

School Commencement

Good morning my dear teachers and students. I'm Mr. Ho.

With the pandemic behind us, I feel happy that we can commence the new school year face-to-face again, even though it's a belated one due to typhoon.

The summer vacation has passed. It was a time to relax, a time for entertainment, for reading, for learning new stuff ... I do hope that you have made good use of your break and have got the most out of it. And I hope you are now fit and ready - in every way - for the start of this new academic year.

At the beginning of the school year, I would like to brief you on the school's progress. In terms of the development cycle, this is the 2nd year. That means, we will continue with the 3 major concerns of the previous year. They are:

Major Concern 1: To grow and learn together in God's love

Major Concern 2: To provide care and promote values education

Major Concern 3: To develop creative thinking skills in learning and teaching

As regards the first Major Concern - to grow and learn together in God's love, which is the most important one to me - it is connected to the meaning of life. We encourage everyone to get to know the love of God and to grow together in HIS love. I truly believe that, with God's love, our campus is an entirely different and wonderful place to be.

With respect to providing care and promoting values education, this year we'll continue promoting positive values such as PERMA. We would like everyone to think positively and bear in mind that there is always hope whatever we encounter.

The third major concern is all about developing creative thinking skills. In terms of teaching and learning, our teachers will look for new and innovative ways to continue challenging and developing students' ability to think critically and respond creatively to new tasks. This is an important skill and will enable you to meet future challenges you will be faced with in society - such as those brought about by AI.

What is our school theme this year? It's a short verse and easy to remember.

It is **With Love, we can (憑著愛 · 肯定自我)**.

We believe that LOVE is from God. On the one hand, we receive love from God, parents, teachers, our peers, and so on; and, on the other hand, we learn to give love to peers, parents, teachers, neighbours, society, our nation ... as well as to God.

Love can strengthen our belief in ourselves: the belief that we are valuable and precious in the eyes of God. With faith in God and by his grace, we can build self-confidence and achieve our goals. By the end of the year, I sincerely hope that every one of you has built up and maintained a wholesome image of yourselves - holding strong self-confidence and revelling in God's love.

Last but not least, if you're experiencing problems with any aspect of your school life or with any matter that is affecting your mindset or general well-being, please don't be shy about asking for help.

Where can you go for help?

You may turn to your parents, your teachers, your friends, or anyone you trust.

Of course, you can also seek help from our God, the Almighty God. HE will watch over your life day

and night. HE will keep you from all harm. Let's turn to him through prayers.

Let's pray.

Dear Lord, thank you for your love and kindness. Thanks for being our source of help. Whenever we are afraid, let us have trust that you'll carry us through all sorts of challenges that come before us. Help us to put our faith in you and be willing to seek help from you. We pray in Jesus' name. Amen!