

# The Principal's Report 2022-2023

To begin my report of this past academic year, may I first of all express my immense pride to our students and teachers for their incredible accomplishments over the year, both academically and in the co-curricular programmes. Secondly, I must extend my heartfelt gratitude to the Ying Wa community – our parents, alumnae, and other friends of the community – for their steadfast and generous support.

It has not been an easy year. Not only did the lingering epidemic keep us alert at the start of the school year, unexpected challenges encountered later in the year have taught us humbling lessons. Yet, our resilience is a testament of our character and strength. Despite the challenges, we have learnt to grow, emerging as stronger individuals, and a more cohesive community.

With face-to-face lessons resumed at Ying Wa, we were pleased to see a sense of energy and enthusiasm rekindled throughout the school. Learning activities flourished, thanks in no small part the generosity of our alumnae and friends. These spaces in the redeveloped campus provided ample opportunities for students to engage in a diverse range of activities and achieve outstanding results.

- The **So Chau Yim Ping Memorial Hall** (Breezy Path Campus) is an ideal stage for students to showcase their talents in front of live audiences, be it public speaking or music performances.
- The **Sports Playgrounds** (Robinson Road Campus and Breezy Path Campus) have been the training grounds for a Hong Kong school basketball champion, inspiring our student-athletes to ascend new heights.



- The **Dance Room** (Robinson Road Campus) and the **Gymnasium** (Breezy Path Campus) have supported our hardworking Dance Team to earn a place in the *Dance World Cup* held in Portugal under the passionate guidance of the teacher-advisors.
- The **Heritage Garden** (Robinson Road Campus) has proven to be the perfect natural setting for the wonderful *Ying Wa Good Show*, which hosted stunning performances by students that left audiences dazzled and amazed.



I have received numerous visits from alumnae during the year. They have all expressed admiration of the resources that students can now enjoy in the new campus. Some even joked about enrolling to be a student again – a compliment to the excellent education we offer.



At the end of May, I paid a visit to Beijing for the signing of a sister school agreement with the Affiliated High School of Peking University. While we cannot boast a campus the size of theirs, I will be proud to share with their students in future exchanges the core of Ying Wa education – the spirit of serving, and the varying co-curricular programmes for moral and spiritual education.

Lastly, I would like to mention the school-initiated documentary *To My Nineteen-year-old Self*. Much beyond our expectation, it has won several film awards that included The Best Picture in the Hong Kong Film Awards. Unfortunately, the documentary was caught in a public controversy shortly after its public release in early February. Fallen into a difficult situation, I was however most grateful for and touched by the unwavering trust and support of our alumnae and friends. The humbling experience has reminded us that we can always learn from adversities and criticisms.

Overall, it has been a truly remarkable year. **Below I will gladly share with you an overview of the school affairs.**

### **The Incorporated Management Committee**

I would like to express my deepest appreciation to all IMC managers who have generously and faithfully given their time, advice, and support throughout what has been a challenging year for the School.

At the beginning of the school year, we welcomed two new colleagues: Ms Chau Chui Shan (Teacher Manager) and Rev Tam Yat Shing (Alternate Sponsoring Body Manager). As the school year comes to a close, we will bid farewell to several colleagues who will be completing their terms of service. They include Ms Yuen Wah Chu Celina (Alumni Manager), Ms Lam Ching Karrie (Parent Manager), Mr Wong Sai Kay Ricky (Alternate Parent Manager), Ms Chau Chui Shan (Teacher Manager), Mr Leung Hok Sau (Alternate Teacher Manager) and Mrs Li Sin Lai Wah Jenny (Honorary Manager). We would like to express our gratitude for their dedicated service, especially Ms Yuen, who has been with the IMC since its inception and has held the important position of Treasurer throughout her tenure. She was also the Chairperson of the Financial Management Group established since 2010 to care take the School Redevelopment Fund.

### **Staff**

There were altogether 107 on the staff roll, with 75 teachers (including the Principal), 1 Teaching Assistant, 3 Laboratory Technicians, 2 Technical Support Staff, 1 Project Coordinator, 1 STEM Project Assistant, 1 Campus Management Assistant, 1 Executive Officer, 6 Clerical Staff, 15 Janitors and 1 Technician.

### **New Appointments**

During the year, we have welcomed the following new staff members.

#### **Teaching Staff**

Ms Young Shun Yi

*Postgraduate Diploma in Education, HKU*

*Master of Arts in Modern Literature and Culture, King's College London*

*Bachelor of Arts, HKU*

Mr Chan Keith

*Postgraduate Diploma in Education, CUHK*

*Bachelor of Science in Mathematics, HKUST*

Mr Mak Chun Wai

*Postgraduate Diploma in Education, HKU*

*Bachelor of Business Administration, CUHK*

Ms Ng Cheuk Yee

*Bachelor of Social Sciences, HKU*

Ms Chiu Hoi Ching

*Bachelor of Education (Honours) in Geography, EdUHK*

Ms Lee Sum Pui Tiffany

*Bachelor of Business Administration (Law), HKU*

Ms Choi Yan Tung (Teaching Assistant)

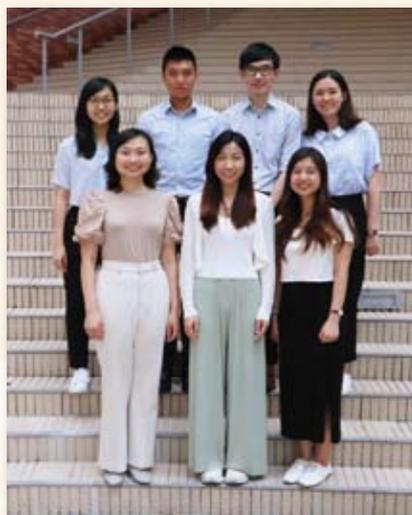
*Bachelor of Business Administration, CUHK*

#### **Non-teaching Staff**

Mr Wan Chun Yiu Wilson (Technical Support Staff)

Ms Wu Lahua (Janitor)

Ms Nip Siu Yin (Janitor)



## Farewell

At the end of the school year, we will bid farewell to two of our teaching staff.

Ms Leung Wai Kuen has served her alma mater with dedication and excellence for the past 38 years. A Biology teacher and head of the subject panel for decades, Ms Leung's commitment to education and passion for teaching have inspired countless students over the years. She has also made commendable contribution to the Careers Committee. We wish her a happy and fulfilling retirement life ahead.



Ms Leung Wai Kuen

Ms Tiffany Lee, our BAFS and Computer teacher, will leave Ying Wa at the end of the academic year to reunite with her family in New Zealand. We wish her every success in her future endeavours.

## **Staff Development**

The Staff Development Committee is dedicated to supporting the professional growth of our colleagues by organising regular training sessions. Over the past year, the committee has arranged three programmes. In August, education psychologist Ms Eva Lo shared valuable insights with us on how to identify students who may be exhibiting suicidal tendencies. Through the case studies shared during the workshops, we have understood more about the mental health needs of teenagers and learned effective ways to recognise and support our students. In April, the *Teacher Wellness MED Programme* from the Polytechnic University conducted a series of thematic health talks and workshops on topics ranging from stress and pain management to healthy eating. In June, the education team from Apple (Hong Kong) held a workshop for all teaching staff on using the iPad to design innovative lessons.



We congratulated the following teachers on their successful completion of in-service training:

Ms Ho Chung Sang

*Certificate Course on Management and Leadership for Heads of Guidance and Discipline Teams of Secondary Schools (2022/23), CUHK*

Ms Leung Lok Man Lauren

*Master of Counselling, Monash University*

Ms Leung Yik Chong Josephine

*Master of Science Programme in Mathematics Education, CUHK*

Ms Li Tin Wan

*Master of Education, HKU*

Mr Poon Tsun Hong Carson

*Master of Arts in School Guidance and Counselling, CUHK*

Ms Wong Lai

*Advanced Course on Catering for Diverse Learning Needs, EdUHK*

Ms Wong Man

*Master of Arts in Applied Linguistics, HKU*

### Student Enrolment and Class Structure

A total of 160 new students were admitted to Secondary 1 this year. The total school enrolment is 848 in the 30 classes from S1 to S6, five classes in each level.

### Language Learning

In line with the direction of curriculum optimization, the Chinese Department has revised both the junior and senior secondary curriculum.

To help senior form students better prepare for public exams, we continued to arrange special enhancement classes, and invited fresh graduates back to share their study skills and exams tips. As for junior forms, an online learning platform was designed to facilitate their self-learning and practice after school.



To increase student interest in learning, various extracurricular activities were organised. This year's team novel writing contest had a record high number of entries, with a high standard demonstrated. The Chinese Culture Quiz was resumed at school, providing

participating students with a fun-filled learning experience. Additionally, students of Chinese Literature took part in a Central and Western District joint-school literature talk to broaden their learning experience.



The English Department continues to provide and train students for various writing, public speaking and debating opportunities. We are delighted that our debating team achieved outstanding results this year, with Wu Hei Man Weslie, Lai Hei Yee and Sit Nga Yu Abbie emerging as First Runner-up in the *Hong Kong Secondary School Debate Competition (Hong Kong Island and Kowloon Junior Division 1)*. In the *UNESCO Debating Competition*, Chia Lok Yee, Ko Cheuk Yan, and Lau Sum In completed three rounds of intense debates and won the title of First Runner-up.

In another arena, the long-standing English *Toastmasters International Youth Leadership Programme* continues to develop students' public speaking skills and prepare them for leadership positions. This year, Shih Maan Chi, our Student Association Chairlady and previous Toastmaster participant, was selected as one of *The Hong Kong 200*, a leadership project organised by The Hong Kong Federation of Youth Groups.

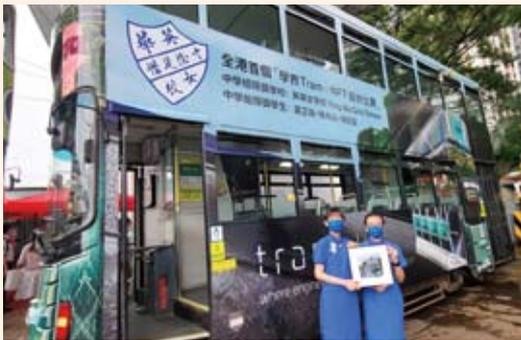
Another important goal we have is to broaden students' exposure by inviting distinguished individuals from diverse fields to share their knowledge and expertise. In November, Mr John Terenzini, an environmental scientist and founder of the Hong Kong Jellyfish Project, spoke about the fascinating world of jellyfish and how students could be involved in research through a citizen science approach. We also invited Dr Michael Rivera, a graduate of the University of Cambridge and the only biological anthropologist in Hong Kong, to share the interesting field of forensic anthropology and his inspiring academic journey.



Talk by Dr Michael Rivera

### STEAM Education

Remarkable results are emerging as a result of the STEAM (Science, Technology, Engineering, Arts, and Mathematics) education team's dedicated efforts.



Three of our talented S3 students, Chan Bui Ka, Leung Chi Yu and Chan Kei Ching Lavon won the highly prestigious Interschool Tram+NFT Hackathon 2022 (Secondary Section). Participants in this STEM competition, hosted by Tramplus (a sister company of Hong Kong Tramways), designed their own digital art pieces after attending a series of online workshops led by industry experts and scholars. Our students' winning design was featured on an iconic tram running on the bustling streets of the city back in summer 2022.

A group of art students joined hands as part of the 27 secondary schools from The Hong Kong Council of the Church of Christ in China (HKCCCC) to hold a 4-day public exhibition back in February titled, *Muses of Art*. The exhibition featured technological elements and utilized a virtual reality gallery to bring art to life. A 3D environment was created, allowing viewers to explore the artwork from all angles and engage with it in dynamic and innovative ways. Our school displayed nine artworks and the exhibition proved to be an eye-opening experience for our students as they both showcased their own works and appreciated others displayed.





During the Easter season, talented local artist Ms Helene Wong unveiled a mosaic mural titled *The Ten Virgins*, located outside the Art Room at the apex of Steps of Faith (Robinson Road Campus). The intricate and masterfully crafted details of this stunning piece serve as a poignant reminder to draw closer to Christ and keep our hearts filled with oil like a lamp, bringing light to the world around us.

### **Project-based Learning**

The Self-Access Centre (SAC) provides audio-visual materials to support teaching and learning. The centre's advanced multimedia facilities have been well used by students for their publication and audio-visual productions.

The Project-based Learning Centre (PBLC) supports learning outside classrooms. Twelve projects were conducted in collaboration with subject departments and interest clubs/societies. Some of them included *Wonders of Mathematics*, *Film AppreciACTION*, and the Chinese Culture Quiz. In addition, we continued to run the Chinese English writing contests and published students' outstanding works.

### **School Library**

The library continues its mission to promote and cultivate students' interest in reading and writing through a variety of activities. Regular programmes included the Online Reading Award Scheme, book fairs and book quiz. This year, online e-books and the Britannica database were introduced, providing students and staff with wider reading choices.

## Examination Results

### Hong Kong Diploma of Secondary Education Examination 2022

1. No. of candidates	:	118
No. of students awarded the minimum entrance requirement for local degree courses, <i>i.e.</i> Level 3 in Chinese and English, Level 2 in Mathematics and Liberal Studies, and Level 2 in one of the electives	:	112 (94.9%)
Level (5**)	:	45
Level (5* or 5)	:	270
2. Admission to tertiary institutes and other courses		
Local tertiary and post-secondary institutions		81.4%
Overseas studies		18.6%
Total		<u>100.0%</u>

### 3. Best results

	<u>Level</u>	<u>Subject</u>
	Lau Sum (6A)	5**
		Chinese Language
		English Language
		Mathematics (Compulsory Part)
		Chinese History
		Geography
		Liberal Studies
	5*	History
Luo Elysia Songen (6C)	5**	Mathematics (Compulsory Part)
		Mathematics (Extended Part)
		Biology
		Chemistry
		Physics
	5*	Chinese Language
	English Language	
Kwan Ning Shun (6C)	4	Liberal Studies
	5**	English Language
		Mathematics (Compulsory Part)
		Mathematics (Extended Part)
		Chemistry
	5*	Chinese Language
	Liberal Studies	
	Economics	
	Physics	

## Religious Activities

This year, our religious services returned to normal. The annual services for Thanksgiving, Christmas, Founder's day and Easter were held in the Silcocks Hall with whole school participating.



A *Famine Lunch* was held in March, wherein students learned the importance of sharing and caring. Additionally, 85 students participated in a 3-day Gospel Camp in June, which provided a platform for them to strengthen their spiritual connection and enjoy fellowship in the love of Jesus.

Pastoral care for students continued with our partner churches. Mr Yu Chin Tung of the China Congregation Church Bridges Street taught Religious Education to all S2 classes. He is also advisor to the Christian Fellowship. Ms Carina Siu of the North Point Methodist Church and Ms Nicola Lee of Hop Yat Church continued to render support to both the Senior and Junior Christian Fellowships.

## Student Support

The Guidance Committee comprises a dedicated team of 9 teachers and 2 school social workers, and is assisted by external professionals that include an educational psychologist, a clinical psychologist, and psychiatric nurses from the *Student Mental Health Supporting Scheme*. Together, we devised a package of programmes and remedial services to care for the holistic growth of students. We also support students' learning development alongside the Learning Diversity Team.

With a focus on mental wellbeing, the committee encouraged students to participate in external programmes to gain relevant knowledge and training, which they brought back to share with their peers. Throughout the year, some of our students joined the Education Bureau's *Pupil Ambassador Scheme for Promoting Positive Living*. Another group attended a training programme conducted by the Baptist Oi Kwan Social Service. These



students went on to support the *Wellness Week* in school with the support of *Power Tag* of the Hong Kong Family Welfare Society (HKFWS), providing emotional awareness and EQ management skills to fellow schoolmates. In addition, we invited guest speaker Miss Choi Wing Kei, a Paralympic Games badminton player, to share her inspirational story of endurance and perseverance in overcoming life challenges with a positive outlook.



The *High Event Challenges* for S1 resumed this year, and continued to bring an invaluable opportunity for the youngsters to foster friendship, and learn to embrace “failures” as part of everyday life. Other regular programmes for sex education and various thematic workshops such as computer ethics and stress management also continued to be held.



The Discipline Committee, assisted by the Prefect Board, is responsible for maintaining discipline in school. Adjustment programmes continued for S1 newcomers at the beginning of the school year to help them cultivate a sense of responsibility and understanding of their role in building a caring school community. As in previous years, education programmes were jointly held with the ICAC and LEAP for S1 to S4 students. Topics included anti-corruption, the harm of smoking

and drug abuse. Two leadership training days were held respectively in January and July for prefects to sharpen their leadership skills.

The Careers Committee is dedicated to helping students acquire the necessary knowledge and skills to prepare for future studies, guiding them through scholarship and external study programme applications, and providing individual guidance on JUPAS for S6 students. In recent years, the committee has introduced interest tests to help students gain greater insight into their personal aptitudes for life planning, including *Careers Interest Inventory* for S4 and the newly added *MyFirstChoices* for S1 to S5 this year.

During the year, careers conferences and a careers quiz were held respectively for S3 and S2 students. In view of the apparent rising demand, we conducted for the first time a joint-school online careers talks and careers fair on overseas studies. The *S6 Mock Interview Workshop* and the *S5 Mock DSE Day* continued since they have proven to be helpful for senior form students.



Careers conference

The committee’s wide array of activities was greatly enriched by external support, particularly from our old girls who have been a pillar of force consistently offering their valuable knowledge and experiences. The long-standing *Mentorship Programme* coorganised with the Alumnae Association is a prominent example. Younger graduates also contributed to activities such as the *Career Expo*, *Mock DSE Day* and *Pre-JUPAS Conference*.



Currently, we are in a partnership with HKFWS in the government-funded *Youth Life Planning Activities*. Among the various external programmes we have joined, the *CUHK Jockey Club Children Eye Care Programme* was popular among students interested in health science and medicine.

### Global Exposure

Subject departments brought forth a number of programmes to enrich students' worldview and cultural awareness. They are evident of the School's commitment to global education.

With the easing of COVID, study tours and exchange activities have gradually resumed. In June, the Dance Team travelled to Portugal to participate in the Dance World Cup. In July, all S5 classes embarked on a one-day trip to Shenzhen to learn about innovative technology and cultural preservation while some of our senior students studying Chinese history went on a history study tour in Guangzhou.

The Citizenship & Social Development Department lined up an insightful talk for students delivered by an alumna who has had unique personal experiences in three distinctive cultures, namely, Bangladesh, Shanghai and Chaozhou.

The English Department hosted the *Global Week* for S3. Students undertook research projects to explore the culture, history and way of life of a country of their choice. They then designed and ran the country stalls to share with fellow students their interesting findings.



The Liberal Studies Department coorganised with Inter Cultural Education a thought-provoking *Poverty Simulation Workshop* for S6 students to appreciate the pressing global issue of poverty, social inequality and unfair trade practices.

### Civic and Moral Education

The Civic Education Committee continued its mission in joint efforts with other departments to enhance students' social awareness, national identity and sense of global citizenship.

During the year, we have assisted the National Education Committee to implement the Sister School Scheme promoted by the Education Bureau. We have successfully entered into agreements with three schools in the motherland, two in Shanghai and one in Beijing. In the coming years, we will look forward to the exchanges between our students and their counterparts in the sister schools.



This year, four S2 and S3 students delivered a creative presentation completed with songs and skits to share our school heritage in the larger context of local and Chinese history. With the social distancing measures eased, several school-based activities aimed at strengthening students' national identity, including the Chinese Culture Quiz and Basic Law Quiz, resumed in-person.

### Extra-curricular Activities

The 74<sup>th</sup> Student Association (SA), *Questa*, and the 32<sup>nd</sup> Inter-house Committee, *Fika*, were inaugurated in October 2022. The cabinets pledged to serve their fellow schoolmates with a humble heart.

This year, our SA was presented the Outstanding Student Association Award and Award for Values Education by the esteemed *Hong Kong Student Association Award Scheme 2022/23* run by Hok Yau Club. Emerging as one of the 4 exceptional schools to win the Outstanding Student Association Award, the SA was commended for their remarkable skills in youth leadership.



The annual Sponsored Walk was held on campus this year. A total of HK\$287,884 was raised, of which \$262,000 was donated to 21 local charities, and the remainder to the School Redevelopment Fund.



With great joy, we were able to hold the Swimming Gala in March after a 4-year suspension due to the pandemic. Inter-school competitions also resumed in full swing.

During the Easter holidays, S4 students participated in a rigorous 5-day Outward Bound Training programme. During the post-examination period in June, a talent quest was held on campus, further enhancing the vibrant and joyful atmosphere in campus.

In the coming summer vacation, our Basketball Team and Volleyball Team are set to embark on an exciting journey of team training in Taiwan and Thailand, respectively. This invaluable opportunity will offer our student-athletes a chance to hone their skills, build team cohesion, and experience new cultures and perspectives.

### Social and Charity Services

This year, the Interact Club successfully recruited 80 interactors from S3 to S6. To prepare them for service, training workshops were conducted at the beginning of the school year, which included a leadership training programme for student leaders and a volunteer training programme for S2 students.

Several service programmes were held this year. They included flag selling and joint school service projects, which included a Christmas Children Service with Diocesan Boys' School, a Christmas Elderly Service with St. Louis School, and a service for homeless people in Sham Shui Po with Ying Wa College.



A new programme was introduced this year. Run by the YWCA, the service aims to care for parents of unborn children. Participating students sewed infant clothes as gifts for these parents. Through their involvement in this meaningful service, students learned valuable life lessons about showing care, empathy, and compassion towards others.

### **The Parent-Teacher Association**

Led by Chairperson Mr Webster Yeung, the Executive Committee of the Parent-Teacher Association (PTA) continued to render support to the School. Assisted by a team of parent volunteers, they have contributed to the general affairs of the school such as daily assistance in the library, and other regular initiatives such as the School Uniform Collection and Donation, photo-taking for students and farewell lunch for S6.



This year, we launched the *Ying Wa Parent Academy*, a major initiative aimed at fostering stronger collaboration and companionship between the School and parents. To enhance parents' understanding of young people's socializing culture in the digital age, we organised a talk and workshop on "Internet Love Affairs."

Another main objective of the *Parent Academy* is to help parents nurture self-care in the body, mind, and spirit. To achieve this goal, we arranged a series of relevant activities for interested parents, including prayer meetings and workshops on Tisane (herbal tea tasting), Pilates, molecular gastronomy, dessert-making, and handicrafts.

### **The Alumnae Association**

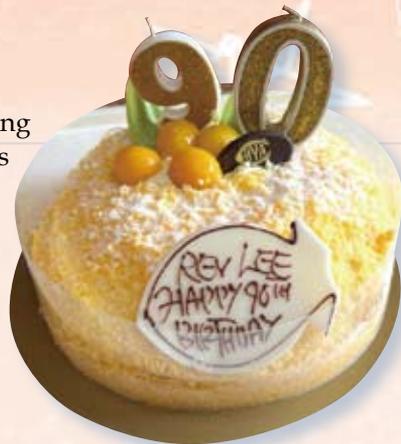
In March, Ms Chui Wai Shan Anita concluded her four-year service as chairperson of the Alumnae Association (AA). She was succeeded by Ms Olivian Wan after the AGM held in Silcocks Hall following the Founder's Day Service.

As the challenges posed by the epidemic gradually softened, the AA resumed many activities during the year, making pleasing strides in fulfilling its mission of promoting sisterhood, supporting charitable causes, and strengthening ties with the Ying Wa community.

In November, AA continued its fine tradition of organising the alumnae sponsored walk. The 4-week programme attracted interested alumnae to arrange their own walk on their preferred day. Together with the donations collected during the School's Thanksgiving Sponsored Walk, the total sum raised went to 21 charitable bodies to benefit the needy.



The Alumnae Choir resumed their practice while the Outing Group began arranging outdoor trips to attractive spots again. The Caring Team organised a birthday celebration for Rev C C Lee, our beloved alumna, and teacher on her 90<sup>th</sup> birthday. The Mentorship programme and newsletter publication continued as usual. The conscientious team of trustees continued to oversee the management of the AA Charity Trust Fund.



### Appreciation

In closing the report, I shall take this opportunity to thank our education partners.

Firstly, I would like to express my deep appreciation to our colleagues in the Education Bureau for their professional advice and good counsel. Special thanks go to Ms Chiang Lam Connie, Ms Chan Hiu Ying Sarah and Ms Emily Chan, School Development Officers of the Regional Office.



Secondly I must express my utmost gratitude to all IMC members for their faithful support and commitment to the School during this challenging period. Their guidance and leadership have been a source of strength and inspiration, empowering us to overcome the obstacles and rising above the challenges.

Last but not least, I must thank my extraordinary team of devoted teachers. Throughout the epidemic period, they have strived, through coordinated efforts, to enable students' learning to remain uninterrupted by providing them the crucial resources online. Their unreserved commitment to guiding, mentoring, and educating our students is integral to the mission and success of the School, giving students the indispensable support to thrive academically, personally, and beyond.

To our graduates of 2023, congratulations on this momentous milestone! You have all worked incredibly hard to reach this point, and I could not be prouder of your accomplishments. Your resilience and perseverance in the face of unprecedented challenges, both inside and outside the classroom, have been truly awe-inspiring.



While the pandemic has presented us with numerous obstacles, it has also provided an opportunity for introspection and growth. As you embark on a new journey in life, I urge you to continue facing challenges with courage and determination, drawing strength from the lessons learned during this difficult time.

Remember, each and every one of you possesses unique talents and abilities that can be utilized to make a positive impact on the world around you. May you continue to shine bright and achieve great things in your future endeavors.

