

Thrive at E-Smart

November 2019

From the Headmaster's Desk

"In a world where success is the measure and justification of all things the figure of Him who was sentenced and crucified remains a stranger and is at best the object of pity. The world will allow itself to be subdued only by success. It is not ideas or opinions which decide, but deeds. Success alone justifies wrongs done. With a frankness and off-handedness which no other earthly power could permit itself, history appeals in its own cause to the dictum that the end justifies the means. The figure of the Crucified invalidates all thought which takes success for its standard." ~ Dietrich Bonhoeffer

Dear parents,

To our dismay, our amiable autumn is being marred by the societal trauma we have all been experiencing since June. Instead of family dinners, parties, hikes and other outdoor activities, our weekends have been filled with both peaceful rallies and violent protests in which we have witnessed indiscriminate brutality of the police who are supposed to protect rather than harass civilians. Blood is being shed almost every day, followed by massive arrests and beatings of the protesters. Worse, some of those arrested have since been missing, and the corpses floating in the sea have simply fueled the anger of the more aggressive protesters who vow to take vengeance and resort to more violence.

Bloodshed aside, the immensity of the current trauma is beyond our grips. Relationships have been severed, families shattered, friendships ruined, and businesses shaken while public trust in the authorities has been crushed. No one seemed to have emerged as the winner, and worse, we don't seem to see any imminent resolution of the present deadlock while violence continues to escalate.

I am no social commentator, and honestly I don't have any clue as to how the situation will be resolved. As a fellow victim of the present community trauma, I only have a couple of assertions to make.

First and foremost, cruelty simply breeds cruelty, and the end can never justify the means. The haphazard violence of the police since July has enraged many of the initially peaceful demonstrators and further infuriated the aggressive ones who now resort to violent means like throwing petrol bombs and bricks at the police, vandalizing public facilities and wrecking the property of those who hold opposite political views. However noble their cause is, I can never condone their violent acts which have only brought further harm to themselves and their supporters. Given the vast imbalance of power, the violence of the much weaker party has only helped justify the tightened control of the Government by banning many peaceful rallies and marches and implementing 'emergency' measures like the anti-mask law which has indeed scared away a lot of the nonviolent supporters of the movement. For the movement to continue or even have any slim chance of success, the protesters can only win with the largest possible number of supporters, and recent historical events have clearly shown that most authoritarian powers have been overthrown by peaceful rather than violent means.

Second, we all have to nurture a truly democratic heart. Differences are unavoidable, and if we are campaigning for democracy and liberty, we must be tolerant of the opposite views and seek to engage in a real dialogue with people who have a different opinion rather than seek to subdue them by clamping down their voice and worse, attacking them verbally or physically.

It is probably one of the toughest times for many of us, but let us not forget the 'successes' we have attained. Four months ago, no one would have imagined that the Extradition Bill would be withdrawn. The first-rate civic consciousness displayed by the two million peaceful protesters on the streets has also won the applause and attention of the international community.

Let us bravely band together and not lose our hope. In face of authoritarian rule, we must maintain a nonviolent yet unyielding stance to protect the freedoms we have enjoyed.

Yours sincerely,



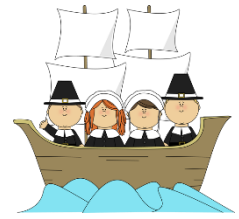
Clive Chan

Stars of the Month

Chan Hong Wing, Iris	IEK8A Thur 6:30-7:30
Chan Kwan Ming, Eden	IEKKA Thur 9:30-10:30
Chan Lai Ki, Connie	WTE1 Sat 3:00-4:00
Chan Sze Yu, Jennifer	IEK4A Sat 9:00-10:00
Chan Tsz Yin, Cyrus	GWFF10B Sat 2:00-3:00
Chang Hannah Hei Nga	WTE1 Tues 4:30-5:30
Chau Hong Yin, Taylor	WTE4B Sat 11:00-12:00
Chee Wing Yan	IEKKB Wed 5:30-6:30
Cheung Yi, Fredra	PTWE3 Sat 4:00-5:00
Chin Yan Ting, Jinnie	IEK2A Sat 9:00-10:00
Choi Ho Chung, Ethan	IEK2A Sat 12:00/WTE2B Sat 2:00
Chuang Ping Ki, Pinky	WTE2A Sat 11:00-12:00
Chuang Yu Ki, Angela	PTWB Wed 1:30-2:30
Fong Sheung Man, Adrian	WTE4A Fri 5:30-6:30
Fung King Yuen, Marcus	IEK6A Sat 1:00-2:00
Hsu Si Lok, Hercules	IEK8B Sat 9:00-10:00
Ip Hin Chak, Simon	IEK4A Fri 6:30-7:30
Ip Pak Yu, Cyrus	IEK2B Thur 5:30-6:30
Kwan Yi Ting, Eunice	IEK6B Sat 10:00-11:00
Kwok Ching Kiu, Bowen	PTWP3 Sat 1:00-2:00
Lai Yi Yin, Carrie	WTE8B Sat 12:00-1:00
Lau Sze Yin, Henry	Starters Wed 3:30-4:30
Lau Ying San, Chloe	WTE6A Fri 4:30-5:30
Leong Tin Lok, Ethen	WTE6B Tues 4:30-5:30
Liu Tung Tung, Raina	PTW4 Sat 10:00-11:00
Lo King Ho	IEKKB Sat 12:00-1:00
Mok Hoi Yui, Zared	WTE4B Tues 5:30-6:30
Ngan Tsz Chung, Tony	IEKKA Sat 2:00-3:00
Pang Cheuk Ki, Kirstie	WTE4B Wed 4:30-5:30
Poon Heydn	WTE2B Thur 4:30-5:30
Pow Sum Yuet, Hazel	PTWP2 Sat 4:00-5:00
Ran Choi Yap, Rainbow	PTWE1 Wed 5:30-6:30
Siu Wai Ching, Kaden	PTWP2 Mon 4:30-5:30
Sze King Ching, Anthony	WTE4A Thur 6:30-7:30
Tang Kwan Ho Tim	GWFF2A Sat 3:00-4:00
Tse Chun Yin, Jasmine	IEK2B Sat 9:00-10:00
Wong Yeuk Ming, Paul	WTE6A Sat 10:00-11:00
Yeung Hoi Wing, Mofy	IEK4B Sat 11:00-12:00
Yeung Tsz Hei, Heman	WTE8B Thur 5:30-6:30
Yu Tsz Chun, Alan	PTWE1 Thur 4:30-5:30



Students' Page



Did you know that there is a special holiday in November called Thanksgiving? It is celebrated in America. The reason this holiday is celebrated is because in the year 1620, after months on a ship, a group of people from England landed in a new place called America. They named their colony Plymouth, Massachusetts. The people were called Pilgrims. That word means a person who journeys to some sacred place as an act of religious devotion. These people came to America because they wanted the freedom to worship God without fear of persecution. It was a very difficult first year. Many of the pilgrims had been ill and died. But those that survived were filled with gratitude that God had brought them through their first year. So, they celebrated with a meal and thanked God for their many blessings. How about you? Have you counted your blessings lately? Can you make a list of all the things you are thankful for today?

Ms. Jama

Writer of the Month

Two Strangers on the MTR

One sunny afternoon, when Jack walking to the MTR station, he was stopped by two women. He said, "Excuse me. Can you step aside? I want to take the subway." The women said, "No, little boy. We are going to bring you to an interesting place and we will play together." Jack was a naïve boy. He listened to the women and followed them.

When they arrived at a special place, the women said, "You need to give the admission fee to us and you can get in there." Jack asked, "How much do I need to pay?" The women said, "One hundred dollars." Then Jack gave them the money.

Suddenly, three police officers jumped out and caught the two women. A good woman had seen Jack with the two strange women, so she called the police. Finally, Jack learned a lesson that he couldn't believe strangers easily.

By Anson Lau (WTE4A)

Other Writers of the Month

Congratulations!

Henry Chong (PTW1): – Super Hero

Tim Tang (WTE2A) – Ms Jama's Restaurant

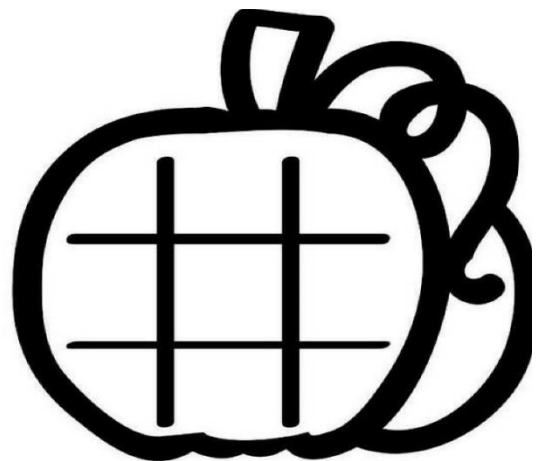
Jims Kwong (WTE4A) – What I Want to do When I'm 18

Smith Lau (WTE8A) – A Strange Creature in the Lake

E-Smart New Year Hike: Wednesday 1 Jan 2020

Kadoorie Farm and Tai Po Waterfront Park

Come and join us!



TIC-TAC-TOE