Thrive at E-Smart

April 2024

From the Headmaster's Desk

Dear parents,

I have to confess my carbon footprint used to be high as I enjoyed driving my car which was a haven for me to destress after long hours of work. After turning 60, however, I have been taking advantage of the Joy You card, so I now use public transportation for 90 percent of my commute, driving my car only when I know the traffic is light and where parking is easy to find. To my surprise, after a year, I now prefer public transportation to driving irrespective of the concessions for I have discovered a lot of benefits I wasn't aware of before.

First, as a multitasker, I am delighted to finish some work during the commute. While driving, I can only listen to songs or audiobooks, which is still pleasing when I am stuck in the morning traffic. I have finished listening to most of Kazuo Ishiguro and Haruki Murakami's books in my car, but sometimes I would lose focus when I get too carried away by the imaginative scenes described, so I have decided to listen to books only when I am doing chores at home. On the other hand, I can read at ease when I am on the train. Reading on the bus is a bit difficult when the bus driver takes passengers for a Formula One race, zooming and slamming on the brakes unexpectedly, but I still opt for the bus as I usually get a seat and it is generally quieter than the train.

Riding on the train can be far more interesting if I don't mind the noise and distractions, however. Observing behaviours of different commuters often gives me food for thought and insights for writing. Indeed, I have written most of my letters to you on the train, and I started writing this one when I got on the train one morning, during which I was forced to listen to the conversations among four women who were shouting across their seats in Putonghua about their itinerary for the day; apparently they were excited tourists from China. I could sense that some passengers were annoyed but most seemed oblivious while a young man moved from his seat to stand at the next compartment, muttering under his breath a few words that I couldn't catch, but obviously he rose from his seat to elude the

My mind immediately flashed back to my previous trips to Tokyo where trains are equally if not much more crowded but pleasantly quiet. There are large and clear signs telling passengers to observe silence, setting their phones to the silent mode and limiting their telecommunications to messaging rather than talking on the phone. The four women I met on the train that morning would certainly raise eyebrows there, but it might be difficult for these thrilled tourists to adapt to a courteous and composed environment if they have grown up in a society where personal space and privacy aren't of a high order.

What then can we promote publicly responsible behavior observing traffic lights, not littering on the street, keeping quiet on public transportation, offering seats and help to the elderly and physically challenged and many more? Aside from propaganda and advertisement, our Government has resorted to heavier penalties. Punishment could elicit immediate compliance but may not be able to foster social responsibility fundamental to a caring society. On many occasions, I have seen young children jump the line and race to seats on trains, smiling

in content that they are smarter and faster than the adults. Once I was travelling on the train at peak hours, and even the first-class compartment was filled with standing passengers. A feeble elderly man with a walking stick got on, but sadly none of the seated passengers nearby were willing to give up their seats. I immediately got up and helped him to my seat. After thanking me, he dragged out a drug box and swallowed some pills. Only then did I realize I might have helped a senior with some chronic illnesses. Indeed he looked frail and if he did fall, the consequences could be fatal, but unfortunately those seated passengers who refused to give up their seats didn't seem to bother. Maybe they felt even more entitled to have seats after paying a much higher fare.

More often than not, we feel entitled rather than obliged, and patronizing rather than obliging. As we celebrate Easter, let us ponder on the humble and sacrificial act of Jesus and show more love and compassion to people around us. A caring society, after all, can only be attained by building civic awareness and engagement, not by continued hype.

Yours sincerely,

Clive Chan

Stars of the Month

Au Nga Hei, Tracy Chan Sarah Chan Yik Him, Brandon Chan Yik Him, Brandon Chan Yuet Ching, Hazel Cheng Ka Ki, Kayla Cheung Ho Kwan, Charles Cheung Tsz Yu, Zoe Hui Lydia Hung Ling To, Allen Kan Pak Ho, Rex Kan Pui Yui, Aidan Ku Yu Shun, Christopher Kung Ling Shan, Lewis Kwok Sze Nam, Angus Kwong Wang Chi, Wilson Lai Yi Tung, Crystal Leung Ka Hong, Kelvin Leung Sun Yin, Jessica Li Sum Yuet, Cindy Liu Yi Qi, Yuki Luk Chun Ting, Jayden Ma Pok Ho, Alvin Man Kin Ching, Lester Ng Tsz Wing, Elsa So Wang Ching, Jayden Tao Hei Tung, Selena Wen Pui Pan, Paco Wong Ho Chun, Declan Wong Ki Fung, Justin Wong Tsz Yuet, Sheryl Wu Hiu Ting, Hilary Wu Hiu Ting, Hilary Yeung Cheuk Nam, Namson Zhang Lai Yu, Lily

PTWR Sat 10:00-11:00 GWF2B Fri 5:30-6:30 WTE1 Sat 10:00-11:00 PTWR Mon 10:30-11:30 WTE6B Sat 2:00-3:00 WTE4A Sat 3:00-4:00 IEKKB Mon 3:30-4:30 GWF2A Sat 2:00-3:00 IEK2A Sat 1:00-2:00 IEK2B Fri 4:30-5:30 IEKKA Wed 5:30-6:30 IEK4B Sat 12:00-1:00 PTWP2 Fri 3:30-4:30 IEK8A Sat 9:00-10:00 IEK8B Sat 11:00-12:00 IFK2B Sat 9:00-10:00 WTE6A Sat 4:00-5:00 GWF4B Sat 1:00-2:00 IFK4A Sat 2:00-3:00 WTE2B Sat 1:00-2:00 WTE4B Fri 4:30-5:30 WTE2A Thu 4:30-5:30 IEK6B Sat 9:00-10:00 IEK4B Tue 5:30-6:30 IEK6A Sat 12:00-1:00 WTE2B Fri 6:30-7:30 IEK6B Thu 5:30-6:30 PTWE3 Thu 5:30-6:30 WTE2A Sat 10:00-11:00 GWF1 Fri 5:30-6:30 GWF4A Sat 2:00-3:00 WTE4B Wed 4:30-5:30 WTE2A Fri 5:30-6:30 WTE8A Sat 11:00-12:00

WTE4B Sat 3:00-4:00



Students Page April 2024



Welcome to April! After celebrating Easter on the last day of March, we can now look forward to new hope and confidence that new and good things will come our way this year. At Easter, we remember how a man named Jesus did a very incredible thing. He was crucified (killed on a cross), buried (put in the ground) and then resurrected (came back to life). He did this so that our sins (the things we did bad) would die on the cross with Him. On Easter day, Jesus came back to life with a new life from the tomb.

Earth Day is also celebrated in April. This is a day that was first celebrated in 1970 to make people aware of the importance of keeping our planet healthy and clean. Since then, many people from many different countries around the world have participated in Earth Day activities to help the planet. You can be one of them and help the planet too. Hope you all have a wonderful April! 😊

~Ms Josephine

CONGRATULATIONS TO ALL THE WRITERS OF APRIL:

Best Writer: A Fatal and Endless Argument - Aiden Tsui (WTE4A) Other Writers: Angus Wong – The Next 20 Years (WTE6B); Chloe Yan – Oink's Second Chance (WTE4B); Eunice So – Learning a New Language (WTE6B); Issac Wong – Worldwide Easter Hunt (WTE8A);

Perseus Wong - A Bank Robbery (WTE2A)



A Fatal and Endless Argument By Aiden Tsui (WTE4A)

Ben and Bob were best friends before, but they quarrelled over who would win, Sans or Yoyo. Ben said Sans would win, but Bob said that Yoyo would win, so they argued about who would win. They both roasted each other so hard that they swore at each other. Ben was the angriest so he grabbed out a Glock and shot Bob 79 times in the chest. Bob was dead so Ben went into federal prison for murdering someone. Ben broke out of prison but the police caught him so he was sentenced to death penalty. In heaven, Ben and Bob still argued with each other, so now they are arguing endlessly in heaven.



Earth Day Color by Number

		1	2 7 8	6 .
	\ 5	5 4	7.1	4
7 4	5	14		4 8
5	\$\int_{5}^{8}	5	5 5	1 5 3



Easter Oops!

Once upon a	time, the Easter Bunny was getting ready to
deliver	on Easter morning. As he was
hopping from	house to house, he tripped and fell into a
0000	of chocolate. He was covered from
	to in chocolate!
	was covered in chocolate.
He wasn't sui	re that he could continue because he felt so
	and But he aggs.
As he hopped	through the neighborhood, children started to
verb	
chocolate	! The children started to bite
his	of a rabbe's body
the children run	
The Easter bu	nny was that he had
	ldren but he was happy that he could continue
delivering the	