

6 September 2023

## **With Love, We Can**

Good morning, teachers and fellow students.

Welcome back to the PLHKS family! May God keep your body, heart and mind healthy!

As I mentioned in the School Opening speech, this year our School Theme is “With Love, We Can”. Let me share with you a little story. Strictly speaking, it’s NOT a story; rather, it’s a testimony from a U.S. pastor called Robert.

When he was young, he went astray and did a lot of bad things, frequently ending up in prison. However, later on, he changed his ways, turned to Jesus, became a strong believer and eventually a minister. On the day he was ordained a pastor, his mother agreed to say a few words during the ceremony; it was his hometown church and it was filled with people. Everyone was interested in what his mother would say: would she emphasize how difficult it was to raise Robert, or talk about the painful experiences he had caused her to have? ... In the end, she only spoke eleven words, words which deeply moved the congregation. She quoted Matthew 3:17, the words of God the Father to Jesus after His baptism: "This is my beloved Son, in whom I am well pleased." There was no resentment or curse, only blessings. There was no lingering resentment from the past, only blessings for the future.

Where did this broad-mindedness come from? It comes from God, from the God who loves us. With God’s love, Robert’s mother walked with Robert and eventually turned him to God. From Robert’s testimony, we can see that a person could be entirely changed from inside out to a new person, a better person, by the power of God’s love, echoing this year’s school theme: with LOVE, we can!

For many years, we have strived to build a caring school with God’s love. We are proud to have very good teachers who walk with and take good care of our students. We also have a well-organized Counselling team providing all sorts of services which suit our students’ needs. From time to time, parents share their feelings of appreciation with me - their thanks for how teachers provided timely, strong and suitable support for their sons and daughters.

Of course, a loving and caring environment is only sustained when it is a joint effort. Everyone, including you and I, has a role to play. With God’s love, we are able to love others and grow together.

As per tradition, I would like to talk about our students’ DSE results this year. Students did perform well. The overall passing rate of all HKDSE subjects in our school is 98%. 12 subjects have a 100% passing rate. Our school offers a total of 17 HKDSE subjects with the overall level 4+ percentage well

above 50%. In particular, the level 4+ percentages of 6 subjects are higher than 70%. In terms of JUPAS offers, most of our students got a degree offer. CUHK, again, retains its title as the most popular university among our students, with 18 of this year's cohort having been accepted. And warm congratulations to them, I might add!