

## **Speech of Chan Ho Yin Quintina (6A) in the Morning Assembly on 30<sup>th</sup> Sept 2015**

Good morning! Today I am going to talk about “How would I change the world with a small step:. But before that, I want to mention a person first. Neil Armstrong, the astronaut. The moment of Neil Armstrong descending to the lunar surface still remain vividly in my mind. He said “That’s one small step for a man but a giant leap for mankind.” And yes, he indeed changed the world with just a small step. But how can I change the world by my effort? This question thrills many of us. None of us is Neil Armstrong here. I mean to change the world? You are probably kidding. Well, let me tell you my story.

When I was six, I constantly pictured myself as a great surgeon and was able to change the world with my sophisticated medical skills. However, as I further my study, it was hard to be oblivious of the fact that his dream could never be achieved. In the Biology lesson, we were asked to anatomize a frog. From that moment, I found that I in fact hated the feeling of cutting living beings apart. No matter I was trying to murder them or save them. So the dream ended. I was frustrated but not beaten. Fortunately I was soon inspired by a movie called “Pay it forward” and I found my way to make a difference.

“Pay it forward” is an expression for describing the beneficiary of a good deed repaying it to others instead of to the original benefactor. The concept may be old, but the idea is not. It occurs to me that I can change the world by starting small to militate against things! The key is to be attentive wherever I am for opportunities to give a hand. In daily life, I always visit an elderly neighbour who lives by himself. I can see he is happier than he was as he has a company now. He told me I changed his view as he used to think that the society was utterly apathetic. From that moment, I found my reason of doing these things. I can change people’s attitudes about the world through unobtrusive acts of kindness.

Besides, I will spread the word. If the person thanks me and wants to pay it back after I help him or her, I will let them know that what I want is for them to pay it forward – do something good for three people they know or don’t know, and ask those three people to do something nice for three more people. The idea is to consciously increase the goodness of the world.

Please imagine if everyone followed through with this and what kind of world it would be! Doesn’t it make the world a better place? In the past, I had no initiative to help people because I considered there would always be someone else to do this instead of me. But when I ponder over this question: “If not me, who? If not now, when?” I subsequently realize that I should and will continue what I am doing now in the future. However, what I am doing is seem to be a small step, it can be a giant leap if you and I cooperate to make this happen. So let’s do it. Helping and inspiring others to good deeds, without expectation of reward or remuneration. I sincerely hope anyone standing here can be inspired by me and we can be a world changer together.