

From the Headmaster's Desk

Please remember, everyone has felt lost.
But please remember, love is always there.
Remember to hold onto the fondest memories in your heart
as you make new encounters.
I remember seeing the beautiful rainbow after rain.

Please remember the people who have travelled with you in
your life journey.
Do remember that love always overcomes fear.
Remember to hold onto the fondest memories in your heart
as you make new encounters.
I am grateful for all the good things in life, however short-
lived they are.
After all, those memories are filled with love.
~ Translated from "Remember" in Chinese by Terence Lam

Dear parents,

September is an exciting yet challenging month for most of us. Your children may be bidding farewell to their old friends by going to a new class or a new school. While new friends and new experiences may bring some excitement, saying goodbye to good old friends and things can always elicit some reluctance or even grief which may be traumatic if it is not properly processed.

As parents, we need to observe our children carefully as they may not voice out their angst but rather act out in uncooperative or disruptive behaviour when they feel distressed. Don't be their first bullies in life by demeaning their adaptability. At the same time, don't gloss over their agony by saying they will get used to the new environment and new acquaintances in good time. Listen to their worries with an open mind so that they are willing to share their concerns with you.

What if your children are too young to articulate their anxiety? Then you should observe even more closely and talk with the teacher. I clearly remember bringing my young son Jason to his one-year-old playgroup in which the parent or helper could be there the whole time. On one particular morning, I was there with him but some urgent matters popped up in the office, causing me to leave early. I called our domestic helper to come but Jason didn't stop crying after I had left. According to the teacher, the helper didn't show any interest or affection to Jason at all, and he started biting other kids. Even the principal got bitten once. Fortunately, the teacher was experienced enough not to put the blame on the child but reckoned we might have to get a more caring helper. Thanks to this loving and perceptive teacher, we saved our son from his very early trauma in life.

Sometimes, it is just a matter of compatibility. When Jason was in grade 4, we moved him to another school that was a 5-minute walk from our home. However, there seemed to be a personality clash between him and the

homeroom teacher who was nearly 60 years old and had a rather strict classroom management style. After a few meetings with the teacher, we decided to move him back to his old school where the American teachers were more liberal and apparently more accommodating of students who are intelligent but not easily focused.

Sadly, most of the traumas for school children come from their peers and those bad feelings could hamper their wellbeing. Worse, they usually don't tell anyone, let alone their parents. A postgraduate student came to me for counsel as she found it hard to open up to her classmates. During one counseling session, she recalled confiding her feelings for a boy in class to her best friend, but her best friend ended up telling the whole class. She felt betrayed and found it hard to trust anyone afterwards. Another young man who is highly capable but often lacks confidence and stutters when asked to do public speaking. When asked to reflect on his early life experiences, he recalled being ridiculed by his friends for being overconfident so that his grades dropped and he couldn't retain his top position in class.

A new school year often comes with changes and is definitely a 'crisis' for most students. Remind your children to hold onto their fond memories as they make new encounters. Take time to observe and listen to them so that they can adapt to the changes and continue to thrive.

Yours sincerely,



Clive Chan

Stars of the Month

Au Ming Hin, Steve
Au Nga Hei, Tracy
Chan Chung Yeung, Emmanuel
Cheng Chun Hei, Marcus
Cheng Chun Him, Himson
Cheung Cheuk Ki, Emma
Cheung Hoi Huen, Leanne
Choi Ho Lam, Jack
Fung Yuet Ling, Una
Gong Ka Yi, Rainie
Hung King Him, Jayden
Lau Ching Sum, Venia
Lau Sin Yiu, Carly
Lau Tin Kan, George
Lok Yik Lam, Aidan
Mak Pak Him, Fason
Or Shelton
Poon Ka Ki, Andrew
Siu Charlotte
Siu Scarlett
Tsoi Hei Tong, Hazel
Yam Chi Him, Randy

WTE4A Sat 3:00-4:00
WTE6B Sat 3:00-4:00
WTE8A Thu 6:30-7:30
IEK10B Sat 11:00-12:00
IEK2A Wed 5:30-6:30
WTE4B Sat 10:00-11:00
IEK4A Sat 1:00-2:00
IEK4B Sat 9:00-10:00
WTE4A Thu 4:30-5:30
GWF4B Fri 5:30-6:30
WTE6B Wed 4:30-5:30
WTE10B Sat 11:00-12:00
WTE4A Sat 10:00-11:00
WTE2A Sat 10:00-11:00
WTE6B Sat 11:00-12:00
PTWE3 Sat 5:00-6:00
IEK6B Sat 12:00-1:00
GWF9A Wed 6:30-7:30
WTE2A Sat 12:00-1:00
WTE2B Fri 5:30-6:30
PTWE1 Sat 10:00-11:00
GWF6B Sat 1:00-2:00



Having grown up in England, I've been happily rooted in Hong Kong for over a decade. September feels like a fresh page in the school diary: new timetables, crowded platforms, everyone getting back into the swing of things. In the rush, the small courtesies matter most. The shortest words do the heaviest lifting - please, thank you, sorry (and the occasional 'cheers'). When someone holds the lift or a door, or lets you step ahead on the escalator or in a queue, a 'thank you' shows you've noticed. If shoulders touch in a packed carriage, a quick 'sorry' cools the moment. And after being served in a restaurant or shop, thanking the staff brings warmth to everyday service. Good manners aren't old-fashioned or 'British'; they're everyday respect. Let's carry them into September and make the city kinder.

~ Mr Philip

CONGRATULATIONS TO ALL THE WRITERS OF SEPTEMBER:

Best Writer: Jasmine Tse (4A) – A Rainy Day

Others writers: Hayden Hung (6B) – Superstitious; Li Tsz Hin (8B) – Who is the Stupid Animal?; Nick Tsai (4A) – A Rainy Day; Jacky Chiu (6B) – Superstitious; Yuki Ko (2A) – My Home

A Rainy Day – By Jasmine Tse (WTE4A)

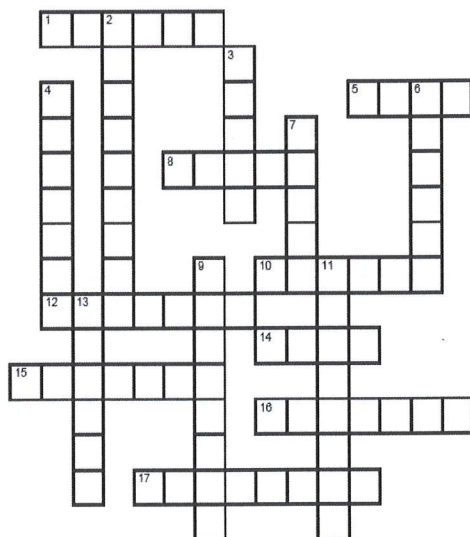
Last week, I woke up and it was raining heavily outside. I saw a lot of lightning and I heard thunder. I felt disappointed because I wanted to play football in the park. Suddenly, I got an idea.

Then, I told my Mum the plan. My Mum woke my father and brother up to play chess with me. I won the game! I was so happy! Next, we watched a fun TV show. I laughed so much!

Finally, we ate chocolate ice-cream. It was yummy! On this rainy day, I felt pleased. I liked to play games on a rainy day. I hope the next rainy day will come earlier.



Back to School



Across

1. Time to play outside during a break in the school day.
5. A place to sit and study in your room or at school.
8. It helps you measure and draw straight lines.
10. Writing utensil made of wood.
12. The person who guides and helps you in class.
14. A subject that involves numbers.
15. Use this to stick things together.
16. Where you go to enjoy stories and explore new worlds.

17. A colorful container to keep your sandwiches and snacks.

Down

2. Place where you might eat your lunch at school.
3. Present for the teacher.
4. Someone who goes to school.
6. A place where you learn and have fun.
7. Mark on an exam or in a class.
9. What school is all about.
11. A pad made of bound sheets of paper for taking notes.
13. A small tool to undo mistakes.

WORD BANK: Apple, Cafeteria, Desk, Eraser, Grade, Learning, Library, Lunchbox, Math, Notebook, Pencil, Recess, Ruler, School, Stapler, Student, Teacher

Back to School

Word Search

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

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



BOOKS
DESK
ERASER
GLUE
LUNCHBOX
MATH
NOTEBOOK
PAPER

PENCIL
PLAYGROUND
READING
RECESS
RULER
STUDENT
TEACHER
WRITING