Safety and style with *Nippon VirusGuard* > Paint and protect your home and loved ones

**Nippon** Paint Malaysia recently unveiled Nippon VirusGuard, the first-of-its-kind anti-viral and anti-bacterial functional coating. The revolutionary water-based hygiene paint was developed with silver ion technology to prevent growth of virus and bacteria on walls.

In an independent marketing research consultancy survey, results showed that 88% of mothers tend to overlook walls as a medium of viral and bacterial growth, while 86% said they rarely clean or disinfect the walls.

"As young children play, crawl, or walk, they tend to touch the wall. We tend to overlook the wall as a medium that can host and transmit dangerous viruses and bacteria, which can lead to illnesses such as H1N1, Hand, Foot & Mouth disease (HFMD) and HIV," said Nippon Paint Malaysia Group managing director Yaw Seng Heng at the official product launch. The launch of Nippon VirusGuard was held in R.E.A.L. Kids Centre in Bukit Jelutong, which received a cost of the paint on its walls.

University of Malaya (Faculty of Medicine) Department of Medical Microbiology associate professor Dr Chan Yok Fun, who was present at the event, also stressed that HFMD is a common illness in Malaysia, caused by viruses such as Coxsackie virus A9 (CV-A9) and Enterovirus 71 (EV71). A total of 15,447 cases were reported in the first four months this year.

"Common places that can transmit the viruses include areas where children normally converge, including play areas, nurseries, day-care centres, kindergartens and even at home. More worrying is the fact that HFMD is highly contagious so it can easily be transferred via close contact," Chan added.

"While there is no effective anti-viral drug or vaccine available to treat HFMD, parents and guardians should take preventive measures to curb its spread," Yaw believes that Nippon VirusGuard is the "sustainable solution that families can trust to provide better protection against harmful micro-organisms, while aesthetically enhancing their surroundings."

Moreover, silver is one of the world’s oldest anti-microbials, which resists growth of micro-organisms like viruses, bacteria, mould and fungus. The "Silver Ion Technology" in Nippon VirusGuard uses a three-step approach. It destroys the functions of viruses and bacteria, which in turn prevents production and growth of the microorganisms. Eventually, the metabolism of the virus and bacteria slows down, causing it to slowly perish.

Initial tests done by the independent and US-accredited ATS Labs showed a 99.9% reduction of HFMD and H1N1 influenza viruses over a 24-hour exposure to Nippon VirusGuard paint compared to conventional paint. Nippon VirusGuard paint is available in a wide range of colours through its 1,400 dealers nationwide.

For more information, visit the Nippon Paint official website.

**Say ‘YES’ to success**

**YESSIZ** is an experiential, holistic training programs created for youth who are looking to become better students and for parents facing the stressful challenge of bringing out the best in their children.

The man behind the programme, Benjamin Jeremiah Ong, is on a mission to motivate and train youth to start taking ownership and excel in school and their lives from a young age.

Ong comes from the highly competitive society of Singapore. Unlike many of his peers, he was born with a silver spoon. In fact, he constantly struggled with finances and was brought into this world with a slow-learning disability. Moreover, his acquaintance with the wrong crowd caused his parents even more concern.

However, Ong’s life took a turn for the better when he was forced to attend a workshop by his school. That experience saw him beginning to take action and initiatives to achieve the goals he set for himself. He realized that it was important to have a role model to look up to and learn from.

Ong also started using accelerated learning skills, reading self-help books and joining workshops to gain more experience and skill sets. Since then, his grades and character have improved.

From an underachiever to a well-known personal trainer, the YESSIZ programme has given Ong the chance to travel to countries throughout Asia, giving him the challenge to train over 20,000 youths to ignite their passions in life and achieve better results in their studies.

Over the years, Ong’s unique sense of humor, combined with his training methodologies and experiences, has quickly found acceptance and success with parents and youths all over Asia. The go-getter feels that there are no students who are too small to be taught.

"It is common for students not to know what they want to do with their lives," he says. However, after experiencing YESSIZ, many students shared that they have found greater success in their relationships at home, in school and even in life.

For parents looking for ways to ignite the passion in their children or youth searching to become successful in their lives, check out the YESSIZ workshops happening on Aug 29 and 30 at Hotel Jen Penang, George Town. For more information, visit Livesmartonline.