

Thrive at E-Smart

January 2023

From the Headmaster's Desk

¹⁰We live to be about 70.

Or we may live to be 80, if we stay healthy.

But even our best days are filled with trouble and sorrow.

The years quickly pass, and we are gone.

¹¹If only we knew the power of your anger!

It's as great as the respect we should have for you.

¹²Teach us to realize how short our lives are.

Then our hearts will become wise.

The Holy Bible Psalm 90:10-12

Dear parents,

Happy New Year! This new year is indeed significant for me as I am now entitled to the massive discounts on public transportation after turning 60 last month. My friends have often teased me about my youthful look, which I take as a compliment, and every time I board the bus with my Joy You card which gives out a different tone when tapped on the fare device, I grin when the driver checks me out carefully, but somewhat to my disappointment, no one has ever asked me to produce my ID to prove my eligibility for this benefit for seniors. What if they do, sometimes I wonder. What real significance does it have? Is it something that I can be truly proud of?

The poignant fact of the matter is, however healthy we live our lives, however meticulous we maintain our diet and however regimental we keep our exercise, all our bodies, and absolutely without any exception, are going to expire one day. As Job, a prominent character in the Bible, wisely commented, "I was born naked. And I'll leave here naked."

Generations through generations, the wisest, richest and mightiest have sought a myriad number of ways to stay young and escape death, all in vain. This brutal reality prompted Moses, the writer of the above poem, to yearn for wisdom, which carries a number of different meanings in Hebrew literature, including being learned, skilled, witty, pious, and discerning, just to name a few. With my limited knowledge, wise people who are acutely aware of their mortality should have at least the following traits.

The first and foremost attribute of wisdom is humility. Only a fool would think he is omnipotent, desiring to subdue others by force, therefore causing unwarranted pain and suffering to the innocent masses. If only he is keenly aware that his destiny is the same as those he has tortured, he would be humbled and think twice before engaging in his evil acts rather than live in a constant fear of retribution.

Another mark of wisdom is contentment. Rather than having an insatiable craving for material enjoyment and asset accumulation, wise people are content with what they have because they know it is a meaningless feat to 'labor with wisdom, knowledge and skill, and then leave all they own to another who has not toiled for it.' Over the years, I have seen some parents who toil to provide the best for the family but

unknowingly breed the strong sense of entitlement and inertia among their children who lack the ability or motivation to fend for themselves and suffer a low self-image as a result, thereby leading an unhappy life, contrary to the expectations of their indulgent parents.

Wise people also tend to forgive others more easily. Conscious of their own limitations and shortcomings, they generally choose love over hatred, understanding over judgment, and forgiveness over punishment, therefore living a happier and more fulfilled life.

For this new year, rather than yearning to get my ID checked by the bus driver, I will strive to be wiser – more humble, more content and more forgiving. May your wisdom grow in 2023 too!

Yours sincerely,



Clive Chan

Stars of the Month

Chan Clementine
Cheung Cheuk Ki, Emma
Choi Ho Lam, Jack
Chu Kai Yin, Angus
Elizabeth Phan
Ho Cheuk Wing, Wins
Ho Kwun Wai, Wayne
Ho Tsz Yi, Yumi
Hui Wing Yu, Vianne
Hung King Him, Jayden
Ji Chun Hei, Jesse
Kwok Sze Nam, Angus
Kwong Wang Chi, Wilson
Lai Cheuk Yan, Yannis
Lai Yu Tung, Crystal
Lau Sing Yu, Matthew
Lee Kwan Ching, Gavin
Leung Alfie
Leung Ho Ching, Draco
Liu Yi Qi, Yuki
Lo King Ho
Lui Hong Yu, Alexandra
Man Kin Ching, Lester
Ng Siu Long, Hayden
Pak Wing Chin, Ashley
Qiu Wai Ching, Elsa
Shek Huen Ning, Miriam
Tse Chun Yin, Jasmine
Tsui Hei Tung, Aiden
Wong Ching Ching, Bonnie
Wong Tsz Yuet, Sheryl
Yeung Cheuk Yin, Chase
Yeung Ching Hei
Yip Long Chi, Aidan

WTE10B Sat 10:00-11:00
IEK2B Tue 4:30-5:30
IEKKA/PTWP1 Sat 9:00-11:00
WTE4B Tue 4:30-5:30
WTE6B Fri 4:30-5:30
WTE6A Sat 11:00-12:00
WTE2A/GWF2A Sat 11:00-1:00
GWF4B Sat 2:00-3:00
WTE8B Sat 11:00-12:00
WTE2B Sat 3:00-4:00
GWF1 Sat 5:00-6:00
IEK8B Sat 9:00-10:00
IEK6A Sat 11:00-12:00
WTE4A Sat 2:00-3:00
IEKKA Wed 3:30-4:30
GWF2B Sat 2:00-3:00
IEK8A Sat 10:00-11:00
GWF6B Sat 3:00-4:00
WTE4A Fri 6:30 / IEK6B Sat 12:00
PTWP1 Fri 5:30 / IEK2B Sat 1:00
WTE2B Sat 10:00-11:00
WTE1 Sat 10:00-11:00
IEK4A Sat 9:00-10:00
WTE4A Thu 4:30-5:30
WTE4B Wed 5:30-6:30
PTWR Mon 4:30-5:30
IEK2A Tue 5:30-6:30
PTWE2 Sat 12:00-1:00
IEK4A Thu 5:30 / WTE4B Sat 3:00
WTE2A Sat 3:00-4:00
IEKKA Thu 10:30-11:30
WTE2B Fri 5:30-6:30
WTE2A Fri 4:30 / IEK4B Sat 2:00
WTE4A Sat 11:00-12:00

Students' Page



January 2023

There are two celebrations of new year this month. Both western new year and Chinese (Lunar) New Year land in the same month. Lunar new year is not only widely celebrated throughout China, but also countries that were influenced by Chinese culture like Vietnam and South Korea. Similar to the Chinese culture, Vietnamese people enjoy a long holiday which lasts 6 to 9 days. They go back home and reunite with their families if they work at a distant location from home. If you know any Vietnamese family near you, you should say happy lunar new year to them during the festive time too.

~Ms. Michelle

E-Smart's Writers of January:

Collier Chan (2A)	<i>My Neighbour in School</i>
Angus Chu (4B)	<i>A Balloon Airplane</i>
Ashley Lai (4A)	<i>My Watch</i>
Sophie Lai (6B)	<i>Reusing the five old things</i>
Draco Chiu (8B)	<i>A Day with Picasso</i>



Chinese New Year Boggle

Find 6 words related to Chinese New Year by linking letters up, down, side-to-side, and diagonally. You can use only one time the letters per word.

*Answers are hidden on this page.

r	e	y	e	d
a	n	r	f	i
u	n	k	e	r
l	c	t	r	w
a	n	s	k	o

(3 letters) _ _ _

(4 letters) _ _ _ _

(4 letters) _ _ _ _

(5 letters) _ _ _ _ _

(7 letters) _ _ _ _ _ _ _

(8 letters) _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _



Answers: red, year, lantern, lunar, luck, fireworks

A World Without Cars

By Bridget Chiu (8B)

Can you imagine a world without cars? Now you might think how terrible it would be! Yes, I think it would be too. People used horses and trains for transportation before cars were invented. If one day, all cars disappear suddenly, people might use animals for transportation.

Most animals are locked in zoos nowadays until someday people find out they have lost their cars. They might ride on horses, deer and even on zebras. These are the most popular animals. Some children may ride on large dogs, huge cats and some friendly donkeys or ponies too. Although animals need to eat and excrete, the air will become fresher. Animals use chemical energy, and their excrement is good for plants, making the air better. However, there are also some bad places for animals. Some rich people might ride on peacocks, rockets or even airplanes, and they might have the risk of some dirty things falling from the sky, especially with peacocks. Pollution from rockets and airplanes will also affect the air, but it will still be better than nowadays with cars.

These years, air pollution has become worse and worse. Someday the government will stop people from using cars and instead, they might invent a car that doesn't cause air pollution. With less pollution, this earth will become cleaner and more beautiful.