

愛人者，人恒愛之；敬人者，人恒敬之 - 孟子

Towards the end of the last school year, I asked some Form Four and Five students to write a letter to me, telling me things that they were concerned about. Needless to say, they gave me a very long wish list about everything under the sun, ranging from the conditions of the school toilets to their expectations of a new principal. Topping the list is nonetheless the school blazer. No, I have not forgotten about it and as you are about to change into your winter school uniform, I want to say something about your school blazer in the assembly today.

I am very happy to know that many students understand the symbolic significance of the school uniform. When you are wearing it, be it summer or winter school uniform, you are our ambassadors. How you carry yourself on public transport, the language you use in restaurants and the attitude you display reflect the kind of education you receive here at St. Paul's College. That is why we expect you to be well-groomed, your hair combed, your shirt and trousers properly ironed and your shoes polished when you come into the school. Do not come to school sloppily dressed as if you have just got out of bed. In the same way, do not leave the school untidily dressed as if you have just come out of a war zone. Your shirt should be properly tucked in and your school tie tightened.

Likewise, do not degrade yourself by using language which does not befit a well brought up, educated gentleman. Profanity, which is the use of bad language, strong language, foul language, bad words, vulgarity, swearing or cursing must be avoided at all costs. What we say should be beneficial to others because the Bible says in *Ephesians 4:29*, "do not let any unwholesome talk come out of your mouths, but only what is helpful for building others up according to their needs, that it may benefit those who listen".



If you understand your responsibility when wearing your school uniform, then whether you have to wear the school blazer all the time is not an issue. I only have the following rules for wearing the blazer:

- It must be worn when you attend all school functions such as morning assembly, Speech Day or Parents' Day.
- It must be worn if you are representing the school to attend any external functions.
- It must be worn when you sit for your mid-year and final examinations.
- You must be seen wearing your school blazer when you walk into the school in the morning or walk out of the school at the end of the school day. At other times, whether you want to carry it in your hand or put it in your school bag, it really does not matter to us. What matters is that when you wear it, it must not be creased. We also do not want you to use the classroom as a store room for your blazers. That is why you have to be seen wearing it when you walk out of the school.

These are the simple rules which I have regarding the school blazer. I am happy to hear your views if you have other opinions about your school uniform. In fact, you are always welcome to write to me if you have any suggestions for the school. All I ask is that it has to be written in English and you must give your name, your class and class number.

If I ask that you do not leave the school as if you had come out of a war zone, I also expect that you do not leave your classrooms as a war zone. I had a quick inspection of some Form 5 and Form 6 classrooms about a week ago and there are a few things that I would like to remind you. I hope Form teachers and class teachers will help me to enforce these.



24.11.2014

The general principle is that you should leave your classrooms in exactly the same conditions as you find them in the morning. That is, all the chairs should be moved to the desks and all the desks should be properly aligned in rows and columns. P.E. shoes and pieces of paper should not be left on the floor. Books and notes should not be left on the window sills because they damage the blinds. I will be doing another spot check in December and if there is no improvement, I will ask the janitors to clear anything that is left on the floor. The classroom is a place of learning and I hope that students and teachers can help me to look after them.

The underlying principle behind all these rules is respect - that you respect yourselves and that you are proud of being a member of St. Paul's College. I am confident that all our students can live up to our expectations.



**St. Paul's College
Senior Choir (2013-2014)**



Smart-looking SPC students in their winter uniforms

Mr. Dennis Yuen

Acting Principal

24.11.2014

