

School Report by Ms Tang Wai Chun, Agnes, the Principal
at the 27th Graduation Ceremony of TWGHs S. C. Gaw Memorial College
on May 25, 2012

Mrs Gaw, Mr Sze, Mr Tang, Mr Wu, School Managers, Distinguished Guests, Parents, Teachers and Students,

We are greatly honoured to have Mrs Rossana Gaw, our School Donor and Independent School Manager, to officiate at our Graduation Ceremony. The presence of Mrs Gaw and Mr Sze, our Supervisor is indeed an encouragement and motivation to our graduates and students. On behalf of the school, I would like to express our heartfelt thanks to them and all our guests for their gracious presence this evening.

Our school has a history of 28 years and adheres to the excellent educational tradition and philosophy of the School Sponsoring Body, Tung Wah Group of Hospitals — We place an equal emphasis on all-round education, dual emphasis on English and Chinese, with an additional fluency in Putonghua, and a focus on further education and careers. In the field of education of the young and the aims to which we work are equally clear --- they are encapsulated in our School Motto “Diligence, Frugality, Loyalty & Faithfulness”. Our work is based upon the above principles.

The school has deeply felt views on the education it provides. With the implementation of the Language Fine-tune Policy last year, we have adopted a Language Enhancement across Curriculum Scheme in Junior Secondary in which English was used as the medium of instruction in Integrated Humanities and Science. While for Senior Secondary, Total English Learning has been put in place ever since 2009, that is to say, except Chinese Language, Chinese Literature, Chinese History and Liberal Studies, all other subjects are taught in English. The school was highly commended on the performance in the English as the Medium of Instruction Focus Inspection conducted by Quality Assurance Division (QAD), Education Bureau (EDB) in January 2011 which told us that the school with its English-rich environment is eligible for continuing to adopt English as the medium of instruction in Junior & Senior Secondary. It is firmly believed that the commendations will be the driving force for our continuous improvement towards making S. C. Gaw a truly EMI school.

Speaking of educational goals, may I give a brief picture of our work in this academic year. To instill in our students a correct attitude and positive values, a Form-based Pastoral Care Scheme was implemented in our Life Education and Class Teacher Lessons. Students have acquired positive values that they should adhere to in their lives, for example conduct, perseverance, self-esteem, filial piety, respect, responsibility, commitment, integrity, love and concern, etc. Liberal Studies Campus and the analysis on the underlying meaning of maxims in morning assemblies are examples to arouse students’ social awareness and improve their power of critical thinking.

In academic aspect, a school-based curriculum with the inclusion of Learning English through Drama and Other Learning Experiences such as Tung Wah History, Cultural Heritage, Creative Arts & Design, Innovative Technology, Civic and National

Education has been interactively burrowed into both junior & senior secondary curriculum and at the same time to be matched with cross-curricular project learning and continuous student portfolio assessment. The aim is to ensure that emphasis is put on academic matter but also on the development of values-based education, critical mind and generic skills so that they will learn how to learn. In this respect, we have seen for years, an average passing percentage of well above the territory average in public examinations. The success of the school is also seen in the background of Form One to Form Four students. I am glad to say that we do not have a single vacancy in these 4 forms. As to Secondary One Admission, the competition is keen, then it is to say, our school is certainly one liked by students and respected by parents.

The vibrant school life at S. C. Gaw truly reflects students' engagement in diversified school learning activities and more importantly, students of diverse abilities and needs are catered for. To provide all-round and quality whole person education, our school has integrated Gifted Education, Multiple Intelligences Development & Other Learning Experiences (OLE) into the curriculum as well, aiming at cultivating 'Life-long interest in Sports, Arts & Services'. We have more than 60 societies, uniform groups and school teams. 15 professional coaches and tutors are employed. We are pleased to report that over 1,200 prizes have already been obtained outside school in a short period of 9 months in this school year. Student attainment has been excellent and varied which includes sports such as Rugby, Fencing, Netball, Taekondo, Gymnastics, Volleyball, Table-tennis, Badminton, Tennis, Swimming and Athletics. As to aesthetic development, our Marching Band and Chinese Dance Team are frequently awarded with prizes, while our newly established Latin Dance Team has been the recipient of 347 prizes and championships in Inter-schools, local and international competitions in this short period of time. Our effort is further affirmed by the blossoming of budding talents and promising elites in a good range of areas like Arts, Music, Dance Sport, Speech, Careers-related Programme, Creativity, Leadership & Services. These awards do not only acknowledge the extraordinary efforts made by our teachers and students, but they also create momentum for our sustainable development and continuing improvement. What we aim at is both, quantity and quality, the impressive records and students' outstanding attainment as shown in the Programme Booklet today and on our school webpage do give a vivid reflection of the task of the school has fulfilled.

All these gratifying achievements are accomplished with the able leadership and full support of the School Sponsoring Body, Tung Wah Board of Directors and our School Donor, Mrs Gaw and her family as well as the wise counsel of the Incorporated Management Committee of the School. I also take pride in my team of dedicated staff. If it had not been for their concerted effort, enthusiasm and sense of responsibility, the school would not have gained such wide recognition from the stakeholders. My deepest appreciation also goes to the Parent-Teacher Association and the Alumni Association for being such supportive partners in the development of the School. I am confident that this synergy will surely enable the school to do even better.

In closing, may I wish the graduates a bright future and our guests good health and prosperity. Thank you.