are taking place across the island.

**Where:** The donation drives will be held today at Singapore Expo Hall 6B, Paya Lebar Kovan Community Club and the Singapore Swimming Club.

They will be held tomorrow at the Braddell Heights Zone D Residents' Committee, the Church of Our Lady of Lourdes and the Ksitigarba Compassion Lodge.