Date: 1st September, 2014.
Time: 8.45 a.m. – 9.45 a.m.

Good Morning, Teachers, Boys and Girls,

First of all, let me introduce myself to the new F.1 students. I am Mr. Chung Fat Shing, the Principal of POCA Wong Siu Ching Secondary School. I welcome you to our big family and hope that you will enjoy your stay and grow with us in the coming years.

To everyone else, welcome back, and it’s time to get down to serious learning after you have had a refreshing summer vacation. The first day of school is always full of excitement, as you will meet a lot of old friends again and come across many new faces. Now let me introduce to you our new teachers.

1. INTRODUCTION OF TEACHERS:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>No</th>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Subject /Title</th>
<th>Remarks</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Ms. Shiu Ka Yan</td>
<td>English Language</td>
<td>Experienced in coaching students in English Drama.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>Ms. Shiu Ka Yan</td>
<td>Karen</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>Mr. Chan Ka Chun</td>
<td>Mathematics &amp; CIT</td>
<td>Old boy of WSC. He was with us before as Math Bridging course tutor.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>Mr. Wong Chun Yau</td>
<td>Chinese Language</td>
<td>Form Chinese Language Teaching Assistant. Helped in Chinese enhancement and remedial classes.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>Mr. Lo Cheuk Yu</td>
<td>Teaching Assistant (English Language)</td>
<td>Majored in English Language and Literature at the university.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6</td>
<td>Ms. Leung Po Chu</td>
<td>Teaching Assistant (Liberal Studies &amp; Life Planning Education)</td>
<td>Majored in Sociology at the university, with teacher training.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7</td>
<td>Ms. Chen Xiaojun</td>
<td>Teaching Assistant (Chinese Language)</td>
<td>Obtained a master degree in Gender Studies and a bachelor degree in Chinese Literature.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

I am proud to say that we have a strong team of teachers to guide our students, and I am sure our new teachers are prepared to contribute their knowledge, abilities and efforts, selflessly, in cooperation with our existing teaching team.
2. REPORT ON PUBLIC EXAMINATIONS & ECA

The last academic year (2013-14) had been a fruitful year for Wong Siu Ching because our students attained remarkable achievements in both academic and non-academic areas. In the Diploma of Secondary Education (DSE) Examination, 66.9% of our F.6 students met the general entrance requirements for local four-year undergraduate university programmes. We had ten students who scored 30 points or above in 6 best subjects and the highest score attained was 38 points. Some got into very competitive programmes. One student entered the medical school and two entered the nursing school. Another 6 took professional accountancy, risk management science and business administration programmes at CUHK or HKUST.

Apart from their outstanding academic performances, our students did equally well in extra-curricular activities. For instance in sports, our handball team had won the championship consecutively for 16 years; our badminton and rugby team also came first in the inter-school sports competitions. Moreover, we won numerous prizes and awards in inter-school music, speech and writing contests and in open competitions such as in mathematics, art and design, and the uniform groups.

To widen the exposure and instill positive values among our students, our teachers spare no efforts to organize learning programmes and extra-curricular activities. For example, we offered opportunities for students to take part in educational tours to the UK, Korea, Taiwan and the mainland. We had training camps for students to develop their leadership skills. There were also Summer Bridging Courses and a Form 1 Orientation Camp to enhance students’ language proficiency and cultivate their sense of belonging to school.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank our teachers for their continued professionalism, excellence and dedication. It is your teachers who have helped create a year that was full of learning opportunities for students to realize their potentials. Let us give them our applause.  

[and then you start clapping]

3. MAJOR SCHOOL CONCERN OF THE YEAR:

To help everyone understand the direction of school development which is of paramount importance to our students’ effective learning, I would like to draw your attention to the three major school concerns of this year.
First Concern: Review of the effectiveness of the implementation of the NSS Curriculum

To enhance the quality of learning and teaching, the school started to review and revise the curricula and internal assessment strategies last year and will continue to improve them this year. It is hoped that the fine-tuned curricula and assessment strategies would facilitate your learning and the elective subjects, subject combinations and class structure of the senior form would meet your learning interests and needs.

Second Concern: Enhancement of the effectiveness of learning and teaching

To enhance learning effectiveness, a good place to start with is the classroom. A well-organized and managed classroom sets a stage for effective teaching and learning. Therefore, a set of classroom rules and routines will be given out later, whereby you are advised to follow the instructions, such as greeting teachers at the beginning and at the end of lessons, cleaning the blackboard after lessons, etc. Besides, to equip you better for further studies and to meet the needs of an ever-changing society, teachers will develop your generic skills such as in study, communication, critical thinking, research, problem-solving, innovation and creativity and self-directed learning. These generic skills are essential, as they not only help you to learn more effectively, but also provide you with channels to enjoy personal fulfillment and social development.

Third Concern: Strengthen moral and value education, promote diverse student developments (Theme of the year – Good Habits and Self-discipline)

Besides academic and intellectual development, our school puts strong emphasis on fostering positive values. We believe that good habits and discipline are basic qualities and keys to success in studies at school as well as at work in society, and indeed in life. These qualities will help you accomplish goals, lead a healthy lifestyle, and ultimately, to be happy. That is why we adopt ‘Good Habits and Self-discipline’ as our core values. Teachers will help you build up positive habits and self-control through various activities and workshops.

To widen students’ exposure and to build self-confidence, this year, we will make use of three first-term post-exam days as ‘OLE Days’ to organize different activities for you. F.1 will have a camp on self-discipline; F.2 will have cultural activities; F.3 will have an educational camp; F.4 will have career activities and visits; and F.5 will have study tours. Through these activities, we hope your potentials and talents can be fully used and you will develop a positive attitude towards life. We will also arrange training programmes and opportunities for you to further develop your leadership skills and put into practice what you have learnt.

Apart from the 3 Major Concerns, providing a favourable and effective English
learning environment for students is always our key focus. We have been granted the privilege to switch our Medium of Instruction from Chinese to English for 4 years, subjects including Mathematics, Science, Geography, History, Economics, BAFS, ICT/CIT, Physics, Chemistry and Biology are taught in English. A variety of English-related activities will be organized throughout the year, for example, English Friday, when students and teachers are encouraged to speak entirely in English. Your active participation will help to create a better English-rich environment within the school.

Last but not least, we are going to celebrate our 35th anniversary as well as the 100th anniversary of our school’s sponsoring body, the Po On Commercial Association. There are a series of activities forthcoming. To make this special year a memorable one, I hope to see each of you taking part in some ways in the celebration.

4. A WORD OF ADVICE & ENCOURAGEMENT

To Form 4 and Form 5 students, you will be preparing for the DSE exam and planning your career path. You may worry that there is not enough time to finish the syllabus. You may be puzzled about the School-based Assessment. You may be troubled by the high expectations from yourselves or your parents. You may be confused about the choice of subjects for admission to the universities.

In the face of all this, you will not be alone. We will offer you proper guidance and support. As mentioned just now, the results of our DSE graduates are promising and our university admission rate is satisfactory. With experience of the last few years, our teachers have developed better strategies in dealing with the DSE. They will fully prepare you for the examination by giving extra support like extra-lessons and supplementary materials, as well as individual counselling. I have also established channels of communication like the principal’s e-mail, letterbox outside the school office and meetings with student representatives for you to express your needs and concerns to me.

As the saying goes, “the early bird catches the worm”. On your part, start planning and preparing today. It is also important to develop appropriate learning strategies. For example, set a reasonable goal and a workable timetable for study and relaxation and stick closely to it; engage in critical thinking to make sure that you understand your subjects thoroughly before you can revise them effectively. In your revision, you should consolidate and apply what you have learned in your lessons.

When you feel down or at a loss, don’t hesitate to get support from your schoolmates, teachers or the school social workers. Winston Churchill, the British Prime Minister during the Second World War, once said “Success consists of going from failure to failure
without loss of enthusiasm.” So, don’t lose heart though you may face difficulties and failures. With a strong will, confidence and perseverance, you are surely capable of achieving good results in the public exams.

For the junior form students, big challenges are waiting when you get to higher forms. But you have the time, if you start using it wisely now. You should develop step by step a good habit of learning and acquire the skills necessary for your future, and our teachers will help you along.

Dear boys and girls, the new academic year is full of challenges which will become good opportunities if you know how to face them properly. I strongly believe that under the careful guidance of your teachers and with your own strenuous efforts, you can excel yourselves and make the school year ahead enjoyable and rewarding. Thank you.