



彌陀學校

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Dear Parents,

Good day.

This is the first *Keeping in Touch with Parents* for this new year. I hope to reach out to you to share some of my thoughts and reflections as the School Leader in our Mee Toh Family.

Let me start with a short story:

A man married a beautiful girl. He loved her very much. One day, she developed a skin disease. Slowly, she started to lose her beauty. It so happened that one day, her husband left for a work trip. While returning from the work trip, he met with an accident and lost his eyesight. However, their married life continued as usual. As days passed, she lost her beauty gradually.

The blind husband did not know this and there wasn't any difference in their married life. He continued to love her, and she also loved him very much. One day, she died. Her death brought him great sorrow. He finished all her last rites and wanted to leave the town.

A man from behind called and said, "How will you be able to walk alone? All these days your wife used to help you".

He replied, "I am not blind. I was acting because if she knew I could see her skin condition due to the disease, it would have pained her more than her disease itself. I didn't love her for her beauty alone, but I fell in love with her for her caring and loving nature. So, I pretended to be blind. I only wanted to keep her happy".

My reflections:

Love is Unconditional

When we truly love someone, we will go to any extent to keep our loved one happy, and sometimes it is good for us not to over-react to small issues and to overlook one another's shortcomings to be happy. Like in that story, beauty will fade with time, but the heart and soul will always be the same. Love the person for what he or she is on the inside, not the outside.

I am sure that some of you have gone to our school website and seen my Philosophy Statement:

LOVE means actively wishing happiness and well-being for all students and staff in the school, without conditions or expectations. It also means enjoying the work that we do.

As a School Leader, I hope and want to exhibit LOVE through:

L: Leading by example

O: Observing and listening actively

Vision : Touching Souls, Challenging Minds

Mission : To maximise students' potential and develop in them a passion for life-long learning guided by compassion, conscience, purity and righteousness.

Motto : Compassion, Conscience, Purity, Righteousness

愿景 : 净化心灵, 挑战思维

使命 : 以校训慈、良、清、直为指引, 激发终身学习之热忱, 务必人尽其才。

校训 : 慈、良、清、直

V: Verbalising care and concern

E: Enthusiasing others

May LOVE embrace everyone in our Mee Toh Family.

Fostering Quality Relationships and Trust

Even though our eyes cannot see each other, they see things together and cry together. That is sharing, supporting, and staying through both good times and bad times, remaining committed even when facing challenges or difficulties.

Quality relationships take a long time to build. They can be easily broken if we are not careful. Words once said or an action taken that causes hurt to someone can never be taken back or amended. Likewise, should there be an issue concerning your child in school, please remain calm and let the school know so that we can find out more and address the issue with our students. Many times, young children have not acquired the concept of responsible thinking and responsible decision-making. They may say or do things without thinking. It will be the duty of the school and the family, working together, to redirect and guide them along the correct path.

Minister Chan Chun Sing in Parliament on 4 Feb 2025 (reported in the Straits Times on 5 Feb 2025), acknowledged that parents can be anxious when their children are involved in fighting or bullying, but they should let the schools handle these cases without speculating or stepping in to complicate the matters. He hoped that parents could be positive role models, reinforcing accountability and respect instead of shielding their children from consequences. *We want to assure all parents that in our Mee Toh Family, we will act impartially in our students' best interests and guide them towards reconciliation and rehabilitation.* Ultimately, we want our students to become persons of good character, who are good and useful citizens for tomorrow.

No matter how many times the teeth bite the tongue, they will still stay together in one mouth. That is the spirit of forgiveness. I seek your kind understanding if there are areas that we have not done well and do feedback to us so that we can make things better.

Our Hope

We love our children in our Mee Toh Family. They are precious to us, as much as they are to you and your family. Our children have gifts and talents that have yet to be discovered. They are like unpolished diamonds, and I am sure that with our love, care and patience, we will be able to bring out the best in them, helping them shine like brilliant diamonds by Primary 6 and beyond.

That is the beauty of human relations. We are nothing without each other. Everyone is important here in our Mee Toh Family and we all have a part to play in inspiring our children. Let us work together with you and your family to grow and nurture your child to become a person of good character, who is a good and useful citizen for tomorrow.

Thank you for your trust and partnership in your child's education journey in our Mee Toh Family.

Serving with you,

Kelvin Tay / Principal

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