

# Thrive at E-Smart

November 2017

## From the Headmaster's Desk

"Entitlement isn't really a disease, but it has hit epidemic levels in our society. And it's certainly not only rich kids who are afflicted. The entitlement problem spans classes and cultures. It's also not only about stuff. Entitled kids believe the world revolves around them. They expect things to be done for them, a path to happiness cleared and smoothed, without putting in much effort themselves. They feel that something is wrong if they're not happy. At any given minute they should be having the time of their lives because after all, you only live once."

- Amy McCready, *"The Me, Me, Me Epidemic"*

Dear parents,

Two good friends of mine have recently witnessed the birth of their first grandchild, and they said it was both an exhilarating and miraculous experience. Their son is about 26, and has been living in their home with his girlfriend since graduating from a British university four years ago. As the girl got pregnant, they decided to get married, and a wedding banquet has been scheduled for next year together with the 100-day celebration of the newborn baby. Who is footing the bill? Of course it is the proud grandfather.

In fact, such arrangements have become the norm rather than the exception. Young adults are often seen accompanied by mid-aged parents when purchasing new flats, for without the parents' financial support, they will not have been able to come up with the huge sum of down payment. Surprisingly, parenting has now become a life-long financial commitment not only for rich parents because according to a recent research by the HSBC, about 50% of the respondents have to provide for their adult children aged 18 or above, and intriguingly, almost 30% of them are still supporting their adult sons and daughters who are older than 30!

Education, as expected, is the number one concern among these loving parents. Faced with the choice of retirement savings or their children's education, two-thirds of them will opt for the latter. A friend of mine has recently sold his flat to pay for his niece's university education in the United States. Another good friend is paying one million a year, which is almost his yearly income, to support his two children's education expenses in two top American schools.

Besides education, these wonderful parents also pay for their adult children's electricity bills and other household expenses (47%), medical and dental fees (30%) and even overseas travel (18%). Enlightened by the research, I now understand why my son Jonathan complained about not having enough allowance to do weekend trips when he was in Cincinnati as an exchange student. As his room and board had all been paid for, I gave him enough money for his daily expenses but told him he had to work for his own weekend trips, which for his friends were all fully funded by their parents.

So, am I a bad parent who has failed to provide the best for my sons? If our ultimate aim is to raise independent children who can stand on their own feet when they reach adulthood,

I would agree with Amy McCready that my sons are entitled to my unconditional love, not unlimited financial support. Indeed, largely because of his work experience during college years, my son got hired by an international company as a manager candidate almost immediately after graduation. In my view, he should be happier than my friend's son who has just become a young father. Failing to get into the banking industry he had desired, he spent the first year lazing at home until my friend got him a job through some business connections. Though successful at work, he quit after two years as he couldn't stand the company politics. After idling at home for more than a year, he finally resumed working a month ago.

I assume your children are still young, and so you are faced with two choices. The first is to strive to become ultra-rich so as to provide the best education for your child, buy her a flat and leave a huge estate so that you may even provide for your grandchildren after you are gone. If this is a remote possibility, it may be wise to rid the sense of entitlement of your children by giving them the due care and attention while maintaining positive discipline thereby they learn to delay gratification and work hard for their goals rather than relying on you to clear every path for them.

Yours sincerely,



Clive Chan

## Stars of the Month

GRS Tues 6:30-7:30	Cheng Hiu Ching, Jaime
GWF2B Tues 4:30-5:30	Cheung Tsz Wai, Jessica
GWF2B Sat 10:00-11:00	Lee Cheuk Wing, Sireen
GWF2A Thur 5:30-6:30	Yan Davin
GWF4B Sat 4:00-5:00	Lam Yik Ting, Tina
GWF4A Sat 9:00-10:00	Ko Tin Chi, Ryan
GWF4A Sat 3:00-4:00	Law Chun Kiu, Terrence
GWF6B Thur 4:30-5:30	Lam Zoe
GWF9B Sat 2:00-3:00	Cheung Ka Ching, Loraine
GWF9A Sat 5:00-6:00	Lee Chi Long, Thomas
IEKKA Sat 12:00-1:00	Fan Sum Yuet, Selena
IEK2B Sat 11:00-12:00	Wong Sing
IEK2A Sat 9:00-10:00	Ko Tin Hay, Ryana
IEK4B Sat 10:00-11:00	Chan Yan Yin, Cherry
IEK4A Fri 5:30-6:30	Lo Wai Lok, Louis
IEK4A Sat 1:00-2:00	Lam Kin Sing, Carson
IEK6B Sat 9:00-10:00	Kwok Tsz Yau, Karly
IEK6A Sat 12:00-1:00	Wong King Yeung, Bismarck
IEK8B Sat 12:00-1:00	Lee Wing Yan, Vicky
PTWR Wed 5:30-6:30	Choi Ho Chung, Ethan
PTWP1 Wed 5:30-6:30	Chau Ching Tung, Dora
PTWP3 Sat 11:00-12:00	Chan Yat Yin, Jayden
PTWE1 Sat 10:00-11:00	Liu Tung Tung, Raina
PTW4 Sat 9:00-10:00	Tam Lai Wa, Kerry
WTE1 Wed 4:30-5:30	Hui Cheuk Lam, Elva
WTE1 Sat 11:00-12:00	Wong Hei Chit, Hazel
WTE2B Tues 5:30-6:30	Chiu Yuet Kiu, Cheryl
WTE2B Wed 4:30-5:30	Sit Hoh Yau, Katherine
WTE4B Tues 4:30-5:30	Pang Tsz Yan, Angelica
WTE4B Sat 3:00-4:00	Chan Clementine
WTE4A Tues 4:30-5:30	Lee Pak Kiu, Ryan
WTE6A Tues 5:30-6:30	Yuen Siu Nam, Alfred



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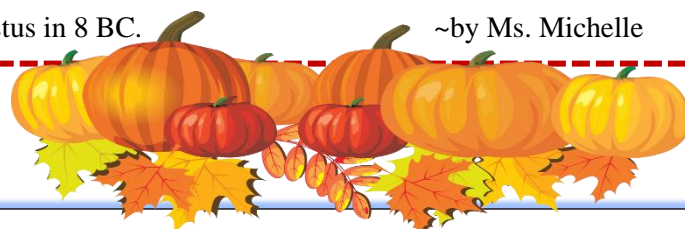
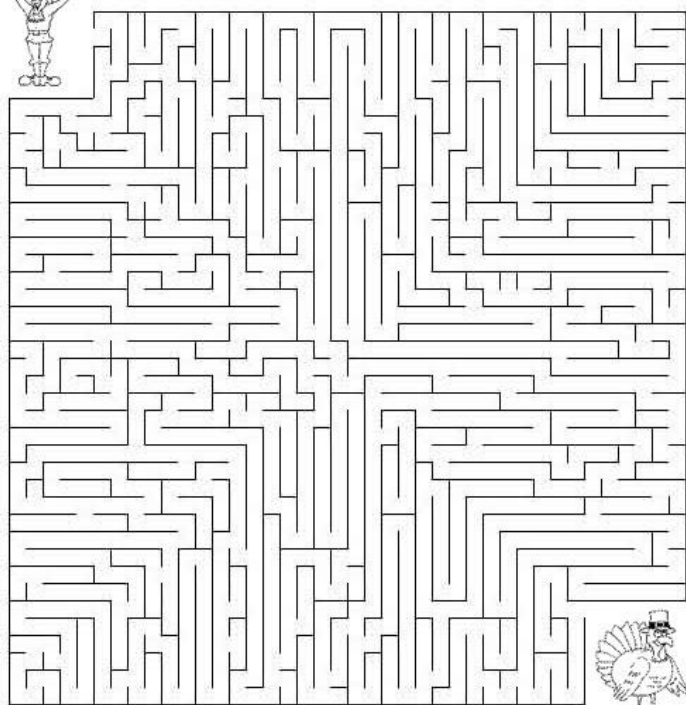


# Students' Page

November is the eleventh month of the calendar. However, it wasn't always the case. The name 'November' came from 'novem' which is nine in Latin. November was in fact the ninth month in the ancient Roman calendar. The original Roman calendar started the year in March and consisted of 10 months. The winter season was not assigned to any month, so the calendar year only lasted 304 days with 61 days unaccounted for in the winter. The Roman calendar didn't work for long because it didn't align with the seasons. Later on, King Numa Pompilius reformed the calendar around 700 BC by adding the months of January and February to the original 10 months. The addition of January and February meant that some of the months' names no longer agreed with their position in the calendar (September - December). Also, the month Quintilis was renamed July in honor of Julius Caesar in 44 BC and Sextilis was renamed August in honor of Augustus in 8 BC.

~by Ms. Michelle

## Help the Pilgrim Find the Turkey



## Pizza House

In the afternoon, Mr. Brown is hungry. He phones Pizza House to order a pizza.

*(He is talking on the phone.)*

Pizza House's workman: Hi! This is Pizza House.

Mr. Brown: Hello! I want to order a pizza.

*(Mr. Brown's tummy grumbles.)*

Mr. Brown: I want a larger pizza with ketchup.

Pizza Man: But, but we don't sell...

*(Mr. Brown keeps on talking.)*

Mr. Brown: I want some pineapple, veggies, tomatoes and cheese, please!

Pizza Man: Umm, I cannot make it for you. Sorry, we just... Sorry, we just...

*(Mr. Brown is angry and shouts.)*

Mr. Brown *(angrily)*: You don't sell it! Why? Don't you sell pizza?

Pizza Man: Sorry, we just sell pizza looking paper houses, not pizza!

Mr. Brown: What an idiot! Sorry!

*(Mr. Brown hangs up the phone.)*

by Laetitia Yung

Write to Enjoy 4A

E	A	X	W	A	L	R	S	T	S	T	
T	K	W	Q	U	E	E	F	G	C	N	Y
F	B	O	O	T	S	F	A	E	I	D	L
H	A	E	A	R	C	I	L	S	K	A	I
M	F	E	O	E	A	P	L	S	C	S	E
A	W	H	H	E	P	U	M	P	K	I	N
S	I	H	K	A	R	B	E	T	P	R	D
E	A	A	N	E	Y	N	M	R	O	A	C
O	R	J	X	K	V	S	N	C	G	R	Q
H	L	E	A	F	S	C	A	R	F	I	O



SCARF	APPLE	BOOTS
TREE	FALL	RAKE
ACORN	PUMPKIN	PIE
HAY	SWEATER	LEAF

## Congratulations to the Writers of the Month:

\*Laetitia Yung 4A\* Kingston Chan 2B  
Ho Jing Fan 6A Colin Chak 6A