Thrive at E-Smart

September 2018

From the Headmaster's Desk

Never forget why you started, and your mission can be completed.

- Xi Jin Ping at the 19th National Congress of the Communist Party

Dear parents,

Did you know E-Smart Learning Centre is entering its twentieth year this month? We were officially open with a thanksgiving service attended by family and friends on September 25, 1999, and we first ran our classes with an enrolment of 80 students on October 2.

Time has surely passed us by; both my sons who were 6 and 4 then are now grown and pursuing their careers. There were only 3 learning centres in this shopping mall, but there are now over 30 of them!

Thank you for entrusting your child's English learning with us. I believe most of you believe English is an international language that your children must master in order to succeed in their studies and careers, but it is really not the primary goal of my founding E-Smart Learning Centre.

Twenty years ago, I was an associate director of a New York listed international real estate company, and my clients included institutions and private investors who were easily the richest one percent of the population. It was a high profile and financially rewarding career, but 7 years at the job after finishing my MBA with a full scholarship at the top management school in Australia, I gradually lost the zeal in concluding deals. At that same time, I began teaching part-time at a university and found it much more fulfilling than my full-time job.

While teaching those university students, I came to realize a lot of the young people in Hong Kong had fairly limited worldviews. Their rudimentary English stopped them from getting continued exposure to the English media, let alone reading more sophisticated international news articles and commentaries.

"The good teacher explains but the great teacher inspires." In addition to teaching my students speaking and presentation skills for success in their careers, it had always been my desire to impart values and develop their critical thinking. Acquiring good English is just the first step to unlocking the world of knowledge, which would definitely help these young people to lead a successful life in the end.

With the same intent and indeed to the shock of my bosses and colleagues who thought I was out of my mind, I quit my job and founded E-Smart, not to help students to do well in school but to equip them with the necessary skills to better understand the world and become an independent thinker. Lest you get me wrong, though, many of my students have done well in public exams and have got into the universities and careers they desire. More importantly, many have become wise and independent thinkers of whom I am very proud.

Let me remind you: the success of my top students has never be attained by rote learning. So, instead of forcing your kid to do repetitive exercises, read the same book or news article with them and encourage them to think and write out their thoughts. Train a thinker, not a robot, and your child will become truly smart!

Yours sincerely,

Umint

Clive Chan

您知道 E-Smart 學習中心本月進入第二十年嗎? 感謝您委託 您孩子的英語學習。我相信大多數人認為英語是一種國際語 言,您的孩子必須掌握這種語言才能在學業和事業上取得成 功,但這並不是我創立的 E-Smart 學習中心的主要目標。

二十年前,我是一家紐約上市的國際房地產公司的副總監, 與此同時,我開始在大學兼職教學,發現它比我的全職工作 更有成就感。除了教導我的學生說話和演講技巧以便在他們 的職業生涯中取得成功之外,我一直希望傳授價值觀並培養 他們的批判性思維。

讓我提醒你:我的優秀學生的成功永遠不會通過死記硬背來 實現。所以,不要強迫你的孩子做重複練習,而是與他們一 起閱讀同一本書或新聞文章,並鼓勵他們思考和寫出他們的 想法。訓練一個思想家,而不是一個機器人,你的孩子將變 得真正聰明!

Stars of the Month

GWF4A Sat 3:00-4:00 GWF4A Sat 9:00-10:00 GWF6B Thur 4:30-5:30 GWF9B Sat 2:00-3:00 IEK2A Fri 6:30-7:30 IEK2A Sat 9:00-10:00 IEK2A Sat 9:00-10:00 IEK2B Sat 11:00-12:00 IEK6A Thur 6:30-7:30 IEK6B Mon 5:30-6:30 IEK6B Tues 6:30-7:30 IEK8A Sat 12:00-1:00 IEKKA Sat 12:00-1:00 IEKKB Fri 3:30-4:30 IEKKB Wed 2:30-3:30 PTWE1 Fri 5:30-6:30 PTWE2 Sat 11:00-12:00 PTWE3 Sat 10:00-11:00 PTWP1 Sat 9:00-10:00 PTWP1 Wed 09:30-10:30 WTE1 Wed 4:30-5:30 WTE2A Fri 5:30-6:30 WTE2B Tues 5:30-6:30 WTF4A Fri 4:30-5:30 WTE4A Sat 10:00-11:00 WTE4A Sat 4:00-5:00 WTE4B Sat 3:00-4:00 WTE6B Sat 12:00-1:00 WTE6B Thur 5:30-6:30

Zhang King Yan, Lori 張境恩 Lam Hau Yan, Melody 林巧恩 Cheung Ka Man, Carmen 張嘉雯 Ip Hei Nga, Iva Kwan Yi Lam, Elise 關依琳 Kwok Tsz Lok, Jerry 郭子樂 Ko Tin Hay, Ryana 古天希 Chang Hoi Yu, Hayden 鄭凱羽 Kwan Chuk Ting, Ariel 關竹婷 Cheng Chak Ho, Gordon 鄭則灝 Au Lok Yiu, Venice Fok Yat Long, Dolphin 霍逸朗 Yip Ho Yin, Andrew 葉浩然 Cheung Tsz Ching, Cherry 張梓晴 Chan Lok Ka, Rosalind 陳樂嘉 Lau Siu Hei, Matthew 劉肇浠 Chong Chun Hoi, Henry 莊竣凱 Tam Leong Yin, Teko 譚量然 Mok Sau Ying, Zoe 莫秀瀅 Lo Wan Ting Ernest 羅允廷 Wong Tsz Huen, Hailey Hinz Leung Wu Cheuk Yin, Matthew 胡焯然 Kwan Chuk Ting, Ariel 關竹婷 Jamie Li Chow Ho Ki, Hovan 周皓祈 Wong Yu Sze, Sisi 黃宇詩 Lai Yi Yin, Carrie 賴怡嫣

Wong Pak Kiu, Jan 黃柏喬



Students' Page

BACK School

September 2018

It is that time again. Summer is quickly coming to an end, and it is time to begin another new term at school. What aspirations have you got for the new school year? Meeting new friends? Adjusting to a new environment? Getting higher grades in the subjects? However, whatever goals you have for the school year, remember this quote:

"Believe in yourself and all that you are. Know that there is something inside you that is greater than any obstacle." ~ Christopher D. Larson

A Trip to Ocean Park

Last Sunday, my friend, Katy and I went to Ocean Park.

At first, we had a big breakfast at McDonald's before we went there.

After a while, we were at Ocean Park. When we were there, we saw a lot of people.

First, we watched the dolphin show. We saw three dolphins. They gave us their performance. I was very lucky because the instructor invited me to touch the dolphin. The dolphin kissed me as well. I felt happy. And the show was fantastic.

And then we went to ride the cable car. I was very scared because I felt the centrifugal force. My friend felt scared too. So, we hugged each other.

After a few minutes, we ate lunch. I ate some fish balls with spaghetti and my friend, Katy, ate some meat with curry and rice. We also drank some chocolate milk.

At last, we went home by the MTR. We thought it was very fun and fantastic. If we ever have a chance, we want to go there again.

Shannon Yee Write to Enjoy 4B Ms. Michelle



Congratulations to the Writers on the Month:

Ng Ching Yui 4B Friendship is Important
Karena Lo 8A Leaflet for the School
Shannon Yee 4B A Trip to Ocean Park

