

Thrive at E-Smart

January 2020

From the Headmaster's Desk

Everyone comes naked from their mother's womb, and as everyone comes, so they depart. They take nothing from their toil that they can carry in their hands.

~ The Holy Bible Ecclesiastes 5:15

"Surely everyone goes around like a mere phantom; in vain they rush about, heaping up wealth without knowing whose it will finally be."

~ The Holy Bible Psalm 39:6

Dear parents,

Happy New Year! May you and your family have the most peaceful and rewarding year ahead! Most importantly, may your love for each other abound so that your joy overflows!

I spent the last two weeks of 2019 in Egypt where I visited a number of ancient monuments like the pyramids, Sphinx and various temples dedicated to different gods, which were built with amazing architectural designs, precise astrological calculations, and outstanding craftsmanship. None of them failed to wow me and other members of our group, and they have indeed left an indelible impression on my mind.

However, after the initial excitement, I started to feel sorry for the kings and nobles whose tombs had been looted by treasure raiders long before they were officially excavated by archaeologists. Some of their mummified bodies are now on display in various museums, a portion of the jewelry and artefacts beheld by numerous visitors every day, and their places of rest trampled by excited noisy tourists busy talking and taking pictures with the magnificent paintings on the wall.

Most of these 5000-year-old monuments were built with reverence to the 'gods' and hopes of the deceased to be granted 'godship' or a second life. Apparently, like all who died rich and powerful, they couldn't take anything with them and they have remained dead. Their tombs are now empty, while the luxurious items buried with them are now in the hands of various collectors. Most ironically, they can't even enjoy any 'rest' as their catacombs are filled with inquisitive guests from all over the world every day.

Indeed, the quest for eternal life and union with God hasn't been limited to the royalty and the rich, but some people have taken a completely different route. Our group got the rare opportunity to visit a couple of

monasteries dedicated to some early hermits. Instead of accumulating wealth and surrounding themselves with vanities even after death, the hermits of the early centuries like St. Paul from Alexandria (228-343 AD) chose to live alone with God in a mountain cave near the Red Sea for almost 90 years. Over the centuries, his story has enlightened many men and women who have chosen to follow his footsteps and live a life of poverty and solitude so that they can get closer to God. Amazingly, their traditions have been well preserved amidst political and social upheavals of the country over the years, and I could feel unsurpassed serenity and peace while I was there.

Few of us would be able to follow the paths of the hermits, but I was greatly enlightened by their wisdom when I travelled with our group to the desert and spent the evening gazing at the infinite number of stars in darkness. It was absolutely 'the moment' of my whole trip when I could feel my humble existence in this vast universe. Mighty kings and leaders deemed 'omnipotent' by the masses have come and gone, and the shrines they built for themselves have been battered and dwindled. However powerful they were, they were mortal human beings who could never escape death and the vanities they amassed for themselves would surely decay.

As we venture into a new decade, I hope you will be enlightened too, so that you can focus on building a lasting legacy for your child and family rather than 'monuments' that will rot and vanish in the end.

Yours sincerely,



Clive Chan

Stars of the Month

Chan Lok Tung, Abby	WTE6B Mon 6:30-7:30
Che Hiu To, Tobie	WTE8B Sat 12:00-1:00
Cheuk Ting Chun, Eric	IEK4A Fri 6:30-7:30
Cheung Man Chun, Isaac	PTW1 Sat 12:00-1:00
Choi Laam, Sophie	PTWE1 Thur 4:30-5:30
Chui Hei Shuen, Kacie	WTE4B Tues 5:30-6:30
Fung Tsz Hei, Venus	IEK2A Sat 9:00-10:00
Ko Tin Hay, Ryana	IEK4A Sat 9:00-10:00
Kwan Yi Ting, Eunice	WTE4A Sat 11:00-12:00
Law Hee Ting, Hidy	PTW1 Fri 5:30-6:30
Shum Man Ching, Natalie	WTE2A Fri 4:30-5:30
Shum Man Huen, Esther	WTE6A Fri 4:30-5:30
Yeung Angel	WTE2B Sat 2:00-3:00
Yeung Yee Lam, Elim	PTWP2 Mon 4:30-5:30

STUDENTS' PAGE

January 2020

Welcome to the New Year and we hope you had a wonderful Christmas holiday. Whether you went abroad or stayed in Hong Kong, we hope you enjoyed your break. As a new year begins, it's a great time to think about your achievements and great memories from the last year. When we look back over the past year, we think about all the memorable things that have happened to us and the people we are thankful for helping us achieve our goals. A new year means new goals and we wish you all the best in all that you do.

~ Ms Josephine ☺

WRITER OF THE MONTH

Kidnap of Jean Paul Getty's grandson By Haden Lam (WTE4A)

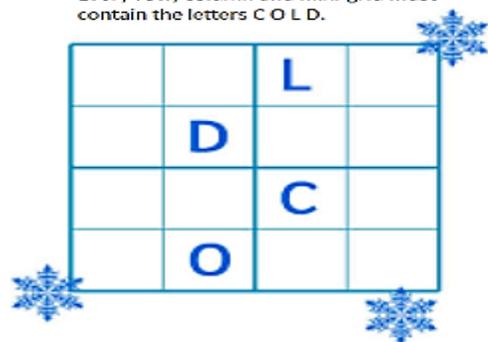
Grandson: Where am I? It is too dark in here!
Kidnappers: Shut up, kid! You will never know where you are, and you will never be released if your family doesn't give money to us! Ha! Ha! Ha!
Stage: Grandson and kidnappers leave.
Son: Dad, my son has been caught by the kidnappers. Please give me the money to get him released.
Getty: No, they only want money; they won't release him, so go away.
Son: Oh please Dad! Please give me the money!
Getty: Well, I can only lend you money, but you have to pay me back at four percent interest.
Son: Oh, thanks Dad.
Narrator: After Getty's son got the money, he gave it to the kidnappers, and they released Getty's grandson. He gave the money to his father plus the interest. Getty died in 1976, and he left the rest of his money to a museum.

Happy New Years Word Search

J Y P V U S C A R F D C F E Q	NEWYEAR
B X A B P A R A D E S Z W O Q	CELEBRATION
H Q Z F C E L E B R A T I O N	RESOLUTIONS
R E S O L U T I O N S M G Y G	HOLIDAYS
Y Q E G Z B G U B D V V N U V	COLD
C N Z H O T C H O C O L A T E	JANUARY
F B E P L Y Q F L N N N P M F	BALLOONS
M L A W T Z U H A I Z N A C I	GLOVES
I J G L Y V E U O M B Z R S R	SCARF
D R L C L E N O N L I B T O E	HOTCHOCOLATE
N E O F N O A M J H I L Y E W	FIREWORKS
I C V M E M O R I E S D Y O O	MIDNIGHT
G O E B S L P N O E Y Y A Z R	PARADES
H L S Z T N C Z S T L F G Y K	MEMORIES
T D S D U J A N U A R Y W N S	PARTY
	FAMILY

Winter Sudoku

Every row, column and mini-grid must contain the letters C O L D.



CONGRATULATIONS TO THE OTHER WRITERS OF THE MONTH:

Helen Tang (WTE2A) – Snow Dome
 Anthony Sze (WTE4A) – Being a talented artist like Yani Wang
 Zoey Lam (WTE4B) – Pets
 Kacie Chui (WTE4B) – Christmas in HK
 Ben Ng (WTE6B) – Boat Wreck