

### From the Headmaster's Desk

"What we call the beginning is often the end. And to make an end is to make a beginning. The end is where we start from." ~ T.S. Eliot

Dear parents,

A few days ago, I received the sad news of the closing down of Book Depository, my favorite online bookstore founded by a former Amazon employee in 2004, then acquired by Amazon in 2011. The company was apparently successful at the start, but as the interest for reading has continued to dwindle while the electronic media have become increasingly dominant over the years, the closures of most bookstores, real or online, have become inevitable.

Imaginably, all the stakeholders share a sense of gloom over a terminated business, with some readers posting being 'heartbroken', 'lost' and even 'depressed' in response to the devastating news. Indeed, it is never easy to bid farewell because saying goodbye to an established enterprise often signifies a change of the macroeconomic, social and cultural environment. For an individual, parting with friends, family, a job or a usual place of residence often involves some unwarranted adjustments to a longstanding habit or lifestyle, failing which could lead to some unease and unhappiness.

On the other hand, as aptly by T.S. Eliot, an end is also a beginning that we can look forward to with excitement and expectation. I shared this sentiment when I left Hong Kong and my counseling profession for an MBA on a full scholarship and a new career in Australia in 1990. At the business school, I met many ambitious and highly intelligent people from different backgrounds, surviving immense cultural shock before successfully acclimatizing to the various new groups and communities there. What I was most proud of, however, was that my core life values, such as righteousness and kindness, hadn't really changed, as I was awarded "the most trustworthy counselor" prize by my classmates at the graduation dinner.

Indeed, I have witnessed a similar journey undertaken by some good friends who have chosen to leave Hong Kong the past few years. As anticipated, they have to adapt to the weather, language and social environment but most of them seem to have settled well despite some initial hiccups. Indeed, as opposed to most of my friends who are retirees, life is harder for young people who have to make a living as language and cultural barriers can make it difficult if not impossible for them to find work in their original professions, but most of them are content with a slower pace of life, better living environment and freer social atmosphere in their new homes.

Thanks to advanced telecommunication, we can now easily be connected with family and friends who live in other parts of the globe. Notwithstanding, our different daily life

circumstances and experiences are still drifting us apart, with which most of us would gradually come to terms. What we can rest assured, though, is that most of our core values are going to remain intact, and they are the keys to sustaining our relationships or friendships.

Therefore, despite some inescapable separation anxiety, a farewell unleashes a beginning for all the parties involved, so we can all journey to the unknown future with confidence and anticipation, and if we hold on tight to our values, we can all continue to thrive and look forward to a jubilant reunion.

Yours sincerely,



Clive Chan

### Stars of the Month

Chan Clementine	WTE10B Sat 10:00-11:00
Chan Esther	PTWB Sat 10:00-11:00
Chan Pak Hin, Kobe	IEKKA Thu 10:30-11:30
Chau Yui Tin, Isaac	PTWP2 Sat 10:00-11:00
Cheng Ming Yan, Mila	PTWP1 Sat 12:00-1:00
Cheung Cheuk Ki, Emma	IEK2B Tue 4:30-5:30
Chow Yat Yee, Kylie	WTE2B Sat 10:00-11:00
Chu Cheuk Kiu, Arku	PTWR Mon 4:30-5:30
Ho Nok Yu, Rianna	WTE2A Sat 3:00-4:00
Kong Pingu	WTE4B Wed 5:30-6:30
Kwok Ching Kiu, Bowen	WTE4B Sat 3:00-4:00
Kwong Wang Chi, Wilson	WTE6B Thu 6:30-7:30
Lai Yi Tung, Crystal	IEKKA Sat 9:00-10:00
Lam Nok Him, Himby	WTE2A Fri 4:30-5:30
Lau Cheuk Long, Tyrus	WTE4A Fri 6:30-7:30
Lau Ching Sum, Venia	IEK8B Sat 9:00-10:00
Lau Sing Yu, Matthew	WTE2B Sat 3:00-4:00
Lee Kam Man, Anna	WTE2A Sat 11:00-12:00
Leung Alfie	GWFF6B Sat 3:00-4:00
Leung Ho Ching, Draco	IEK6B Sat 12:00-1:00
Li Pak Shun, Morris	WTE2B Fri 5:30-6:30
Li Tsz Hin	WTE4A Sat 11:00-12:00
Li Yee Ching, Chara	WTE4A Sat 2:00-3:00
Liu Yi Qi, Yuki	PTWP2 Fri 5:30-6:30
Man Kin Ching, Lester	IEK4A Sat 9:00-10:00
Ng Cheuk Lam, Jolie	WTE6A Tue 6:30-7:30
Ng Siu Long, Hayden	WTE4A Thu 4:30-5:30
Ng Tsz Wing, Elsa	IEK2A Tue 5:30-6:30
Ran Choi Yup, Rainbow	WTE6B Sat 11:00-12:00
Tang Sum Yu, Bobo	WTE4B Sat 10:00-11:00
Tsang Elsa	GWFF1 Sat 4:00-5:00
Wong Ho Hin, Coco	WTE4B Tue 4:30-5:30
Wong Ki Fung, Justin	WTE2B Thu 4:30-5:30
Wu Hiu Ting, Hilary	WTE2A Wed / GWFF4B Sat 2:00
Yam Chi Him, Randy	GWFF2A Sat 1:00-2:00

### Farewell Ms. Michelle

We are bidding farewell to Ms. Michelle who will be moving to Australia with her husband in June. Teaching at E-Smart since February 2014, Ms. Michelle has made an invaluable impact on our students, and she will be dearly missed by all of us.

# Students' Page May 2023

May acts as the bridge between spring and summer; we farewell spring and welcome the warmer temperature yet wishing the humidity would stay low. May is the perfect month to sow your favourite vegetables and to go hiking and camping before the arrival of the intolerable heat of summer.

This is usual for the countries in the northern hemisphere like China, Japan, the USA and the United Kingdom. However, the climate in May is very different in countries like Australia and Brazil in the Southern hemisphere.

This year, May is also a bridge for me, between my current life and my upcoming adventure in Australia. Here, I say my thanks and farewells to brainy students and wish you all the best in your future endeavours.

~Ms. Michelle

## E-Smart's Writers of March:

- Nigel Wong 6B ~Unforgettable Hiking  
 Aidan Shou 4B ~ **Aidan's Infinite Wishes Journey**  
 Bernice Li 8B ~ The Haunted House  
 Vianne Hui 8B ~ Stranded on a Deserted Island



### **Aidan's Infinite Wishes Journey**

by Aidan Shou (4B)

One afternoon, I found a sparkly book on my way home from school. When I opened the book, strange things started to happen. First, white smoke came out of the pages. Then, a beautiful fairy flew out and exclaimed, "I am here to grant you a wish." I was scared so I closed the book, and I thought to myself. A wish? Then, I opened the book again and the fairy came back. "What wish do you want?" asked the fairy. "I wish for infinite wishes," I said. "I'll do what you say," said the fairy.

Then the next day, I wished I was tall. Then, I actually became tall. Later on, I was having a bad day, so I wished I was happy and lucky. Then, my friends called me up and we played football together.

My friend wished he had infinite Robux (Money we use in Roblox.), so I gave him some. Then, some bullies punched me and hurt me, so I wished to heal myself and wished for magical powers. Next, I wrapped the magical force field around me. Whenever the bullies punched the force field, they actually punched themselves. But then the fairy came and took all of my infinite wishes away because they were hurting people.

## **Camping Wordsearch**

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

TENT	MAP	NATURE
CAMPING	TRAIL	BACKPACK
CAMPFIRE	FOREST	LANTERN
CAMPER	WOODS	SMORES

