25th January, 2016

Photo Days

On Tuesday and Wednesday, we are going to have our annual Photo Days. These two days are very important to us, not just because we are taking photos for our Wayfarer, we are creating a permanent record of a particular moment in the long history of St. Paul's College and these photos are for people to cherish long after they have graduated. That is why we would like you to come back smartly dressed in your full Winter uniform with your hair combed and shoes shined.

For the first time in the history of St. Paul's College, we are going to take a school photo of everyone, including all students, teachers, supporting staff and janitorial staff. This has not been done before but we want to take a photo of the whole school because we are all part of the family of St. Paul's College and this is really a family photo. You can imagine how challenging it is to arrange a photo shot of over eleven hundred people in the playground. Yet, we are all very excited about the prospect of doing it and with the help of a dedicated team of teachers and students working very hard behind the scenes to overcome all the obstacles. We have decided to do it on Tuesday morning. I hope you are just as excited as we are because you will be the first batch of students taking part in this historic event. Two of our alumni, Edmond and Au Kwong Yu, who are now professional photographers, will come back to help us take this photo.

On Tuesday morning, please follow the instructions of your Form Teachers to assemble in the lower playground and wait at the designated areas before 8:35 a.m. (Display the setting on screen). We understand that it is going to be cold tomorrow, though not as bad as today. Our goal is to finish taking the shot in twenty five minutes max. Your cooperation is absolutely needed so that all of us will not need to stand in this cold weather longer than necessary. Please stay within the area chalk-marked on the ground. Safety is definitely our concern. Do not run. Go to the playground in an orderly and efficient way. Remind each other to stay in the designated quietly and do not push or jostle. I

have every trust in the self-discipline of the students of St. Paul's College and I have no doubt that our students know how to behave themselves.

It is a joyous occasion and I hope you will all wear a big smile. The photographers will make sure that each and every smile on your face is seen, no matter whether you are in front or far far away. I assure you that I will find the best place to put up this photo so that everyone can see your smiling faces. Students must wear proper winter school uniform. Please do not wear scarves or down jackets while we are taking the whole-school picture. I will be very sad to ban those without proper school uniform from taking part in this event.

We are determined to take the photograph as efficiently as possible. The only thing that will stop us is rainy weather and announcements will be made if it has to be cancelled. The event will have to be postponed, though it might be difficult because the Form Six students will be having their mock examinations very soon. The Photo Day schedule will continue and normal Tuesday timetable will resume.

Blood Donation Day

Today is a busy day for us. After the assembly, the Red Cross will come to assist with blood donations. Students with parental consent, all teaching and non-teaching staff are encouraged to give blood.

As you all know, there is no substitute for blood. In order to provide fresh blood products for treatments of patients with chronic diseases or in need of surgery, hospitals entirely count on the generosity of blood donors to donate on a continuous basis.

We organise a Blood Donation Day every year because we want students and staff to know that giving blood should be a normal and routine part of our lives. Regular blood donation is the only way to ensure that there will be sufficient amounts of safe blood in stock. The collected blood will be processed into its components, followed by stringent tests for infectious diseases and bacteria before being used in various treatments. Your single donation can help 3 or more patients, so please do not underestimate your contribution.

I ask all students to take blood donation seriously. We bring the Red Cross here because we want to make it convenient for staff and students to donate blood. We do not bring them here so that students can skip classes.

Heritage service

For the Form One students, you are of course too young to donate blood. We are taking you out in the last two periods to St. Paul's Church for a heritage service. We only moved to our current site at Bonham Road in 1965. When St. Paul's College was founded in 1851, it was located in Glenealy, now the Bishop's House and St. Paul's Church. That is why we are taking you there to trace our heritage.

Yuen Dick Yan, Dennis

Principal St. Paul's College