

### From the Headmaster's Desk

*"There is no way to be a perfect mother, but a million ways to be a good one."* –Jill Churchill

Dear parents,

This month, we are celebrating Mother's Day, one of the most important dates on our calendar. According to a mid-aged friend, she can disappoint or fail God but will never dare to upset her 82-year-old mother! More often than not, children feel obligated to make their mothers feel loved or acknowledged while many mothers are driven to strive for perfection, unknowingly creating undue stress on themselves and their children.

Many people want to be perfect parents, desiring to provide the best for their kids. Some might give up their own careers to become full-time homemakers, 'hovering' over their kids 24/7 and micro-managing their every life goal, task and activity. A role with no tangible remuneration or career advancement, full-time parents are more than tempted to build their identity on the success of their children, taking pride in their kids' success and feeling embarrassed when their kids' performance is below par.

What about their children? How would they generally feel about their 'perfect' parents' expectations? "I am never good enough" is what I have always heard as a teacher and a counselor. I often ask how the children see themselves when they recall some unpleasant childhood experiences. Some of the common answers are, "I am powerless; I have no autonomy; I am second-rate; I can never satisfy my parents' impossible demands."

How do they feel about their parents? The responses are far more complicated. Most acknowledge the love of their parents, but some feel emotionally blackmailed that they have to do well to make up for their parents' sacrifices. A 26-year-old teacher gave me one of the most heartbreaking accounts. "When I was a kid, Mom coerced me to learn the piano, sitting next to me when I was practicing and hitting my fingers with a ruler whenever I played the wrong note. She promised me that I could stop playing if I got distinction in the grade 8 piano exam. I did it at the age of 11, but Mom didn't keep her word but said it would be a waste of my talent if I couldn't attain the performance diploma. So I had to keep playing the piano even though I hated it. I have never touched the piano since leaving home for college at the age of 18, and I am still very angry with Mom though I have never overtly expressed it. Instead, I choose not to pick up her calls or respond to her messages. Does she love me? Maybe she does, but I didn't feel it when I was a kid."

The thought of 'I am never good enough' doesn't only impair a child's relationship with her parents. This young teacher feels inferior deep within, but often appears to her friends and colleagues as condescending because she is keen to show off her strengths and expose their blunders, and she

finds it extremely difficult to praise other people for in her view, they are simply fulfilling their responsibilities.

I hope you appreciate by now the possible negative consequences when you seek to be perfect parents and require your kids to be perfect children. None of us can be perfect. Instead, I urge you to become 'good enough parents', focusing on building a positive emotional bond with your children. Give your children some autonomy to plan their own schedule and choose their activities. Give them enough freedom to explore the world, and grant them the grace to accept failures, thereby building their resilience to withstand the inevitable disappointments in life.

Paradoxically, children would feel far more motivated to strive for excellence when they are assured of their parents' love even though they are not perfect. Such self-assuredness will help them go a long way in their studies and careers.

Aspire to be 'good enough' rather than 'perfect' parents so that your child will love rather than avoid you. Happy Mother's Day!

Yours sincerely,



Clive Chan

### Stars of the Month

Chan Yik Him, Brandon  
Chiu Cheuk Kit, Jacky  
Choi Ho Chung, Ethan  
Huang Kam San, Joel  
Hung King Him, Jayden  
Kan Pui Yui, Aidan  
Kwok Ching Kiu, Bowen  
Lai Yi Tung, Crystal  
Lam Shing Hang, Avery  
Lau Ching Sum, Venia  
Lau Tsz Fung  
Li Sheung Wing, Bernice  
Lin Yat Hong, Hayden  
Lin Yat On, Anka  
Liu Yi Qi, Yuki  
Lui Hong Lam, Caitlyn  
Or Shelton  
Poon Ka Ki, Andrew  
Ren Zi Qing, Annie  
Tang Sze Wai, Crystal  
Tou Ka Ying, Lisa  
Tsui Hei Tung, Aiden  
Tsui Hei Tung, Aiden  
Xie Wen Xi, Jason  
Yam Chi Him, Randy  
Yan Wing Yin, Chloe  
Yau Hok Yan, Holly  
Yeung Hoi Ching, Eunice

GWF2A Fri 5:30-6:30  
GWF4A Mon 5:30-6:30  
WTE6A Sat 11:00-12:00  
WTE4A Sat 3:00-4:00  
WTE4A Wed 4:30-5:30  
PTWP3 Sat 10:00-11:00  
IEK6A Thu 5:30-6:30  
PTWE3 Sat 10:00-11:00  
WTE6A Sat 2:00-3:00  
WTE8A Sat 11:00-12:00  
WTE4A Sat 11:00-12:00  
WTE10B Thu 6:30-7:30  
WTE4B Sat 10:00-11:00  
WTE2A Sat 10:00-11:00  
WTE2A Sat 1:00-2:00  
WTE6B Tue 4:30-5:30  
IEK4A Sat 12:00-1:00  
GWF9B Wed 6:30-7:30  
IEK2B Wed 5:30-6:30  
IEK4B Sat 1:00-2:00  
WTE2B Sat 12:00-1:00  
GWF6B Sat 2:00-3:00  
WTE6B Sat 3:00-4:00  
GWF4B Sat 2:00-3:00  
GWF4A Sat 1:00-2:00  
WTE4A Fri 4:30-5:30  
WTE4B Thu 4:30-5:30  
IEK2A Sat 9:00-10:00



# Students' Page *May 2025*

May is here and it's an eventful month. We open the month with Labour Day which in some countries around the world marks the start of summer. With the hotter weather incoming remember to keep cool and have a good fluid input.

The 5th of May is Buddha's birthday; whether you go to a temple or not to celebrate we should always be respectful, considerate and tolerant of people's beliefs.

Also, we should all remember to wish our mothers a Happy Mother's Day on the 11th May, help around the house and give her a happy, restful day. Above all give her thanks for all she has done for you. Wishing all students an enjoyable May and a happy Mother's Day to all mothers.

~ Mr Matthew

## CONGRATULATIONS TO ALL THE WRITERS OF MAY:

**Best Writer:** Yanie Li (WTE8B) – Belinda Ewers' Monologue

**Others writers:** Venia Lau (WTE8A) – Mother Teresa; Holly Yau (WTE4B) The Thief;

Gigi Chong (WTE4B) – Should Classrooms Keep a Pet?;

Li Tsz Hin (WTE6A) – Healthy Lifestyle; Lau Tsz Fung (WTE4A) – A Chocolate Factory

### Belinda Ewers' Monologue – By Yanie Li (WTE8B)

It was dinner time on June 9<sup>th</sup> but I had no appetite at all. I was in a melancholic mood the last few days. I knew that my husband has been in love with my brother's wife. Visiting my brother was just another excuse for him to meet Martina. I didn't eat much and went up to my room. I told them I was tired, but actually I just didn't want to face up to my husband and Martina.

I sat on the bed and thought, even meditated. I thought about every random thing, and things that are none of my business. I've heard that Harry has a gun in his house. I wonder where it is. How dangerous! Everyone seems to have left the dining table. I think I should go to bed earlier tonight. Wait! There are sounds. One of them is Harry's. "Is he arguing with Martina? Has he found out yet?" No, it's his partner, Julian Clayton. I hear the words 'bank' and 'account'. They're talking about money. How about Craig and Martina? Where would they be at this moment? I tried to stop thinking about them, but I just couldn't. Wind blew in through the windows and sent trees rustling. Were they mocking me too? I leaned over to close the window. An idea came to my mind "What if I go downstairs while everyone thought I am asleep?" Maybe I could just catch Craig and Marina red-handed.

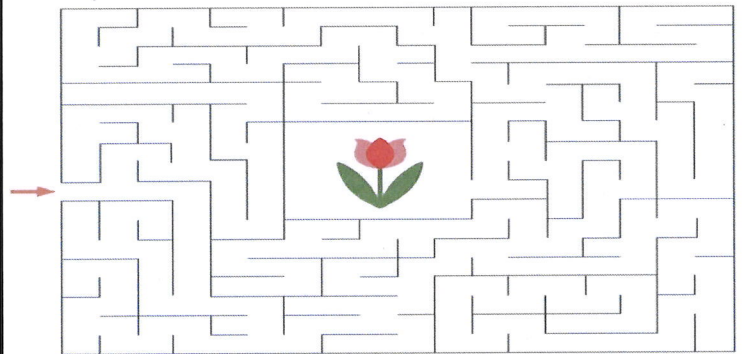
As I was walking down the stairs, I dived into my meaningless thinking again. Twice, I almost rolled down the stairs because I wasn't paying attention to what I was doing. However, my meandering thoughts came to a halt from an ear-piercing sound. It took me a few seconds to realise what that was. Then a second gunshot was heard. I screamed. I rushed to the source of the shot and found Harry lying motionless on the floor, with Julian Clayton standing beside. He was bleeding profusely, so I took the blanket on the sofa and wrapped it around his injured arm. Martina arrived. I found myself slightly relieved when she wasn't coming with Craig, even in these manic moments. When Craig entered with a gun, my heart sank. Did Craig and Martina plan the murder together to get rid of Martina's husband? That was my primary suspicion.



## ♥ Mother's Day ♥

MAZE

Find your way through the maze to reach the flower in the center.



## Happy Mothers Day



### APPRECIATION

BEAUTIFUL  
BREAKFAST  
CANDY  
CHARMING  
COMFORT  
DEVOTED  
FLOWERS  
FORGIVING  
GIFTS

GUIDANCE  
HUGS  
JEWELRY  
JOY  
KISSES  
LAUGHTER  
LOVE  
MATERNAL

MOM  
MOTHER  
NURTURE  
PERFUME  
PROTECTIVE  
SHARE  
TELEPHONE  
TENDER

### THE BEST WARM WISE

**DIRECTIONS:**  
Find and circle the vocabulary words in the grid. Look for them in all directions including backwards and diagonally.