# Thrive at E-Smart

# October 2021

E-Smart is 22 years old on 2 October 2021!

#### From the Headmaster's Desk

The older I get, the more I love and treasure my plants. They are always quietly present, gracious and giving, granting me a haven and solace to indulge in whenever I need it. And it is their steadfastness and resilience that I most want to emulate.

— Clive Chan

Dear parents,

Though no expert at gardening, I love plants and have always been proud of the luxuriant floras on the humble balcony of my home. They shield the northwest facing living room from the blazing heat of the sun in the afternoon, create a haven where birds love to drop by or even nest, but most importantly, they have given me some invaluable insights over the years.

Undeniably, the growth of these plants has been spectacular. In 7 years, the weeping fig has grown from 3 to more than 10 feet, mandating me to trim it so that it won't intrude into the territory of my neighbour. The growth of Its close relative Benjamina Ficus Barok has been even more impressive, from barely over 6 inches to about the same height of its counterpart. Occupying each end of the balcony, they catch the attention of passers-by walking on the streets below and entice birds to come for respite. Despite their palpable stature, they are easy to please. I can water them every day at ease without the fear of making their soil too soggy. The weeping fig, in particular, is the most gracious, concealing the nest of the baby Chinese Bubuls with its lavish leaves until they are ready to fly away with their parents. Not only have these two fast-growing plants fared extremely well in three previous migrations to bigger pots, but they have also yielded easily to my pruning and started growing sideways rather than climbing beyond the roof.

In contrast, the elegant four-foot dracaena marginata is not as tough as the other residents on the balcony. I had almost drowned it to death when it first came in a tiny pot 7 years ago, watering it too much that some of its buds withered and have never grown back. It survived, anyhow, and I have soon learned to observe and touch its soil before adding any more water. Though finding it painstaking, I soon got the hang of it, enabling this graceful plant to thrive.

Occupying a prominent position on the coffee table of the living room for the past 6 years, the two-foot little tree plant (Biophytum sensitivum) has outgrown its typical life span of 2 years predicted by the floral shop owner because in no way can its frail stem support the increasingly extravagant leaves. With the help of first a toothpick and then a thin wooden stick, however, the plant has managed to stand erect when the sun brings light to the living room every day.

With its exquisite flowers and soothing fragrance, the ball orchid hanging from the roof of the balcony has remained my favourite all these years. Unfortunately, about 14 months ago, its pot accidentally fell to the ground, breaking its roots.

For more than 6 months, it showed no signs of recovery as new leaves sprouted then withered, and the cycle repeated. To my relief, it started to produce flourishing leaves early this year and bloomed again last month. With patience, I have been able to witness the resilience and vitality of this magnificent plant.

If my plants have taught me anything, it would be that we need to recognize individual needs and potentials. Conceivably, human beings are far more complicated than plants. Therefore, as parents, we must take time to understand our children and provide the optimal environment where they can learn and blossom.

Yours sincerely,

Clive Chan

### Stars of the Month

Chan Wai Lun, Issac Chan Wing Yin, Vienn Chan Yan Tung, Elizabeth Chan Yuen Tung, Cherry Chau Ching Tung, Dora Cheung Tsz Yuet, Moon Cheung Yui Ching, Clement Chung Cheuk Yat, Travis Hui Cheuk Lam, Elva Hui Yik Sum, Stacy Kong Po Ching, Anthony Kwok Sze Nam, Angus Lam Hiu Yin, Evana Lam Hui Ting, Jayden Lam Kin Sing, Carson Lau Ying Kit, Kit Lee Chun Hei, Angus Lee Lok Yee, Venus Li Pui Lam, Angie Li Tsz Hin Liu Ailey Wai-Si Liu Justin Liu Sung Him, Brian Liu Tsz Hin, Kobby Lo Lok Fung, Gordon Lo Wan Ting, Ernest Ma Pok Ho, Alvin Ng Tsz Ham, Angela Pang Cheuk Ki, Kirstie Tam Sum, Caspar Tse Chun Yin, Jasmine Tse Wing Tung, Natural Wong Man Po, Ambrose Wong Sin Yu, Scarlett Wong Tsz Hin, Markel Wong Wan Yin, Vannie Yee Hin Ching, Jasmine Yeung Cheuk Nam, Namson Yeung Yui Yin, Hansel Yim Cho Yat, Gilbert

PTWE3 Sat 4:00-5:00 PTWB Sat 10:00-11:00 WTE6A Sat 11:00-12:00 WTE8A Sat 10:00-11:00 PTW4 Sat 9:00-10:00 IEK10B Sat 9:00-10:00 IEK4A Sat 12:00-1:00 IEKKA Tues 4:30-5:30 WTE4A Thur 6:30-7:30 WTE4B Sat 2:00-3:00 WTE10B Sat 12:00-1:00 IEK6A Sat 9:00-10:00 WTE2A Sat 3:00-4:00 PTWP2 Mon 3:30-4:30 GWF9B Fri 3:30-4:30 PTWE3 Sat 10:00-11:00 WTE6B Tues 5:30-6:30 WTE2A Sat 10:00-11:00 WTF8A Thur 4:30-5:30 WTE4B Sat 11:00-12:00 WTE4A Sat 11:00-12:00 WTF8B Sat 11:00-12:00 WTE6B Tues 5:30-6:30 IEKKA Sat 9:00-10:00 IEK8A Sat 1:00-2:00 WTE4B Thur 4:30-5:30 IEK2B Tues 5:30-6:30 PTWP2 Sat 12:00-1:00 WTE6B Wed 4:30-5:30 WTE2A Wed 5:30-6:30 PTWP2 Sat 12:00-1:00 GWF2A Sat 2:00-3:00 WTE2B Sat 11:00-12:00 WTE2A Tues 4:30-5:30 IEK8B Sat 10:00-11:00 PTWE1 Mon 5:30-6:30 WTE2B Tues 3:30-4:30 WTE1 Fri 5:30-6:30 PTWE1 Fri 4:30 / IEK4B Sat 9:00 IEK4B Thur 5:30-6:30

#### We are moving!

Our reception will be moved to Shop 165A on Level 5 of Sceneway Plaza before the end of the month. You will be informed of new class arrangements. We are sorry for any inconvenience caused.

# Students Page OCTOBER 2021



Welcome to October and the autumn season. In this season, the weather is cooler and we can see the changing colours of the leaves to bright red, orange and yellow. I like that the strong heat and humidity has lowered. This is a good time for people who like to go outside and enjoy the sun.

Below are some activities we can do in our free time during this season:

- Go for a walk in a country park
- Watch the autumn sunset
- Go on a picnic
- Fly a kite

~Ms. Josephine ©



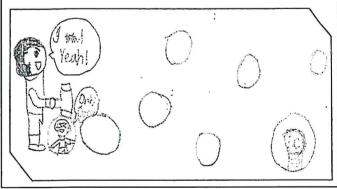
## My New Game

I have created a new game. It is called 'Catch me".

To play this game, we need a hammer that is made of paper and some holes. We need at least two people.

We can play this game outdoors.

We need to play paper-scissors-stone first and the winner needs to get a hammer and hit the person or in the holes. The winner of this game will exchange positions and stay in the holes and play again.



#### Congratulations to the Other Writers of the month:

Terrance Chan (WTE6B) – Left Alone in a Toy Store Huey Cheung (WTE4B) – Vegetable Chips Vicky Yiu (WTE4A) – Gum Leaflet



