

From the Headmaster's Desk

Prejudice *noun*

- 1 Harm or injury to a person or thing that may result from a judgement of action.
- 2 A prior judgement esp. a judgment formed hastily or before due consideration.
- 3 Preconceived opinion not based on actual experience; bias, partiality.
- 4 A preliminary or anticipatory judgement; a preconceived idea of what will happen.

~ 'Shorter Oxford English Dictionary'

Dear parents,

We may not be willing to admit it, but most of us hold some sorts of prejudice. Prejudice comes from the word 'prejudge', which means we have some pre-conceived ideas (that may not be based on facts) about an issue, a person, a group of people, a country, or even an entire race.

More often than not, prejudice stems from our fear, ignorance, an unpleasant experience, or fragmented understanding. Whatever the cause, our prejudice is usually not grounded on objective reasoning but feelings, which we are more than keen to deny by presenting some 'facts' to justify our bias.

A fairly common preconception is that Muslims are religious fanatics who hold extremist views and may turn to violence for a senseless religious cause. Such a view probably originates from what we have read or heard about some terrorists of the already disintegrated ISIS, who in my view, stray from the original teachings of Islam that endorses peace and good deeds like love and absolute honesty for one's deliverance on the day of judgement and resurrection.

However, the above prejudice has a stranglehold on some people's minds, which has caused catastrophic consequences on some Muslim countries. One such country is Iran which I was delighted to visit early last month. Understandably, my family and friends were alarmed when I told them about my travel plans; some urged me to reconsider while some advised me to take out the most comprehensive travel insurance plan.

Their advice, though well-intended, was unwarranted. Iran, as it has turned out, is one of the safest countries I have ever visited. As opposed to the ubiquitous number of pickpockets or even robbers in European countries like Italy and France, none of the 29 members of our tour group has experienced any thefts during our 10-day trip. Iranian people are generally well-mannered and friendly, smiling and welcoming us in touristic sites. Many of us were thrilled to have become near 'celebrities' for wherever we went, we were surrounded by people who were keen to chat and take pictures with us. I was particularly astounded when two parents allowed me to hold their babies of 3 and 9 months in my arms. I doubt it very much if any of us who have young babies will entrust our babies to strangers in Hong Kong.

Aside from its friendly people and beautiful landscape, Iran has a rich history and culture. The first Persian Empire (the present-day Iran) established by Cyrus the

Great more than 2500 years ago had more than half of the world's territory and population. More importantly, Cyrus the Great appreciated the varied customs and religions of the lands he conquered. As a Christian, I was most impressed with his permitting the Jews who were taken captive by the Babylonians to go back and build the temple and fortress in Jerusalem. Such endorsement of diversity is a sign of true greatness, which is lacking among many of our political leaders these days.

Aside from being overwhelmed by the Persian history, as a literature freak, I have fallen in love with some mystical and love poems written by renowned Iranian poets like Hafiz and Baba Tahir. Their poems, written at turbulent times, exemplify love and hope of human beings, which may partly explain why the Iranians can still smile when their country is experiencing unjustified economic sanctions and hyperinflation.

Seeing is believing. I have discarded some of my prejudices after the unforgettable trip. May I encourage you to examine your prejudices and seek the truth through independent investigation and genuine dialogue with people in the know?

Yours sincerely,



Clive Chan

Stars of the Month

1on2 Movers Tue 6:30-7:30

GWFF2B Sat 10:00-11:00

GWFF4A Sat 3:00-4:00

GWFF4A Sat 9:00-10:00

GWFF4A Sat 9:00-10:00

GWFF9B Sat 2:00-3:00

IEK2A Fri 6:30-7:30

IEK2A Sat 9:00-10:00

IEK4A Sat 1:00-2:00

IEK4B Sat 10:00-11:00

IEK6A Sat 12:00-1:00

IEK6B Sat 9:00-10:00

IEK6B Tues 6:30-7:30

IEK8B Sat 12:00-1:00

IEKKA Fri 3:30-4:30

IEKKB Thur 9:30-10:30

IEKKB Tues 5:30-6:30

PTWE1 Sat 11:00-12:00

PTWP1 Tues 2:30-3:30

PTWP2 Wed 5:30-6:30

PTWP3 Fri 5:30-6:30

STLA Fri 3:30-4:30

WTE1 Sat 11:00-12:00

WTE2A Sat 11:00-12:00

WTE2B Sat 11:00-12:00

WTE2B Sat 4:00-5:00

WTE2B Tues 5:30-6:30

WTE4A Fri 4:30-5:30

WTE4A Sat 10:00-11:00

WTE4A Sat 4:00-5:00

WTE6A Fri 6:30-7:30

WTE6B Mon 5:30-6:30

WTE6B Sat 12:00-1:00

WTE6B Thur 5:30-6:30

WTE8A Sat 4:00-5:00

Lau David Cheuk Wai 劉卓瑋

Lee Cheuk Wing, Sireen 李卓穎

Tsang Cheong Fun, Tony 曾暢歡

Chan Sze In 陳思弦

Chan Sze In 陳思弦

Cheung Ka Ching, Loraine 張嘉晴

Kwok Sze Nam, Angus 郭思歡

Kwok Tsz Lok, Jerry 郭子樂

Leung Lok Hei, Ryan

Ning Ka Hei, Brian 寧家希

Chan Angus 陳敬彥

Kwong Wang Yip, Anson 鄺宏業

Tsoi Ka Ying, Angel 蔡嘉盈

Lee Wing Yan, Vicky 李穎恩

Li Wan Yat, Cavan 李雲逸

Chen Sum Yuet, Ophelia 陳心悅

Chan Beric 陳俊熙

Chan Yat Yin, Jayden 陳逸彥

Yu Yin Hei, Heiley 俞弦希

Yeung Sum Ying, Chloe 楊芯瑩

Lau Siu Hei, Matthew 劉肇沛

Tse Hong Ching, Kris 謝翰理

Yip Ho Yin, Andrew 葉浩然

Chung Pui Ying, Toby 鍾霽盈

Tsang Hei Tung, Abby

Ning Ka Chun, Anson 寧家駿

Wu Cheuk Yin, Matthew 胡焯然

Cheuk Nam, Matthew 卓楠

Chan Yuet Sum, Jolly 陳悅心

Chow Ho Ki, Hovan 周皓祈

Cheung Donna Kuen Tone 張鈞童

Ngan Pak Hei, Parky 顏柏熙

Yeung Cho Hung, Melody 楊礎鴻

Lee Yee Bing, Icy 利懿冰

Chau Tsz Lam, Ivan 周子霖

STUDENTS' PAGE

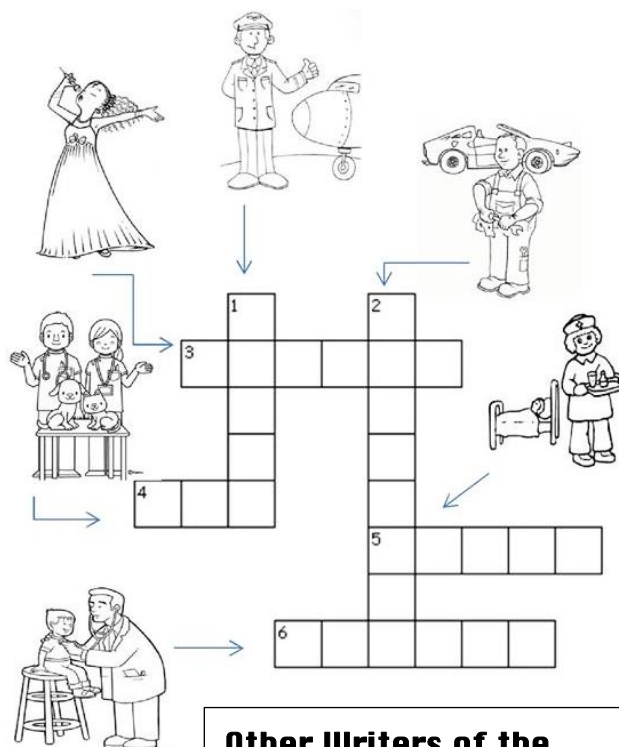


May 2018

May 1st is Labour Day in many countries around the world, including China. So, here in Hong Kong, we can enjoy this holiday. What is Labour Day? It isn't a day to "labour", which means to work—instead, it is a day of rest. Many years ago, many workers tried to get a day of rest, like Sunday when we rest to remember Jesus's resurrection. Thanks to those workers, we now have Labour Day. One day, when you have a job, like your mom and dad do, I hope you will enjoy having this day to relax. —Mr. Boa

Work Word Search - Find the different kinds of workers.

Work Crossword Puzzle - What do we call the people below?



ACCOUNTANT
MUSICIAN
POLICE OFFICER

ENGINEER
FIREFIGHTER
LIBRARIAN

PROGRAMMER
REPORTER
VET

PROFESSOR
MECHANIC
DESIGNER

WRITER OF THE MONTH

Dogs Are Better Pets Than Cats

A lot of people in the world have rabbits, dogs and cats as pets. But usually, a lot of people can't choose to have a dog or a cat as pets. They can't buy both because they think cats and dogs will not be friends and they will fight at home.

But I prefer people to buy dogs because dogs are cute, lovely and friendly. People have even said that dogs are humans' best friends as they are loyal and playful. When you are sad, they will come to you and lick you in the face or play with you just to make you happy. When it is the time you take them for a walk, they will be very happy and it is also a time for you to have fun and relax while you are playing with your dog at the park.

So, why don't you think dogs are better than cats? — Janice Lo (WTE-6A)

Other Writers of the

Month – Cassie Kwok (WTE-6A),
Clementine Chan (WTE-4B),
Chan Lik In (WTE-1)