

From the Headmaster's Desk

Dear parents,

A few weeks ago, I welcomed my new petite 'tenants' when two Chinese Bulbuls built a beautiful nest on the weeping fig at the balcony of my apartment. Though a pleasant surprise, it has taken me time to understand the two uninvited guests so that they won't simply fly away in fright whenever they catch the glimpse of me.

Not having any experience with birds, I asked my friends who have kept birds or parrots as pets, and all of them had been more than eager to offer me advice upon which I placed bananas, bread crumbs and packaged bird's food near their nest. Disappointingly, the birds did not bother to touch the foods I had lovingly prepared. What's more bothersome was whenever I opened the balcony door to wave hello, the couple simply got on their highest alert to get ready to fly away when I showed any intent to move closer.

The birds have extremely valid reasons to be scared, however. I am an unbeatable giant to them despite my calm and friendly composure. They know I can easily cast them away by smashing their home into a thousand pieces. What's more, despite my amicable smile, they might take it as my tact to catch them.

Some people will indeed be annoyed by their noise and do everything to dismantle their nest. A friend told me a nest was once built on the outdoor split unit of the air-conditioner for their master bedroom, and those birds started singing at around 5 in the morning. They couldn't stand the noise and had to get some professionals to clear the nest in the end.

The nest doesn't bother me, however, as it is far away from my bedroom, and it is indeed pleasing to see more life in my quiet apartment. I had once dreamed of the birds befriending me and even taking food from my hands. Apparently my wish hasn't been realised, and I have slowly come to terms with maintaining a reasonable distance so that these birds feel safe and secure as my guests. The mother bird would keep hatching the eggs in the nest while watching me closely as I watered the plants in the balcony every morning. Meanwhile the father bird was busy getting food for both of them. Any attempts of mine to get any closer would result in their dashing to my neighbour's balcony, not returning until I retreated to my living room.

As the 'sovereign' owner of the apartment and the weeping fig where the couple put up their nest without my consent, I could have every reason to feel disrespected and outraged. My proprietary attitude could result in my devilish destruction of their nest, but will I truly benefit from such destructive acts? Absolutely not! A totalitarian mindset stems from the urge to dominate and subdue a weaker party when one doesn't have true inner security, and it

often leads to destruction rather than peace, to the inevitable detriment of everyone. (History has repeatedly attested to the demise of totalitarian powers which attempted to stem out dissent by violent methods.) Therefore, I have resolved to respect their decision to maintain a distance.

Now that three birdies have finally arrived, and the couple are busy fetching food for their newborns, some friends have advised me to feed the birdies with worms that I can purchase from the 'Birds Street'. I decided to refrain from doing anything, however. If my two tiny guests have taught me anything, it is the humble recognition of our resources as God's provision for everyone's enjoyment and the need to respect everyone's autonomy. I am sure the bird family will be fine, and they will depart when the birdies are ready to fly and live independently.

How I wish those in power had the insights that I have gained by simply watching my guest birds!

Yours sincerely,



Clive Chan

Stars of the Month

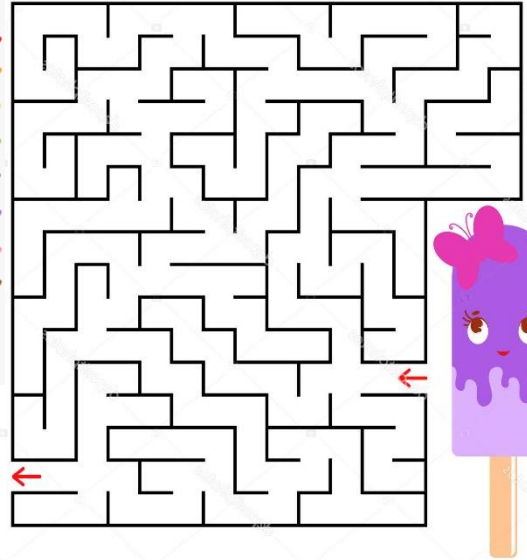
Chan Tsz Ying, Elsa	IEK4B Sat 11:00-12:00
Cheung Hei Ching, Rosanne	WTE1 Tues 4:30-5:30
Cheung Lok Sum, Andrea	WTE6A Fri 2:30-3:30
Chin Yan Ting, Jinnie	WTE2A Fri 4:30-5:30
Chu Tak Ching, Janet	PTW2-3 Fri 5:30-6:30
Chui Hoi Yan, Yan	IEK4A Fri 3:30-4:30
Fung Tsz Hei, Venus	IEK2A Sat 9:00-10:00
Ho Cheuk Wing, Wins	WTE4B Wed 4:30-5:30
Ip Pak Yu, Cyrus	IEK2B Thur 5:30-6:30
Kwok Sze Nam, Angus	IEK4A Sat 9:00-10:00
Kwong Chin Fung, Jims	WTE4A Fri 5:30-6:30
Lai Eden Pak Hei	IEKP Tues 4:30-5:30
Lai Yi Kwan, Sophie	PTW3 Sat 12:00-1:00
Lam Wai Chung, Asaph	WTE4A Thur 6:30-7:30
Li Chun Lok, Juno	WTE2B Sat 2:00-3:00
Li Tsz Hin	IEK2A Sat 12:00-1:00
Ma Pok Ho	PTWB Thur 9:30-10:30
Ngan Tsz Chung, Tony	IEKKA Sat 2:00-3:00
Pow Sum Yuet, Hazel	PTWP3 Sat 4:00-5:00
Tang Kwan Ho Tim	GWFF4B Sat 10:00-11:00
Yeung Tsz Hei, Heman	WTE8B Thur 5:30-6:30
Yiu Lok Ching, Hailey	WTE2B Sat 11:00-12:00
Yu Lok Tung, Cherry	PTWP3 Mon 4:30-5:30

Summer Classes – Rush!

Don't want your kids to stay idle or have their eyes merely on their computers or smartphones? Sign them up for our summer classes that start on 13 July. To help kids catch up at school after the extended school suspension, we have a new class 'Summer English Essence' specially catered for the local curriculum. Ask our staff for more details.

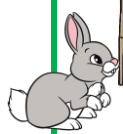
Students' Page JULY 2020

July is here, along with high humidity and scorching heat in the air. With such grueling weather conditions, a scoop of cold ice-cream is always welcomed. **National Ice-cream Day** is observed in the United States on the third Sunday of July. The inventions of ice-cream have been recorded in different cultures through different parts of the world. Despite its origins, a bowl of ice-cream always brings smiles to people's faces. Would you like a bowl of bubble gum flavored ice-cream or a simple chocolate one?



BEST WRITER OF JULY

~Ms Michelle ☺



The Hare and the Tortoise

by Zoey Lam (WTE 4B)



One sunny day in a forest, there were a tortoise and a hare. The hare was very proud. He wanted to race again with the tortoise because the hare had lost in the race last time. He was very angry that he lost. They waited at the starting line. The pig was the umpire, and the umpire waived the flag. He shouted, "On your mark. Get set. Go." Then the hare and tortoise ran. The animal were very excited.

The hare ran faster than the tortoise and came to the river. He couldn't swim so he was very worried. He scratched his head and didn't know what to do. He couldn't do anything so he said to himself, "What can I do? It's a pity." Suddenly, he had an idea. "I can wait for Tortoise. I will sit on his back so as to cross the river." So he waited for the tortoise.

Soon, the tortoise came. The hare wanted to use the tortoise. He asked the tortoise, "I can't cross the river. May I sit on your back and let you carry me cross the river?" The tortoise replied, "You're as heavy as a big stone. I can't carry you but you can build a bridge with stones. Then you can hop across the bridge."

So, the hare heard what the tortoise said. He was very excited. The Hare jumped on the stones happily. He didn't notice that the stones were as slippery as water. He dropped into the river. The tortoise won again.

HONOURABLE MENTION

A Homeless Man

by Angel Tsoi (IEK8B)

Homelessness is a growing problem in every place, including this prosperous city- Hong Kong. Homelessness remains one of the top social issues in the world and it can affect everyone: men and women, adults and children, single individuals and families. But, have you ever encountered one? Well, I have. Here, I am going to share my encounter with him and how he changed me.

When I first met him, he wrapped himself with a piece of plastic and different kinds of plastic bags. He was sitting on a bench at the corner of the street as the others didn't welcome him and stared at him. He had caught my attention so I decided to get a closer look.

When I was trying to reach him, my money slipped out of my pocket but I didn't notice it. The man had seen,

(Angel has written a story that is so long that it couldn't fit onto our page. If you wish to know the ending of the story, you can find it on our noticeboard that is on our two centers' glass panels. Enjoy! ☺)

Other Writers of the Month:

Elizabeth Chan (4A) ~ Killing Black Beard

Jim Kwong (4A) ~ Cooking Fun

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