## Opening Address by the Principal, Ms Agnes Tang at the School Re-opening Ceremony 2012-2013 on 3<sup>rd</sup> September, 2012

## Making S. C. Gaw an EMI School & A Cradle of Outstanding Students 東華青川成為一所英文中學及孕育傑出學生的搖籃

Good Morning, Fellow Teachers, Boys and Girls,

Welcome back to school after a fun and meaningful summer vacation. I would like to extend a warm welcome to the newcomers, in particular the S1 students. I would also like to congratulate the S6 students on their return for another new phase of challenge in their study career. For the newly admitted students, a certain degree of anxiety, of course, is inevitable. This is a natural fear resulting from your reactions to insecurities and uncertainties. You may, for instance, worry how you adjust to your new school life and whether you can cope with the curriculum. You may suspect whether your teachers are caring enough or whether their lessons are inspiring. Moreover, you may also fear whether you can make new friends. I can assure you that you will be under the good care of your teachers and your peers, just as I am well supported by my dear colleagues. Given time and effort, I am sure you will be able to hurdle all the obstacles and feel happy being a member of the school.

Every year there are changes in the school personnel. Now I would like you to meet the new teachers. Please join me in welcoming them. In addition to at least two more NETs in the teaching of our new School-based subject, Life-wide English, there are altogether 3 new teachers in the new school term. Ms Yeung and Ms Betty Tse are the new teachers & Assistants in support of Life-wide English, English across Curriculum and Liberal Studies. To rung higher in his career ladder, our English Teacher, Mr Edward Chu will be leaving us in October. He will be replaced by Mr Yiu Ho Man. Let's welcome all of them to S. C. Gaw.

Let me now highlight some of the major changes in the school administration. First of all, I would also like to introduce to you our two Vice Principal (Academic) 副校長〔教務〕 and Assistant Principal (Pastoral Care) 助理校長〔學生培育〕: Mr Tam Yiu Wang 譚耀宏副校長 and Ms Wong Lai Fan 黃麗芬助理校長. They are supported by our Senior Graduate Teachers 高級學位教師. Under Mr Tam, our Vice Principal, there are Mr Li Yuk Fai 李煜輝老師 and Mr Tung Lung 董龍老師 in the Board of Administration 行政部 while for the Board of Studies 學務部, we have Mr Chan Chu Sang 陳柱生老師, Ms Cheng Bo Wah 鄭寶華老師, Ms Lee Chi Fan 李志芬老師 and Mr Chu Yuk Wo 朱旭和老師. Ms Wong, our Assistant Principal will be in-charge-of the Board of Student Support 學生成長部 with Mr Cheung Chau Fan 張秋帆老師, Mr Yip Kam Pui 葉錦培老師 and Ms Kwan May Ping 關美萍老師 while the Board of Student & General Affairs 學生事務部 to be

administered by Mr Cheung Wai Ching 張偉正老師, Mr Chan Kin Sang 陳建生老師 and Mr Chan Kwong Tat 陳廣達老師. Last but not least, the School Social Worker, Miss Wong.

Now I would like to draw your attention to the overall results of the school in the first HKDSE. It was happy to announce that with our concerted efforts, the performance of our S6 students had been very encouraging especially when all the Senior Secondary Subjects except Chinese Language, Chinese Literature, Chinese History and Liberal Studies are taught in English ever since 2009. Percentages of students attaining Level 2 or above is 92.2 while those attaining Level 4 or above is 33.4 --- A standard truly comparable to an EMI School

- Altogether 5 subjects, including Physics, Chemistry, Chinese History, Business, Accounting and Financial Studies (BASF) and Information & Communication Technology (ICT) have attained 100% Level 2 or above.
- Altogether 13 subjects, including Liberal Studies (99.3%), English Language (95.5%), Chinese Language, Biology, History, Geography, Mathematics Compulsory Part, Mathematics Extended Part II attained over 90% Level 2 or above.
- 12 subjects got 30% or higher in Level 4 or above: Biology, Mathematics Compulsory Part, Economics, Chinese Language, Information & Communication Technology, Chinese History. Liberal Studies got about 50%, Mathematics Extended Part II of over 66%, Chemistry and Physics got 73%.
- 86% of S6 students meet the entrance requirements of the sub-degree programmes (5 subjects with Level 2 or above including Chinese and English) and about 50% of degree programmes (Level 3 or above in 2 languages and Level 2 or above in Mathematics and Liberal Studies) respectively.
- Though the JUPAS admission is still on-going, it is happy to find quite a high percentages of our students received their offer at the first round which is much higher than the Territory average. Among them, we have students entering the University of Hong Kong studying Medicine and Pharmacy.

As a token of appreciation to the great achievements of TW students in the 2012 HKDSE, the Commendation Gathering for TW HKDSE Outstanding Students「東華三院董事局與中學文憑試優異生聚會」was held on the 29th August. 18 Tung Wah outstanding students from the 18 Tung Wah Secondary Schools scoring 5\*or 5\*\* in at least four subjects were invited to meet the Chairman, Vice-Chairman and members of the Board of Directors of Tung Wah Group of Hospitals. Out of the 18 outstanding students, 4 came from S. C. Gaw. They are Cheung Tsun Wai 張峻瑋同學, Lam Man Wai 林萬維同學, Yeung Chak Kai 楊澤佳同學 and Ng Man Yee Anita 吳敏儀同學. May I also take this opportunity to congratulate these 4 students who have accomplished impressive results in the HKDSE. Congratulations on their excellent achievements!

Going hand in hand with the very satisfactory HKDSE results, the all-round attainment of our students last year was equally impressive.

We got a total of 1478 prizes and awards.

(1) Intellectual Development: 371(2) Leadership: 30

(3) Aesthetics & Dance: 473 (Latin Dance: 400)

(4) Sports: 409 http://www.twghscgms.edu.hk/hp\_sp/1112-tnopa/1112-tnopa.pdf

(5) Voluntary Service: 175
(6) Scholarships 16
(7) Parents & Alumni 4

Among them, our Alumnus, Mr Ho Yip Shing, Jason, won an International Design Competition—
'2012 Red Dot Design Award' in Product Design
熱烈恭賀何業成校友成為國際設計大獎得主
——《紅點設計大賞 2012》產品設計



With all these outstanding attainment, I would like to invite all of you to give a big round of applause to your devoted teachers who have been working very hard in the past years to help our students in achieving such a remarkable result. We sincerely appreciate all that they have done.

As S. C. Gaw is moving towards an EMI school, the importance of English is emphasized enough. You need a good pass in English (at least a Level 3 or above) if you want to further your studies, enter the University or get a good job. To enable our students to learn English better so as to sharpen their competitive edge, in junior secondary (S1 to S3), both subjects, Integrated Humanities & Science are to be taught in English while for the senior forms all subjects except Chinese Language, Chinese History, Chinese Literature, Liberal Studies and Visual Arts, are taught in English. As to the School Major Areas of Concern and Yearly Theme, posters have already been put up at the ground floor.

Yearly Theme of this Year is:

Be Self-directed, Self-disciplined & Compassionate



In this ever-changing society, the essence of the education reform is to prepare our young people to meet the challenging uncertainties typical of an ever advancing knowledge-based society. Rather than being spoon-fed with information that easily becomes outdated, you need to be inspired to learn. Equip yourself with the necessary skills, nurture yourself into a self-motivated learner, pursue life-long and life-wide learning – these are the future modes of learning.

We will continue to help you acquire these skills and foster the correct attitude towards learning through the implementation of the school major concerns of 2012-13. They are:



First and foremost, we will promote quality teaching and learning, adopting relevant strategies to enhance student-centred learning. Secondly we will continue to sharpen your language skills by improving your proficiency in English, Chinese and Putonghua through cross-curricular endeavour. It is our wish that we can train students to be bi-literate and tri-lingual to meet the needs of Hong Kong as one of our nation's most important global cities in the century. In achieving all these, we will put in place a more authentic language learning environment with the introduction of Life-wide English Lessons, English Library Lesson, Campus Radio & After-school Great Movie Show. The last major concern is Support for our Students, the aims of which are threefold: (1) to strengthen moral education so as to develop your social skills so that you will become well-behaved and confident young people; (2) to raise your awareness in the essential elements of good health conducive to a healthy way of living and to promote your civic awareness in environmental protection and conservation; (3) to establish a Compassionate and Caring School Culture. That's why, we have also incorporated Chinese Martial Arts into our Physical Education, Liberal Studies and Life-wide English lessons this year.

Before I end, I want to reiterate that despite the changes and challenges ahead, we should learn to embrace our future with our school motto, that is, Diligence (Working hard) 勤, Frugality (Leading a simple life) 儉, Loyalty (Be loyal) 忠 & Faithfulness (Be faithful) 信. With these four basic virtues in hand, there is no mission that is impossible. I wish you all an enjoyable and self-fulfilling experience in your pursuit of knowledge and the development of your full potential this year.

Last but not least, please remember all our teachers are standing by you and sharing your joy and worries. Do not hesitate to ask for assistance and advice whenever you need, including now or in the future. We promise we will offer you help as far as we can. Please always remember, S. C. Gaw is your second home. Thank you.