

Rebecca Lai

Peiyong Primary School

Valedictorian Speech

Good morning to all valued parents, teachers and guests, and a big hello to all my fellow friends. First and foremost, I would like to thank everyone present, for taking time out to attend today's prize presentation ceremony. I am Rebecca Lai, and I study in Peiyong Primary School.

Like they say, time flies when you're having fun. Looking back at the 6 years spent in Peiyong and the 3 years in KO Tuition Club, I cannot agree more with that statement. Although it has been 6 years since my first day in Peiyong, the fun I had and the memories made are still distinctly clear in my mind. Like everybody, I was once a young and immature kid, who only thought about having fun. I had never imagined that I'd be standing here today and making this speech.

Of course, all these would not have been possible if I were alone. Hence, I'd like to take this opportunity to thank the people who have been helping me, both emotionally and academically. The first two people I'd like to thank are my parents. I remember this incident, as PSLE was fast approaching; teachers started giving us more homework than usual. I have this habit of writing a to-do list, and looking at the long list, I feared that I'd not be able to complete it on time. I felt so pressurized that I broke down. My mum and dad came inside the room, gave me a tight hug, and consoled me. They also encouraged me to persevere and do my best. Though they were small actions, I felt a lot better. Thank you mummy and daddy!

Another person I'd like to thank is my cousin-Annabel. When PSLE was around the corner, I got really stressed up. Thankfully, she was with me, and she helped me de-stress with her lame jokes and nonsensical acts. I would also like to thank my Peiyong teachers for being more than teachers. Especially Ms Chin, my Primary 6 teacher. This year, we had our PSLE. Compared to the stress experienced from past examinations, the stress from PSLE was far more overwhelming. Thankfully, the teacher assigned to my class was Ms Chin. And why do I say so? That's because Ms Chin is a very cheerful teacher. And that's an important factor that can determine our results. I mean, who would enjoy the lessons given by a teacher with a face that never smiles? It's a definite no for me.

Part of the credit also goes to a group of close friends I have in Peiyong, who provided moral support when I needed it most. They consisted of my walking 'MP3 player' who sang songs that were one of a kind, my 24 hour-no-salary therapist that could solve almost all my problems and others.

Now, before I continue, I'd like to ask all of you a question. Have any of you ever come across a teacher who has interesting hairstyles and never ends his classes on time? Yes, he is none other than Mr Ong from KO Tuition Club. We cannot deny his passion towards teaching and patience towards the students. There was once I was distracted by Running Man and K-dramas, and thus had my attention diverted, which made an impact on my mid-year examinations. But with the help of Mr Ong, I managed to get my attention back on my studies, and prevent it from affecting my results any further. Before I pass the mic over, I would like to share this quote by Walt Disney. "All our dreams can come true – if we have the courage to pursue them." Thank you.