

From the Headmaster's Desk

Dear Parents,

I hope you and your family are having a wonderful summer!

Lately, I have been watching a gripping Korean drama on Netflix called 'Teach You a Lesson' (鐵拳教育). While it is mostly an action-packed show, episode 8 really struck a chord with me as an educator, and I felt compelled to share some reflections with you all.

The episode followed a group of well-meaning but intensely driven parents who emotionally blackmailed their children to cram day and night, all to secure a spot at an elite medical school. They weaponized guilt, constantly reminding their children of how much they had "sacrificed" for them. In a powerful turn of events, the protagonist forces a mother to take the gruelling entrance exam herself. She flunks completely, and receives a profound reality check: she was forcing her own unfulfilled dreams onto her child, and it was the child who was making the real sacrifice all along.

The episode ends beautifully when the son decides to choose his own path and gently tells his mother: "Please start living for yourself."

Seeing this story made me think deeply about the incredible kids we see at our learning centre every single day. It reminded me of a few gentle truths that I believe are so important for us to remember as we raise these children:

Children are not a canvas for our unfinished dreams: It is natural to want the absolute best for our kids, but they aren't tools meant to fulfil the goals we didn't quite reach in our own youth.

Every child is unique: Each and every one of your children has a special gift. Some are natural logicians, while others are brilliant creatives. If a child's true passion is to be an artist, forcing them to become a doctor will only dim their unique light.

Let children live their own lives: True success isn't a specific job title or an elite university acceptance letter; it's a child growing up to be a resilient, happy, and self-actualized adult who pursues their own dreams.

Parents deserve to live their own lives, too: You have sacrificed so much for your family, but your identity doesn't end at being a parent. When you pursue your own hobbies, passions, and dreams, you model a healthy, fulfilled life for your children.

Our goal at E-Smart is to give your children the tools to express themselves confidently and find their own voice in

the world. We are so grateful to partner with you in nurturing not just great students, but happy, whole individuals.

Thank you for trusting us with your wonderful children. Let's continue to support them in discovering exactly who they want to be!

Warm regards,



Clive Chan

您好！希望您和家人正度過一個美好的暑假！

最近，我在 Netflix 上看了一部非常扣人心弦的韓劇，名為《鐵拳教育》。雖然這是一部充滿動作場面的劇集，但其中第八集讓作為教育工作者的我感觸良多，因此很想與大家分享一些心中的反思。

那一集的劇情講述一群出於好意卻過度逼迫孩子的家長。他們為了讓孩子擠進頂尖醫學院的窄門，利用情緒勒索的方式，讓孩子日以繼夜地埋頭苦讀。他們將愧疚感變成武器，不斷提醒孩子自己為他們「犧牲」了多少。在劇情的高潮中，主角強迫其中一位母親親自參加艱難的醫學院模擬入學試。結果，這位母親徹底考砸了，並迎來了深刻的當頭棒喝：她其實一直將自己未完成的夢想強加在孩子身上，而一路上真正作出犧牲的，實際是她的孩子。

故事在絕美中落幕：兒子決定選擇屬於自己的路，並溫柔地對母親說：「請開始為您自己而活吧。」

看到這個故事，讓我深深地想起了每天在我們教育中心見到的那些了不起的孩子。這也提醒了我們幾件溫柔的真相，我相信在我們撫養孩子的過程中，銘記這些道理至關重要：

孩子不是用來實現父母未圓夢想的畫布：想把最好的都給孩子是為人父母的天性，但孩子不該成為幫我們去達成年輕時未盡心願的工具。

每個孩子都是獨一無二的：每個孩子都有著獨特的天賦。有些孩子天生擅長邏輯思考，有些孩子則充滿藝術天分。如果一個孩子的真正熱情在於成為一名藝術家，強迫他們去當醫生，只會黯淡了他們獨特的光芒。

讓孩子活出他們自己的人生：真正的成功不是某個特定的職稱或頂尖大學的錄取通知書；而是孩子長大後成為一個堅韌、快樂且自我實現的成年人，追逐屬於他們自己的夢想。

家長也值得活出自己的人生：您為家庭付出了這麼多，但您的自我價值並不僅是個父母。當您追求自己的愛好、熱情和夢想時，您正為孩子樹立了一個健康、活出充實人生的榜樣。

我們在 E-Smart 的目標是賦予您的孩子自信表達的工具，並在世界上找到屬於自己的聲音。我們非常感激能與您攜手合作，不僅培養出優秀的學生，更孕育出快樂、健全的個體。

感謝您將如此優秀的孩子託付給我們。讓我們繼續成為孩子的後盾，引領他們發掘自己將來的路向！



Respect and kindness

In the middle of August, the hottest time of the year in Hong Kong, people can get very stressed and irritable. We can make their day better! How about playing a new game? It doesn't cost any money, and it will completely change the day not just for other people, but also for yourself.

How? Put away your mobile phone and observe the people around you. Say hello and be considerate and mindful. You could offer your seat to someone on the train or bus. Instead of rushing into an elevator or a room, let others go first. Help elderly people. Maybe you can help at home or run some errands for your family. Be polite, say "please" and "thank you," and don't use bad language, either.

We can have fun and play without being rude or disrespectful to others. A happy society cannot function when everyone is behaving selfishly.

Make someone smile every day. The reward? People will smile back! Happy August!

~ Ms Carola

CONGRATULATIONS TO ALL THE WRITERS OF AUGUST:

Best Writer: Winky Hui (8B) – An Important Decision

Others writers: Jasmine Tse (4A) Are Buses Better Than MTR?; Nick Tsai (4A) Berta-Erika; Allen Hung (4B) Flying Ant; Perseus Wong (4A) Ten Years Later; Ella Lee (2A) An Adventure Race

An Important Decision – By Winky Hui (8B)

One day after school, when I was walking down my usual street, I suddenly heard someone screaming which sounded like crying. I turned around a corner and, to my surprise, discovered three boys inside a petrol station. It looked like two of the boys were punching a shorter boy. The boy didn't even try to fight back. I felt great pity for the young boy and my mind struggled with the thought of helping him. First, I had the impulse to run toward them and stop the bullying, but what if they were friends and just playing? Then I stopped myself from taking action. Finally, I decided to just call the police to assess the situation, as I felt we should always be prepared for the worst-case scenario.

As a result, the two boys were caught red-handed by the police while they were bullying the other boy. I felt so glad that I wasn't just a bystander, or I would have felt remorse for the rest of my life over this painful plight.



☆☆☆ Stars of the Month ☆☆☆

Cheng Chun Hei, Marcus	IEK10B Sat 11:00-12:00
Fan Pak Yuen, Daniel	IEK4B Sat 9:00-10:00
Fung Yuet Ling, Una	WTE4A Fri 5:30-6:30
Kwok Yan Lok, Elford	IEK2B Mon 4:30-5:30
Kwong Tsz Yau, Hazel	WTE6A Sat 3:00-4:00
Lee Sing Wai, Ella	WTE2A Sat 10:00-11:00
Leung Ching Hei, Theo	GWTF2B Thu 4:30-5:30
Li Sheung Wing, Bernice	WTE10A Thu 6:30-7:30
Ling Yan Ho	WTE6B Fri 4:30-5:30
Lo Herman	IEK2A Thu 5:30-6:30
Ngan Tsz Chung, Tony	WTE6B Sat 3:00-4:00
Or Shelton	IEK6B Sat 12:00-1:00
Tang Sze Wai, Crystal	IEK4A Sat 1:00-2:00
Tse Chun Yin, Jasmine	WTE4A Sat 10:00-11:00
Yeung Hei Yu, Savannah	WTE2A Fri 4:30-5:30

BASEBALL
BEACH
BIKE RIDE
CAMPFIRE
FIREFLIES
FISHING POLE
FLIP-FLOPS
FRISBEE
LEMONADE
PICNIC
POPSICLE
ROAD TRIP
SANDCASTLE
SLEEPING BAG
S'MORES
SPRINKLER
STARGAZING
SUMMER CAMP
SUNSCREEN
SWIMMING POOL
SWIMSUIT
TREE HOUSE
WATER BALLOON
WATERMELON



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

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

