

School Opening Speech by the Principal on 1-9-2026

Good morning, my dear students and teachers. I'm Mr. Ho. Welcome back to the big family of PLHKS!

I'm very much delighted to see all of you gathered here this morning. Some of you look refreshed, some look a little bit sleepy, but regardless of how you feel, I hope that everyone is ready to kick-start the new school year! The beginning of the school year marks the end of our summer vacation. Although it is over, I do hope that you've had a wonderful summer holiday with many unforgettable memories, such as taking a meaningful trip, joining some interest classes, levelling up in the online games you play, going out with friends, or reading a good book. Now, it's time to refocus on your studies and embrace the challenges and opportunities ahead. I urge you to really throw yourselves into the coming school year; it'll make next year's summer break even more meaningful!

Renovation

Have you noticed anything new about our school? We have proudly made the following changes:

- New hall entrance and cabinets
- New library is coming
- New changing rooms on the G/F
- New Performing Arts Rooms and so on

All these improvements make our school more comfortable and conducive to learning. They are the result of the hard work of our teachers and staff. Please give them a big hand. Once these renovations are completed, do go and have a look! Again, please remember to take good care of the school's facilities. They are facilities for all. So please be considerate and use them properly and responsibly.

Major Concerns

At the beginning of the school year, I'd like to remind you of our school's major concerns. Within this development cycle from 2025/26 to 2027/28, we've identified two major concerns we should address to better meet the needs of our students.

- 1) **Enhancing students' wellbeing** through physical, mental, social, and spiritual health education
- 2) **Nurturing effective learners** with strong learning strategies

Regarding Major Concern 1, it's a concern for most schools in Hong Kong. Instead of paying lip service, we are committed to enhancing students' overall wellbeing through a variety of activities. Among them, PERMA Day is our signature event. This year, we'll add several stress-relieving programs, which are mainly organized by the Counselling Dept. By engaging in these programs, I'm sure you will experience greater well-being.

Please give them all a try.

Regarding Major Concern 2, I think most of you remember that we have shared some different tips and tricks for note-taking, one of the most useful skills for learning. This year, we suggest you keep putting into practice other basic skills in addition to note-taking, such as setting learning goals or doing preparation before lessons. With effective learning strategies, plus a good attitude, you can learn more effectively.

School Theme

This year, the school theme is **“With Grace, We Cherish”**

You may notice this is a part of an ongoing series:

- 2023/24: “With Love, We Can”
- 2024/25: “With Faith, We Dream”
- 2025/26: “With Hope, We Persevere”
- 2026/27: “With Grace, We Cherish”

Through this series over the past few years, you have learnt the importance of Faith, Hope, and Love. Now, we come to Grace. While we should be positive and hopeful, we should also learn to be grateful people too.

Think of the classic phrase, 'is the glass half-full or half-empty?'. Please do not focus on the empty half of the glass; that is what you don't have. For example, you don't have a millionaire father, you aren't 6 feet tall, or you don't think you are smart enough to study Physics or Maths. When you only look at what you don't have, you will fall into the trap of comparing yourself to others, and eventually you will be troubled, or even worse, depressed.

A thankful person, instead, focuses on the “full half of the glass” and finds it easier to be content with what he or she has. There is no need to compare yourself with others. From today, I suggest you all try thinking of one good thing you have, each day for 30 days, and try to feel the changes it'll bring within yourselves. We call this gratitude. It could be as simple as the love from your parents, maybe finding 10 dollars on the street, or even a smile from a stranger. Actively acknowledge your own gratitude for any positive event, no matter how small.

And I must say, the greatest Grace is Jesus, the only Son of God. The Bible says, “While we were still sinners, Christ died for us.” This is the miraculous way that God demonstrates His own love for us. Do embrace this grace if you have not returned to God. Come by and join our Christian fellowship, where we actively practice gratitude and grow in grace towards God and in daily life.

Seeking Help

This is especially true at the beginning of a new school year, when challenges may arise for some of our schoolmates. If you ever feel tired, anxious, or even depressed,

remember that you are never alone. You can always seek help from your teachers, schoolmates, and God. We're ready to give you a hand.

Now, may I invite everyone to bow your heads and join me in prayer to God?

Dear Heavenly Father, our Almighty God, we thank You for Your unconditional love and protection. As the Bible says, "Forgetting what is behind and straining toward what is ahead." Please give us sufficient strength to face the challenges this year. Thank You for walking with us. Grant us courage to seek help when we need it. Let us be surrounded by angels and help us to be an angel to others.
We pray in Jesus' name. Amen!