

TWGHs S. C. Gaw Memorial College
The 30th Graduation Ceremony (2014/15)
cum Blackpool International Dance Festival Trooping Flag Presentation Ceremony
Principal's Sharing
Ms Tang Wai Chun, Agnes, Principal
15 May 2015

Mr Lo, Mr Fong, Ms. Mak, Mr Law, Mr Tan, Mrs Gaw, Ms Gaw, Distinguished Guests, Parents, Teachers and Graduates, Ladies and Gentlemen,

It is my privilege to welcome you to this graduation and awards ceremony.

The graduation ceremony is one of the most memorable and treasurable events in anybody's life. This comes at the end of a long journey of academic and social preparations. This ceremony tells you that you are now well-prepared to achieve your lifelong purpose. It is my privilege to welcome you to this graduation and awards ceremony.

You are reminded that you are the most powerful young generation in human history. You are gifted because you have the most amazing technology at your command which no other older generations could even dream of. Make sure you know that you are different. Make sure you use that power carefully in a decent manner. If you don't, everything will be wasted. Make sure you use it for grand and holy purposes, not squander it away for silly purposes. You can create a new world which no other generation could do because you are capable and unbeatable.

Present world has many problems: unemployment, poverty, and unnecessary deaths. In fact, you can change them all. That's what this graduation ceremony is all about. It tells you that you are ready to get into action. Go ahead, and create a better world for our next generation. Go ahead, and create a world where there will be happiness, fairness and opportunities. Your secondary school, TWGHs S. C. Gaw Memorial College will be proud of you because you have learnt how to unleash your potentials to change the world. We have made every attempt to unlock and nurture your creative initiatives and leadership skills so that you are confident enough to explore the world. You will be our lively examples which have great influences on our next generation of young schoolmates who can follow your examples.

I would like all of you to remember how hardworking the teachers are to foster the academic and character development of each of the students. It is time for you to look around, to see how the school has done a great deal to enhance the whole-person development of all the students including the establishment of Chairman Sze Wing Hang Nature Education Trail with the aim to promote environmental education, soothe the nerves of teachers and students, and promote Chinese values with the help of Chinese herbs and landscapes; Mrs Rossana Gaw's donation for the building of Anthony Gaw Lecture Theatre with the objective to upgrade the academic environment of the students; the use of giant Mosaic murals to signpost a sense of belonging among the students and the colourful school life; and the installation of Achievers' Gallery with glorious pictures of our elites to demonstrate how ardent and passionate our students are to improve themselves continuously and sustainably. Such kind of synergy has pushed, motivated and driven our students to face more challenges in terms of community, national and even global level. I take the pride in making the announcement that some of our students are leading us to encounter more challenges at Blackpool in Britain. Their life experiences will be enriched and their horizons will be widened. We are now on the right track to provide the whole person development with the feature of catering to learner diversity and diversified learning for the students. In return, our students will be more confident and mature in contributing to the betterment of our society, our city, our motherland and our world.

Julie Andrews, the main actress in Sound of Music once said in 2013, "Use your knowledge and your heart to stand up for those who can't stand. Speak for those who can't speak. Be a beacon of light, for those whose lives have become dark. Fight the good fight against unfairness. Be a part of all that is good and decent. Be an ambassador for the kind of world you want to live in." It is exactly our aspiration to educate a group of useful teenagers with such qualities and we are so delighted to have sown the seeds in your hearts.

Ellen DeGeneres is an American comedian, television host, actress, writer, and producer who believes in "Never follow anyone else's path, unless you're in the woods and you're lost and you see a path and by all means you should follow that." We have successfully trained you to be adventurous, creative and independent. You are not looking for peer groups only, but a group of critical friends for self-enhancement.

Kerry Washington in 2013 stresses, "When you leave here today and commence the next stage of your life, you can follow someone else's script, try to make choices that will make other people happy, avoid discomfort, do what is expected, and copy the status quo. Or you can look at all that you have accomplished today and use it as fuel to venture forth and write your own story. If you do, amazing things will take shape." My students, please do not look down upon yourselves. Actually, you are able to change our world to be a better place for you and me.

Congratulations to all of you for qualifying to attend today's graduation ceremony. Congratulations to all the parents who are present here to witness the great moment in the lives of their sons and daughters. Best wishes to the honourable guests and community leaders for being here to make this event memorable. Let us give our blessing to these young men and women for their journey ahead.

Let us celebrate the day and make it uniquely memorable. Thank you.