

Principal's School Report on Annual Speech Day dated 23rd November 2007

Our guest of honour, Professor Lap-Chee Tsui, Mr.Chan King Luen, Reverend Brothers, Distinguished Guests, Parents, Old Boys, Teachers, Friends and Students,

It is our greatest honor to have Professor Tsui , the Vice Chancellor of the University of Hong Kong to officiate at our Annual Speech Day 2007. We are also honored and very grateful for the presence of everyone here because you ought to be very busy at this time of the year.

The school year 2006-2007 was a year of warmness because of the generous support from many of our parents, old boys and friends. Special thanks must be given to a 1973 graduate, Dr.Felix Yip Chi Ming, who has donated \$1 million to the school and our new annex is named after him. We also have to thank a 1971 graduate, Dr. Ambrose Wong Hok Ming, who has donated \$300000 for naming our school hall as the “Hall of Gratitude”. Besides, a lot of other old boys and friends keep on giving us various kinds of support and many touching stories have been recorded in the school year. It is with their support that we have started many new projects for improving the school learning environment. To mention a few, we have installed desktop computers in every classroom and on every desk of the teachers in the staff rooms. Besides, our school library has been renovated and now our students like to gather there for silent reading and studies. Today, if you have time to walk around our school campus, you will be surprised to see that we have adequate rooms and places catering for the different needs of our students. It is again with their support, we could realize most of our action plans stated in our Annual School Plan 2006-07. For example, a better English-rich environment has been created, a more effective teaching and learning culture has been nurtured and a more caring approach to help the whole-person development of our students has been established.

The school year of 2006-07 was not just a year of gratitude but also a year of hard work towards excellence. As everyone is aware, it is not easy for schools today to deal with the challenges from the education reform. However, our school has confidence in mastering the reform because our tradition of Lasallian education conforms greatly to the ideas raised in the reform.

Last year, with the concerted effort of our colleagues, our students have rewarded the school by making excellent achievements both in academic and other learning activities.

Speaking of academic performance, last year, in the A-Level Examination, the passing percentage was about 95% in total subject entries, about 30% being awarded credits or distinctions. The passing percentages of Use of English and Chinese Language and Culture were both 96.9%. About 90% of our F.7 students have been admitted to the universities and other tertiary institutions. The best two students were Lui Wing Cheung Kenneth and Ho Ying Kit. Both of them obtained 2 distinctions in the A-Level Examination.

In the Hong Kong Certificate of Education Examination, our F.5 students also obtained a satisfactory result and about 87% of them were awarded Grade E or above in at least 5 subjects. The percentage of credits or distinctions in total subject entries was about 30%. The average passing percentage of the three core subjects namely, English, Chinese and Mathematics was 93.5%. The average passing percentage of the best 6 subjects is 95.9%. The best two students were Tai Wan Leung who obtained 7 distinctions and Wong King Yin who obtained 5 distinctions.

In extra-curricular activities, our students are also outstanding and we are proud to present a few highlights here:

One community service that is worth mentioning is a whole-year project competition called “International-local School Joint Community Service Scheme” organized by EdExchange Limited and our partner school is King George V School. Our team was singled out as being the best among the 9 pairs of participating schools and was awarded two prizes which valued \$30000. Secondly, the academic level of our students is of outstanding world standard. It is best demonstrated by our F.6 boy Ho Wai Tat who won the first prize in the 2006 Pan-Pearl River Delta Physics Olympic Competition and was selected as one of the Hong Kong delegates to participate in the 38th International Physics Olympic Competition held in Iran. He won a silver medal, which was the best result among all the Hong Kong delegates and the school takes pride in his achievement.

We also feel honored to find a group of our F.6 boys won another great honor for

the school in the 40th Joint School Science Exhibition Competition. Our boys presented a very innovative science project titled “Electdoor” and won the championship in the Project Proposal Competition plus four other top prizes in the exhibition. The exhibition lasted for about 1 week and the excellence of our science education has been highly recognized by the visitors.

Last year, our school remained in Division I in Athletics, Badminton, Basketball, Cross Country and Swimming and in Division II, Football and Table tennis. Among the different competitions, we came 8th in the Inter-school Athletics Meet, 4th in the Inter-school Cross-country Competition, 5th in the Inter-school Badminton Competition, 2nd in the Inter-school Football Competition and 6th in the Inter-school Table tennis Competition. Overall, we were awarded the 8th position in the Bank of China Hong Kong Bauhinia Bowls, which is an honorable recognition of the achievements of our sports education.

Throughout the whole year of 2006-2007, a lot of attempts have been made to develop the positive values of our students. For example, our Moral and Civic Education Committee has carried out a series of short talks on the topic of “Respect Others” The Committee also encourages students to care for the environment and a group of our boys so motivated have participated in a Youth Smoking Prevention Banner Design Competition organized by the Committee on Youth Smoking Prevention and they won the Best Design Award and the Award for Popularity.

Secondly, in order to help students to have a good attitude in self-learning and life-long learning, our Reading-to-learn Committee has conducted also a series of reading activities which includes reading sessions, talks by distinguished writers, reading competitions and many others. One achievement is that our F.1 boy, Lee Wai Lok won the first runner-up prize in the junior section of the 22nd Book Report Competition for Secondary Students and a Certificate of Merit in the Book Report Competition for World Chinese Secondary Students. Lee was also chosen as the only Hong Kong student representative to participate in a reading-sharing seminar held in Shanghai during the last summer vacation.

Next, with a view to broadening the horizon of our students, our Overseas Learning Partnership Committee successfully organized a study tour to the United Kingdom and a cultural visit to Chan King Luen Middle School in Jiang Mun, Guangtung last summer. Moreover, students were guided to organize many

large exhibitions and other educational programmes in the past year such as Moral and Civic Education Exhibition, Project Learning Exhibition, Visual Arts Exhibition, Health Week, English Week, Music Week and Putonghua Week. Throughout these activities, students were allowed to display their talents and to learn from their participation.

Our boys are all-rounded and the many prizes won by them in the Hong Kong Schools Music and Speech Festival could support this. Our boys are also service-oriented and many of them are members of Voluntary Services Group, Scouts, Red Cross, Community Youth Club, Awards for Young People Club and they served voluntarily and excellently both inside and outside the school during the past year.

Lastly, we must point out that our students have a strong spirit of “never give up” and they are brave and fearless to adversities in their lives. It is my pleasure to inform you that a F.3 boy called Chan Chi-shing managed so well in facing adversities last year and was awarded the Felix Wong Youth Award 2006 by the Hong Kong Federation of Youth Groups.

Before closing, I would like to express my heartfelt gratefulness to parents, old boys and particularly, every member of my colleagues for their dedicated support in the past year. May I invite you, please join me to give them a big hand of appreciation. Thank you.

At the same time, I must say congratulations to our F.5 and F.7 graduates and wish them every success in the future.

Finally, I sincerely wish every one of you to live with joy and peace. Thank you.