

Thrive at E-Smart

July 2019

From the Headmaster's Desk

Dear parents,

Our society has never been so deeply divided since the Umbrella Movement in 2014. Worse, some of our youngsters felt so distraught that three young people aged 21 to 35 took their lives to vent their anguish and hopelessness within the last three weeks.

We can easily condemn Carrie Lam, our severely battered Chief Executive, for causing the suicides by not responding positively to the young protesters' demands, and worse, by repeatedly condemning the 'violent' acts of a small number of protesters who meant to defile the Legislative Council Building which in their minds no longer represents the voice of the people. Loads of critical or even hate messages have been exchanged on different social media platforms, which can hardly help to resolve the current impasse.

An educator by profession, I am no social critic; neither can I offer any insightful solutions to the situation. However, I am extremely concerned about the wellbeing of our young people and fear that more suicides will follow.

It does take a lot of courage for a person to end his or her life, so these three young people must have had an extreme sense of desperation and hopelessness before they jumped off, the most determined and brutal way to end one's life. They must have felt that the situation isn't going to get any better, and maybe their death or 'martyrdom' can help to bring some positive, albeit little, change.

If I had had the opportunity to speak with these three young adults, I would have told them I felt depressed and shared their indignation and helplessness. Before June 12, many of us had envisaged the amendments to the extradition bill would be easily passed by the pro-establishment legislators who care more about their political careers than the welfare of the masses. But thanks to the one million people taking to the streets on June 9 and tens of thousands of peaceful demonstrators besieging the government headquarters on June 12, and paradoxically the brutality of the police in broad daylight, the bill sparked unsurpassed unity of Hong Kong people and austere criticisms from the international community that forced the government to back down on June 15, just before the extraordinary peaceful protest by 2 million people on June 16. Though our pig-headed Chief Executive refused to withdraw the bill, it has been technically shelved. It is indeed a phenomenal success for Hong Kong people who have shown first-rate, indeed exemplary, civic consciousness to the world.

Understandably, our young people are still disgruntled as the Chief Executive has maintained an adamant stance and refused to engage in genuine dialogue with them. However, they have got to understand our CE was not popularly elected and does not see herself truly accountable to the public. It may be unrealistic to expect her to change overnight. (It was callous of her to ignore questions about the suicides at press conferences, however.) Therefore, instead of sacrificing their

lives for very little gain, our young people should focus their energy on continually fighting for the head of government and legislature to be fully elected by genuine universal suffrage.

It is human inclination to see what we are lacking rather than what we have achieved. We may have experienced one of most turbulent months in our lives, but we should be truly proud of ourselves for we have achieved more than what we had initially imagined. Our youths who have grown up in an instant culture will probably disagree with me as they are used to immediate gratification in life. Notwithstanding, 30 days or even 30 years are extremely transient from a historical perspective. Most of the successful political and social changes have been attained by unrelenting and persistent efforts of individuals committed to non-violence for decades or even hundreds of years.

It is absolutely heartbreaking to see our young people taking their lives. Instead of pointing finger from a distance, we should have empathy and understand why and how different parties think and feel so that we can have genuine non-violent communication and hopefully reconciliation so that our young people can see hope in our society.

May God bless our city, our young people in particular!

Yours sincerely,



Clive Chan

Stars of the Month

Au Yeung Yin Hei, Yannis	IEKP Wed 5:30-6:30
Chan Chun Yu, Manson	WTE2B Tues 5:30-6:30
Chan Clementine	WTE4A Sat 3:00-4:00
Cheng Hiu Ching, Jaime	PTWE3 Fri 5:30-6:30
Cheng Lok Tung, Ursula	IEKKB Tues 3:30-4:30
Cheung Ka Ching, Loraine	GWFF9A Sat 2:00-3:00
Cheung Man Chun, Isaac	WTE2A Sat 11:00-12:00
Cheung Yui Ching, Clement	IEK2B Thur 4:30-5:30
Chuang Ping Ki, Pinky	WTE2B Sat 11:00-12:00
Chui Hoi Yan, Yan	IEK4B Fri 6:30-7:30
Chui Ka Hei, Eric	PTWP3 Sat 1:00-2:00
Fung Tsz Kiu, Gwyneth	IEK2A Sat 11:00-12:00
Hui Wing Yu, Vianne	WTE4B Sat 11:00-12:00
Hui Yik Suet, Ariel	IEKKA Wed 3:30-4:30
Ko Tin Chi, Ryan	GWFF6B Sat 9:00-10:00
Kwan Chuk Ting, Ariel	IEK8B Thur 6:30-7:30
Kwok Tsz Lok, Jerry	IEK4B Sat 9:00-10:00
Kwok Tsz Yau, Karly	IEK6A Sat 9:00-10:00
Lam Kin Sing, Carson	IEK6B Sat 1:00-2:00
Lau Lok Hang	WTE6B Fri 4:30-5:30
Leung Wing Sum, Tiffany	IEK4A Sat 10:00-11:00
Lo Chun Lam, Julian	WTE6A Thur 5:30-6:30
Lo Wan Ting, Ernest	PTWE1 Wed 5:30-6:30
Tam Tsz Wang, Marcus	1on1 English Thur 6:30-7:30
Tang Kwan Ho Tim	GWFF2B Sat 3:00-4:00
Tse Chun Yin, Jasmine	IEKKA Thur 5:30-6:30
Tsui Tsz Yiu Mirian	WTE2B Fri 4:30-5:30
Wong Chun Hei, Carson	WTE6B Sat 10:00-11:00
Wong Man Yin, Macy	PTW3 Sat 10:00-11:00
Wong Siu Fung, Jayden	IEKKA Wed 3:30-4:30
Wong Wing, Miranda	PTWP1 Sat 4:00-5:00
Yan Hong Kay	PTWE3 Sat 4:00-5:00
Yeung Angel	WTE1 Sat 2:00-3:00
Yeung Yee Yan, Ethan	IEK2B Sat 12:00-1:00



Summer is here!! The school summer holidays has begun and it's time to make use of the hot, sunny weather for some fun outdoor activities. If you like food, July is a great month for you. Below are some of the fun and unusual dates for you to celebrate your love of food:

- ❖ 1 July – Creative Ice Cream Flavours Day and International Chicken Wing day
- ❖ 6 July – National Fried Chicken Day
- ❖ 7 July – Chocolate and National Strawberry Sundae Day

You can find more special days on the website (<http://holidayinsights.com/moreholidays/july.htm>). Whatever your plans are for this summer, we hope you have an enjoyable and relaxing break before we begin the new school term.

~ Ms. Josephine ☺

Writers of the Month

An Unfriendly Giant
(By Bernice Li - WTE4B)

BEST OF THE BEST

Once upon a time, there was an unfriendly giant who lived in a village.
No one liked him. When he went out, the people in the village would run back to their house and close the door and windows. He would destroy the village whenever he was unhappy.
Everybody in the village hated him. Then, there was a child called Sam; he was smart. He thought of an idea that could get the giant to leave the village. He knew the giant was afraid of the dark, so he told the people in the village about that.
One day, the weather was cloudy and there was no sun. The giant came out and wanted to destroy the village. All the people in the village turned off the lights and it was very dark. The giant was frightened. He ran out of the village, and he never came back.

Other writers of the month:

Miwa Lai (WTE2B) - If I am in a Coma
 John Tsui (WTE8B) - Flying Car vs Ordinary Car
 Anson Lau (WTE4A) - Daniel's Bad Teeth
 Zoe Lam (WTE6A) - The Hong Kong version of the Little Red Riding Hood

Picture Crossword
Look at the pictures and fill in the crossword grid.

A mum and her children are on an ice-cream cone hunt. Help them find their way through the ice cream cone shaped maze to find the ice cream cones.