

# COMMONWEALTH SECONDARY SCHOOL Nurturing Champions of Today and Leaders of Tomorrow

# Principal's Message for Students via Email on 13 April 2020

Dear Commonwealthians,

# **Cyber Security and Cyber-wellness**

You may have heard of a few cyber intrusions to other schools' Home-Based Learning (HBL). Let us play our part to making HBL a fruitful and safe learning experience for all.

### **Trust and Responsibility**

When teachers provide students with access to an online learning platform, usually in the forms of internet links/id/codes and/or login passwords, teachers trust that the intended student recipients are responsible at keeping the access information to the intended users. Students must not pass the information to other people, such as friends not in the same learning group, home tutors, parents, or outsiders. If your parents are interested to know what you are learning from school, you can let them observe your learning but should not give them your access code/passwords. If a classmate forgets the id or password, send the information via email, not WhatsApp or other social media. This is a good cyber-wellness practice to prevent accidental disclosure of id and passcode to malicious people.

#### **Alertness and Mental Resilience**

Even when we are responsible at not disclosing our cyber platform/meeting id and passwords to other people, there will always be a possibility of cyber hacking through phishing/viral links in emails and websites, as well as weaker home internet network. We must always be on the alert to keep a look out for outsiders entering our cyber platform or meeting sessions. If an intruder has disrupted or hurt the teachers and students during a cyber intrusion, we must have the mental resilience to recover from hiccups and be smarter in future. This is Learn for Life. If we need emotional support, seek help from parents, teachers or school counsellors.

### **Securing Zoom and Google Meet for HBL**

After the recent Zoom intrusions in other schools, MOE has provided schools with the necessary precautions to secure Zoom and Google Meet for HBL. We have briefed our teachers on the precautions, and we will resume using Zoom and Google Meet for HBL from Monday, 13 April, 3pm.

We have also attached a precautionary checklist for students who may want to use Zoom for personal use.

One of the weakest links in cyber-crime is human carelessness. Let us all be responsible with the trust given to us, take necessary precautions, be alert to suspicious online activities and have the mental resilience to overcome hiccups and learn for life.

Keep safe in health and cyber-wellness!

Ng Boon Kiat Principal