Thrive at E-Smart

May 2024

From the Headmaster's Desk

Dear parents,

May is an important month as we acknowledge the greatness of motherhood on the second Sunday. As a son or a daughter, how would you describe your mother? Conversely, as a parent, what image of yours would pop up in your child's mind? For me, Mom was simply indomitable.

Lest you should get the wrong impression of my mom, she was definitely caring and loving, but her most prominent trait was perseverance. Born into a pretty well-to-do family, she had a carefree childhood, pampered by her parents and maids. However, the second world war that broke out when she was only 6 changed her life forever. Having lost the opportunity to be educated like her elder sisters, she worked at construction sites then a garment factory to earn a living after moving to Hong Kong in her teens. Initially soft-spoken and inhibited, she had to transform herself into an outspoken and assertive individual to gain the necessary respect at work. On the other hand, she was affable and helpful to her coworkers. A few months before I was born, she was working at a construction site and saw her teammate's hair being trapped by a huge fan that was still turning. She rushed to help and save the woman from being severely injured.

Mom's compassion has indeed made an immense impact on how I see the world and my relationship with other people. A close school friend who had aspired to be an athlete was made paraplegic after sustaining acute spinal injury by falling off the trampoline during practice. To help this former sportsman of the year, our school encouraged us to raise funds to support his medical treatment, and I easily became the biggest contributor as Mom volunteered to take my envelop and collect substantial donations from her boss and a lot of her colleagues who she barely knew after explaining the incident to them.

Proud of her dexterity and excellent communication skills, Mom could impress others as arrogant and bragging. In those days, garment workers were paid by the number of pieces they finished making, and mom was always the highest paid worker even though she would go to work late as she had to finish preparing breakfast and lunchboxes for her children. Married to Dad at the age of 19 and having given births to 7 children, Mom was forced to become a highly efficient multitasker, working long hours while cooking for the family. She insisted on making our breakfast and lunchboxes before going to work. To spare herself from waiting in the long line for the minibus, in summer and other school holidays, she would ask me to go and line up for her well in advance. It often gave me big satisfaction to see her grin, jump onto the minibus and wave goodbye as other passengers waiting behind muttered with envy.

Though seemingly resilient, Mom was sentimental at heart. She would easily be moved to tears when witnessing or recounting the suffering of a friend, a relative or even a

neighbor. When I was in primary 3, my school mistakenly missed my attendance and immediately called Mom who left work and hurried to school but found me sitting quietly in the classroom. (In the old days, it was safe for an 8-year-old boy to go to school on his own.) Relieved to see me being safe and sound, instead of cursing the school for the mistake, she flung her arms around me, weeping and thanking God for protecting me. I couldn't help but feel embarrassed and compelled to weep at the same time!

Mom has left us to be the Lord for more than 25 years, but I don't need a picture of her to remind me of all these fond memories as they have been indelibly imprinted on my mind. What about you? What will your child remember most about you? Hopefully, their memories won't be like those of my clients who have come to me for treatment of their childhood traumas — being forced to practice playing a musical instrument, whacked for spelling a word wrong, or made to stand outside the door to be ridiculed by neighbors for flunking an exam.

Start creating good memories. Happy Mother's Day!

Yours sincerely,

Clive Chan

Stars of the Month

Chan Chung Yeung, Emmanuel Cheng Nga Ki, Aki Cheung Cheuk Ki, Emma Chong Pui Chi, Gigi Chow Yat Yee, Kylie Fan Sze Yin, Aiden Hui Martha Hung Ling To, Allen Ko Sum Yee, Yuki Kwong Wang Chi, Wilson Lai Hong Ting, Natalie

Lai Yan Ling, Annette

Lau Ching Sum, Venia Lau Ching Sum, Venia Lau Huen Yu, Summy Leong Wai Man, Raymond Lo Ching Yin, Oscar Lui Hong Lam, Caitlyn Luk Wing Tung, Jamie Ma Ting Hin Mak Pak Him, Fason Pang Yu Kwan, Mocha So Ka Yu, Eunice Tse Hong Ching, Kris Tsui Hei Tung, Aiden Wan Yui Nam, Alexander Wang Kam Yung, Ben Wen Pui Yuk, Kristy Xie Wen Xi, Jason Yeung Chin Yau, Karina Yeung Ching Hei Yip Wing Sum, Sophia

Yu Man Him, Dinosaur

WTE6A Thu 6:30-7:30
PTWR Sat 10:00-11:00
GWF2A Sat 9:00-10:00
WTE2A Sat 10:00-11:00
WTE2A Sat 3:00-4:00
PTWR Mon 10:30-11:30
GWF2A Sat 2:00-3:00
IEK2A Sat 1:00-2:00
PTWE1 Sat 10:00-11:00
IEK8B Sat 11:00-12:00
WTE6A Sat 11:00-12:00
10n1-K2 IEKKA+PTWR Mon 1:30
2:30
IEK8A Sat 9:00-10:00
WTE8B Sat 11:00-12:00

WTE8A Sat 11:00-12:00 WTE4A Sat 3:00-4:00 GWF4B Mon 5:30-6:30 WTE4A Tue 4:30-5:30 GWF1 Fri 5:30-6:30 WTE2B Sat 10:00-11:00 PTWP3 Sat 5:00-6:00 IEK6A Sat 12:00-1:00 WTE6B Sat 11:00-12:00 WTE4B Sat 11:00-12:00 GWF4A Sat 2:00-3:00 GWF4B Sat 1:00-2:00 PTW4 Sat 12:00-1:00 IEK4B Sat 12:00-1:00 WTE2B Sat 1:00-2:00 IFK2B Fri 4:30-5:30 WTE4B Fri 4:30-5:30 GWF2B Fri 5:30-6:30 PTWE3 Thu 5:30-6:30



May 2024: Students Page



Mother's Day is a day which should be celebrated every day. In our busy daily schedules, we often forget the important role our mothers play in our life and often, we end up taking their presence and all that they do for us for granted. As we get to the month of May, I hope you would reach out to your mother and give her a big hug. How would you celebrate this special day with your mother this year? Whatever you do to celebrate this day, it's more important that you show her that she is appreciated with your time and love. Wishing all the mothers in the world a very **Happy Mother's Day!**

~Ms Josephine

Best Writer of May!



Zoe Ko - An Unforgettable Walk (WTE6B)

One day, I was walking in a forest with my friends. However, something unlucky happened.

That day, as we went into the forest, we heard some frightening sounds. After a while, I saw something hiding in the tree, and I told my friends softly. But then, I saw it. It was a snake! It looked like a python.

We ran promptly! My friends threw some rocks at it. However, it didn't work! Suddenly, my friend fell down after the snake had bitten her.

With care, we pulled her to a safe place and checked her wounds. She had two small holes in her hand and shed a lot of blood. Our faces turned white with fear because we were afraid of being bitten by snakes as well and would have a hard time explaining it to our families.

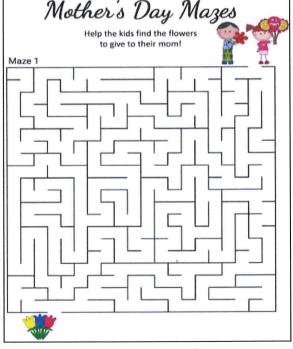
Just then, I asked, "What should we do now?" "I think we should call the ambulance!" Sam took out his mobile phone and called, and fortunately someone answered immediately.

To our relief, the doctor said that snake was not a python or poisonous. From then on, I have learnt that I should not walk alone in the forest without adult supervision. What an unforgettable experience!

Other writers of May!

Jayden Hung (WTE2A) – The Lion and the Mouse Kayton Hui (WTE2A) – A Farmer's Problems Alexandra Lui (WTE2B) – Being a Kind Person Philip Ng (WTE2A) – If I am the King of Hong Kong Nick Tsai (WTE2A) – The Three Little Pigs





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