

### From the Headmaster's Desk

*Rest is not idleness, and to lie sometimes on the grass under trees on a summer's day, listening to the murmur of the water, or watching the clouds float across the sky, is by no means a waste of time. ~ John Lubbock*

Dear parents,

What is your favourite season of the year? I conducted a small survey among our students by asking them the same question and was stunned to know that a lot of them dislike summer. Some of them say they would rather go to school and chat with their classmates while some grumble there is too much holiday homework to do. Some even complain that they drag going to classes and activities forced upon them by parents but in which they have absolutely no interest.

Pathetic as it may sound, such notion seems to have become prevalent among young children these days. Seemingly having no autonomy over their free time, they lack the motivation to learn a new sport, play a musical instrument or acquire new life skills when they should have a bit more time for themselves.

Such inertia is disheartening and worrying as childhood and teenage years should be filled with new experiences and inspirational memories that keep evoking young people to take on new challenges and strive for excellence, thereby achieving fulfilment in life. Indeed, contrary to common perceptions, a lot of learning happens outside rather than inside the classroom.

In hindsight, I am truly grateful that there was no Internet when I was growing up so that like most other children, I roamed around and played with other children in the neighbourhood rather than sat alone at home. One of my favourite activities was hanging out at the community library near my home. When I was still in primary school, I looked forward to summer when I could spend hours in the library reading the general science series 'I Wonder Why' and translated or abridged works of Shakespeare, Charles Dickens, Jane Austen, George Orwell and Aldous Huxley. I then delved into the original works at my secondary school library, further developing my passion in English literature.

In addition to reading extensively rather than cramming school textbooks or completing language exercises, I was able to flex my muscles and learn some new skills in summer. Beneath the community library was a children and youth centre which offered a lot of training in arts and sports. I was thrilled to win the best actor award and be named one of the best dancers in a summer camp. From various coaches and trainers, I learned how to play table-

tennis, swim, ride the canoe, pitch a tent, start a fire and do simple cooking in the wild, and be a leader, which I wouldn't have been able to learn in the classroom.

More importantly, my parents allowed me to join all these activities for fun rather than for collecting prizes and certificates for secondary school admission interviews. I took the initiative to join and bear the accountability to do my best in each of them. Though sweating a lot and sometimes becoming exhausted, I was happy and fulfilled, and turned out to be more ready for the new school term in September.

Do your children look forward to summer? Can they choose what they would like to do? Are they allowed to explore their talents and broaden their interests? Or would they rather stay idle or engage in some mindless activities? I hope you can help them make some wise choices. Have a great summer!

Yours sincerely,



Clive Chan

### Stars of the Month

Chan Ho Hin, Jacob	WTE6B Thu 4:30-5:30
Cheng Chun Hei, Marcus	IEK8B Sat 11:00-12:00
Cheng Ka Ki, Kayla	WTE6B Sat 2:00-3:00
Cheung Tsz Yu, Zoe	IEKKB Mon 3:30-4:30
Chiu Cheuk Kit, Jacky	GWFF4B Mon 5:30-6:30
Choi Ho Lam, Jack	WTE1 Sat 10:00-11:00
Ha Hang Yu, Rachel	WTE4A Sat 3:00-4:00
Ho Chun Hei, Cyrus	IEK4B Sat 12:00-1:00
Ho Himson	IEKKA Wed 5:30-6:30
Ho Hiu Yan, Tiffany	WTE6A Sat 4:00-5:00
Hung Ling To, Allen	IEK2A Sat 1:00-2:00
Hung Ling To, Allen	GWFF2B Fri 5:30-6:30
Ip Pak Yu, Cyrus	IEK6B Thu 5:30-6:30
Kung Ling Shan, Lewis	PTWP3 Fri 3:30-4:30
Kwok Sze Nam, Angus	IEK8A Sat 9:00-10:00
Lau Ching Sum, Venia	WTE8B Sat 11:00-12:00
Lau Tin Kan, George	IEK2B Sat 9:00-10:00
Leung Sun Yin, Jessica	GWFF4B Sat 1:00-2:00
Li Sum Yuet, Cindy	WTE4B Fri 4:30-5:30
Lui Hong Yu, Alexandra	WTE2B Sat 10:00-11:00
Ng Cheuk Lam, Jolie	WTE8B Tue 6:30-7:30
Ng Chi Yin, Andy	WTE2A Sat 3:00-4:00
Ng Tsz Ho, Philip	WTE2A Thu 4:30-5:30
Ruan Kai Ho, Annie	WTE4B Sat 3:00-4:00
Shou Aidan	WTE4A Tue 4:30-5:30
Siu Scarlett	PTWP1 Sat 10:00-11:00
Tsai Chi Ko, Nick	WTE2A Sat 10:00-11:00
Tsui Hei Tung, Aiden	GWFF4A Sat 2:00-3:00
Wen Pui Yuk, Kristy	PTWE3 Thu 5:30-6:30
Wong Chin Lam, Larissa	WTE2B Sat 1:00-2:00
Wong Ka Yeung, Elio	PTWR Tue 10:30-11:30
Wong Tsz Ching, Eunice	GWFF6B Tue 5:30-6:30
Wu Hiu Ting, Hilary	WTE4B Wed 4:30-5:30
Yam Yuen Na, Anna	GWFF2A Sat 2:00-3:00



# Students Page

July  
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**Welcome to Summer!!** July is the month which indicates that the school year is coming to an end and it's the start of your summer holidays. It's a wonderful feeling to know you can now have two months of break to relax and enjoy the hot weather. Staying at home during the holidays can be relaxing, but it may feel a bit boring to stay at home for the whole of the summer break. To make your summer more interesting and memorable, this may be a good time to go to the beach, go hiking, explore a new outdoor hobby (a new sport) and/or do some volunteering work. Have a wonderful summer holiday! 😊

~Ms Josephine

## CONGRATULATIONS TO ALL THE E-SMART WRITERS OF JULY:

Best: Jacob Chan (6B) – Retiring in Costa Rica;

Others: Hilary Wu (4B) – Mr Marcus and I; Kris Tse (4B) – My Encounter with the Crafty Wolf;

Ethan Choi (6B) – My Superpowers; Justin Wong (2A) – My Life in the Desert;

Aiden Tsui (4A) – An Unexpected Encounter on the MTR; Aden Chow (2A) – A Letter to my Pen Pal;

Haymond Fok (6A) – A Story of an Athlete

### Retiring in Costa Rica By Jacob Chan (WTE6B)



If I retire in Costa Rica, I will start a business and build a school for children that are poor (that don't have enough money to learn). I will live on the beach because I can see the view of the ocean and it is quieter than the city. The daily life will be slow and relaxed because of the relaxed Costa Rican culture, the beach and rainforest. If I end my days in Costa Rica, I will give my house to local poor people. Furthermore, I will ask my relatives to take my body back to Hong Kong.

## Summer Fun Word Search

BARBECUE LEMONADE  
BATHINGSUIT PARTY  
BEACH BOAT PICNIC  
CAR TRIP POOL  
CHALK SUNGLASSES  
FAMILY SUNSHINE  
FIREFLIES SWIM  
FIREWORKS TOWEL  
FRIENDS VACATION  
FUN VOLLEYBALL  
GAMES ZOO  
ICE CREAM

