

# SoulTalk

a monthly newsletter to parents

## Director's Teapot

Get Rid, Get Right!

During the long lock down from April to June, I busied myself cleaning my room. I went over my files: sorting and re-sorting notes from my studies, teaching notes, all from way back in the '80s and '90s. I decided to throw away many of these notes. I also went over my bookshelves - books, and magazines - pulling out one book after another from the shelves to give away. I went over my wardrobe and similarly, I pulled out shirts, dresses, pants, that had not been worn for the last two or more years. Going over these stuffs bring back memories of bygone days - each has a story to tell. While it was difficult to part with some of these stuffs, I had decided to let go. After pulling out and giving away these stuffs, I realized that it was very liberating. Trying to live the minimalist lifestyle means that I live only with the basic and essential stuff. Actually, I still have a lot of books, clothes, and other stuff that are waiting in line to be given away sometime in the near future. I find this exercise of removing unnecessary clutter from my closets very helpful. It frees up some space and I made some people happy by giving away some stuff.

A daily dose of cleaning up of our lives is also healthy and helpful for the soul. As we start a new year, let us examine our "closets" for "cobwebs, unnecessary clutter, accumulated dust and dirt that had been there long enough to invite cockroach, insects, etc."- all the unsightly and foul-smelling stuff. These are what the Bible calls sin. It takes only one rotten apple to spoil the rest of the apples in the same basket. Like the Covid-19 and its variant, sin is highly infectious. The Apostle Paul admonished the Christians in Colossae to put to death whatever belongs to their earthly nature: sexual immorality, impurity, lust, evil desires and greed, which is idolatry. Because of these, the wrath of God is coming. You used to walk in these ways, in the life you once lived. But now you must rid yourselves of all such things as these: anger, rage, malice, slander, and filthy language from your lips. Do not lie to each other, since you have taken off your old self with its practices and have put on the new self, which is renewed in knowledge in the image of its Creator" (Colossians 3:5-10).

Why talk of negative things at the start of a new year? No amount of positive talk about health will cure a ruptured appendix. The doctor will have to remove the ruptured appendix just as the gardener will have to pull out the weeds before he can see a beautiful garden of new blooms. Life is also much the same - before we can have a fruitful life, we need to get rid of the "negative" stuffs, because sometimes these unhealthy and negative habits or activities "choke" us up. We have to "unfriend" these from coming into our lives. They hinder us from fostering intimacy with Christ; they actually block us from becoming mature in our Christian life, and from bearing much fruit.

Let's start the year 2021 by removing all the distracting habits that hinder us from drawing close to our Creator; let us get rid of sins that beset and weigh us down so that our life in Christ is stunted or stagnated. And in its place, let us get right with God by developing a mindset that puts Christ first; by walking in the newness of life that Christ gives to all who desire His life. Let us aim to make 2021 a "virus-free," and holy-living year for His glory!

### RELEASE OF E-REPORT CARDS | JANUARY 15 | FRIDAY

You will receive your child's report card via email on **Friday, January 15 (between 9:00AM - 3:00PM)**. To access a copy of the card, please do the following-

- **For Preschool**  
Log on to your child's official school MS account, Homeroom Team Channel
- **For Elementary**  
Log on to your child's official school MS account
- **JHS and SHS**  
Please check your child's official e-mail account by logging in to MS Outlook

If you fail to receive a copy of the card on the 15<sup>th</sup>, please email the following persons:

LEVEL	EMAIL ACCOUNT
<b>PRESCHOOL (Nursery, Pre-K &amp; Kinder)</b>	joan.palad@pcgs.edu.ph
<b>GRADES 1-3</b>	krista.andales@pcgs.edu.ph
<b>GRADES 4-6</b>	andrea.canonigo@pcgs.edu.ph
<b>GRADES 7 &amp; 8</b>	shebamyrh.alda@pcgs.edu.ph
<b>GRADES 9 &amp; 10</b>	eduardo.pua@pcgs.edu.ph
<b>GRADES 11 &amp; 12</b>	kristine.pepito@pcgs.edu.ph

### PHOTO OPPORTUNITY | JANUARY 18 - FEBRUARY 12

School year 2019-2020 ended very abruptly without the excitement of closing and/or graduation ceremonies. Many of you were not able to have your picture taken with family. Hence, we are scheduling a photo op to all graduates of school year 2019-2020. **THIS IS VOLUNTARY.** Kindly pass the word to friends/classmates who already transferred or are in college. Below are the details for the photo op:

- Graduates in all levels (Kinder, Gr 6, 10, & 12) may come with family for the photo op.
- A family of five including the graduate is the maximum number allowed.
- If there are more than one graduate, come as one, regardless of level/ grade.
- Each family will be given only 30 minutes for the photo op.
- Photo op will be done inside the gym only (loitering to other venues is strictly prohibited)
- Individual togas & cap will be available for the photo op. The graduate may wear anything inside the toga. Footwear is also at one's preference. Togas have already been washed but if you prefer to wash or disinfect these, we will allow you to borrow the togas and caps before the photo op schedule. Only Grade 6 & 12 graduates have caps. To borrow, please call **Ms. Alice Paw at 254-6817 loc. 128**, for appointment.
- Photo op will run for the whole month of January until the second week of February, starting on Monday, **January 18**. The schedule is **Monday to Friday (except holidays) from 9:00AM - 11:30AM and 1:30PM - 3:00PM.**
- Please provide your own camera (gadget) & tripod if you have, so that you can take the picture yourself. The school, however, will have one or two persons on site to assist you if this is needed.
- Health protocols must be observed - (1) face mask and face shield are required for every person; (2) temperature check upon entry and if temperature is 37.5 or above, the person will not be allowed entry; (3) those with cough and colds are also advised not to come; (4) we will request you to accomplish a medical waiver; (5) Kindly follow all guidelines set by the school.
- All requests for photo op must be received on or before **January 22, 2021**. Kindly register as follows:

- ✓ If you are still enrolled at PCGS this school year, kindly email your request to:

LEVEL	EMAIL ACCOUNT	TEL. NUMBER
<b>KINDER</b>	joan.palad@pcgs.edu.ph	254-6817 loc. 115
<b>GRADE 6</b>	krista.andales@pcgs.edu.ph	254-6817 loc. 137
<b>GRADE 10</b>	eduardo.pua@pcgs.edu.ph	254-6817 loc. 119

Contact the office assistant based on your child's grade level last school year.

- ✓ If you are no longer enrolled at PCGS this school year (those who transferred to another school and all Grade 12 graduates of last year), you may email the Registrar **andrea.canonigo@pcgs.edu.ph or call 2546817 loc. 129.**