

From the Headmaster's Desk

In most schools, we measure children on what they know. By and large, they have to memorize the content of whatever test is coming up. Because measuring the results of rote learning is easy, rote prevails. What kids know is just not important in comparison with whether they can think.

— Sugata Mitra

Dear parents,

You may be aware that the Chinese government has recently issued new stringent regulations on the lucrative private education industry. By turning private education service companies into non-profit-making institutions and banning all after-school core-curriculum tutoring, the authorities aim to lift the pressure on students and their parents. Some further directives have then been unveiled, the most significant of which is reducing the number of tests and examinations for primary and secondary school students. Primary one and two students will no longer be required to do any written exams while only one final exam is allowed for students of most other grades during the school year.

The impact of the new measures is yet to be seen, but it should allow students more time for sports, arts and other extra-curricular pursuits. However, for decades, the entry to Chinese universities has been based on the annual university entrance exams (gaokao), supposedly an impartial and equal assessment for all university-bound students. If there isn't any fundamental change to this admission system, students and parents may still find ways to receive coaching for doing well in exams.

In the same token, Hong Kong has relied on public exams for determining the suitability of a student for further education, and the current system apparently favours students with good language skills and memory, and streamlining from primary school years has resulted in more girls than boys in elitist secondary schools, and the number of female students in government funded universities has consistently been at least 10 percent more than that of male students, breeding more female medical doctors, lawyers and even engineers in our society.

On the surface, E-Smart may be considered the culprit for sustaining such imbalance. However, as the only teacher of our DSE English classes, I am more than proud to tell you that we have had more male than female students scoring the top 5** in English all these years. More importantly, these top students are critical thinkers rather than rote learners. They do have an excellent memory but they are quick-witted and outspoken in our discussions and group speaking practices. At the end of the day, they

might forget some of the contents they have memorized for the exams, but they will retain an independent and critical mind that helps them deal with challenges and achieve success at work and in life.

Such success definitely cannot be attained by memory alone. In fact, too much memorization and rote learning may even dampen the curiosity and analytical thinking of young students. Therefore, our programs are never built on repetitive exercises. Instead, we encourage students to engage in active brainstorming, extensive reading and creative writing, which are not only enjoyable but also conducive to the development of their intellectual capacity.

At the start of the new school year, I hope you understand the true way to success and engage your child in learning activities that enhance their inquisitiveness, discernment and creativity.

Yours sincerely,



Clive Chan

Stars of the Month

Brendan Sebastian Phan	PTWB Fri 5:30-6:30
Cheung Sum Yi, Angel	WTE4B Sat 11:00-12:00
Cheung Wing Hei, Huey	WTE4B Thur 6:30-7:30
Choi Ho Chung, Ethan	IEK4B Sat 12:00-1:00
Chung Yui Hei, Arlys	WTE2A Thur 4:30-5:30
Hsu Si Lok, Hercules	WTE8B Sat 10:00-11:00
Huang For Ho, Timothy	PTWP2 Sat 12:00-1:00
Hung King Him, Jayden	IEK2A Thur 5:30-6:30
Hung Ling To, Allen	IEKKB Sat 9:00-10:00
Lau Pui Sen, Vincent	WTE4A Sat 11:00-12:00
Lau Ying Ki, Linda	PTWE1 Tues 6:30-7:30
Lau Yuet Ching, Connie	WTE1 Tues 3:30-4:30
Lee Chun Hei, Angus	WTE4A Tues 5:30-6:30
Leong Wai Man, Raymond	IEK2A Sat 9:00-10:00
Li Pak Shun, Morris	IEKKA Tues 5:30-6:30
Lui Hong Lam, Caitlyn	WTE2B Tues 4:30-5:30
Pak Wing Chin, Ashley	WTE2B Wed 5:30-6:30
Pang Shu Sang, Marcus	IEK8A Sat 9:00-10:00
Ran Ho Lam, Hugo	PTWP1 Sat 12:00-1:00
Sin Pak Kiu, Chris	IEK6A Sat 10:00-11:00
Sin Wing Lam, Kelly	WTE2A Sat 11:00-12:00
So Si Wing, Irene	WTE6B Fri 5:30-6:30
Tai Wen Hei, Hailey	WTE4A Wed 4:30-5:30
Tang Man Hei, Helen	PTW4 Sat 9:00-10:00
Tsang Ming Hei, Hugo	PTWP1 Mon 3:30-4:30
Tse Hong Ching, Kris	IEK2B Sat 2:00-3:00
Tsui Hei Tung, Aiden	GWF2B Sat 2:00-3:00
Viseu Luis	GWF4B Sat 3:00-4:00
Wong Siu Fung, Jayden	WTE2B Sat 3:00-4:00
Yeung Angel	PTW1 & WTE2A Sat 1:00-3:00
Yeung Yui Sze, Sophie	WTE6A Mon 6:30 / IEK8B Sat 1:00

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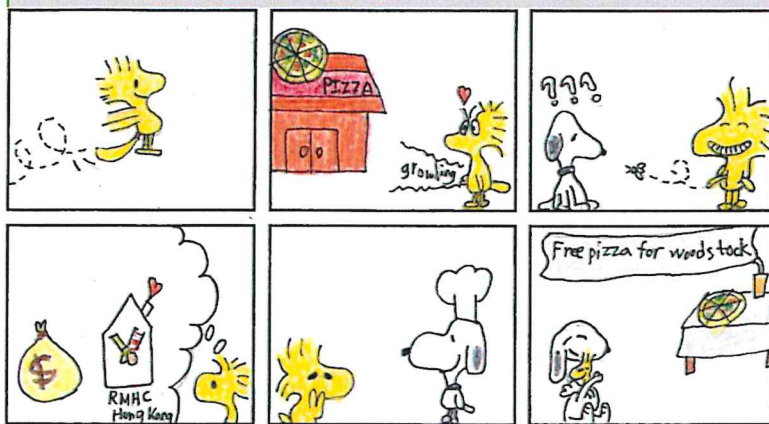


For many students September is a month full of excitements, and for some with worries. Summer has come to an end, and it is time to begin another new term at school. Some of you are going to a new school and all of you will meet new friends. In the new school year, what aspirations have you got for it? Whatever goals you have for this school year, remember to give it your best.

~Ms. Michelle 😊

Best Writer of the Month

★ Arlys Chung WTE 2A ★



Woodstock & Snoopy

Once upon a time, there was a bird called Woodstock. It flew around to look for a restaurant, but he couldn't find one. At Tsim Sha Tsui, he finally found one! It was PIZZA HUT.

He quickly ran into it and then he met Snoopy. Snoopy was a chef and he made pizzas every day. When Woodstock checked his pocket, there was a housefly flying out (that meant he had no money). Snoopy was confused on why Woodstock didn't have any money. Woodstock remembered he gave money to the RMHC (that meant helping a sick child fight their illness take a big enough emotional toll on a family). Woodstock just begged Snoopy because he really, really wanted to eat one pizza. As Woodstock begged more, the growling noise in his stomach was louder and louder! Snoopy smiled at Woodstock and drew out the curtains. And a banner said: Free Pizza for Woodstock! Woodstock quickly hugged Snoopy and Snoopy hugged Woodstock.

So they lived happily ever after.

THE END

**Never say, "I can't."
Always say, "I'll try."**



Z	G	N	S	T	U	D	E	N	T	L	V	Q
P	D	O	S	A	Y	U	A	J	E	I	G	U
Y	E	T	E	L	X	A	O	Y	G	L	U	E
Q	J	E	C	L	U	B	O	O	K	S	E	F
W	U	B	E	E	J	N	S	T	G	H	R	R
R	U	O	R	T	E	A	C	H	E	R	A	K
I	R	O	X	J	I	X	T	H	Q	P	S	R
T	P	K	O	W	J	P	B	M	B	E	E	E
I	M	A	M	D	E	Z	H	U	D	O	R	L
N	A	L	P	N	I	G	Z	T	M	R	X	U
G	T	K	C	E	R	M	L	B	N	L	G	R
R	H	I	L	G	R	G	N	I	D	A	E	R
P	L	A	Y	G	R	O	U	N	D	R	E	I

BOOKS
DESK
ERASER
GLUE

NOTEBOOK
PAPER
PENCIL
PLAYGROUND

RULER
STUDENT
TEACHER
WRITING

Writers of September:

Yanie Li (4B)

~Sleepover

Esther Wong (4A)

~Johnny & the Beehive

Bridget Chiu (6B)

~People or Only a Picture