

Finding love and gratitude in the midst of a storm

On 16th September 2018, Hong Kong was hit by one of the most powerful storms on record. Hong Kong was shut down by typhoon Mangkhut for the whole day. While citizens were forced to stay indoors for safety, noticeable damage was done to buildings and the city's infrastructure. Like many schools in Hong Kong, Rosaryhill School tried its best to recover from the damage as soon as possible, so that students could resume their normal school lives.

As educating and nurturing students are our first priorities, we did not hesitate to make temporary adjustments after the storm. First, to ensure students' safety the school campus was checked and cleaned up before we welcomed students back to school on 19th September. Moreover, since the walkways were blocked by fallen trees and public buses were suspended after the typhoon, the school was quick to react to such an unexpected situation. Free school bus services were provided to secondary school students to go to school in the morning. Extra school bus stations were offered in Wan Chai to accommodate students living in Kowloon and other districts. Moreover, due to the chaotic traffic conditions, all after-school activities were suspended in the secondary section, so that students could return home safely on time using the free school buses services.

While the school has resumed its normal school schedule and functions, we see the consequences of typhoon Mangkhut as an opportunity for our students to practise gratitude, by reflecting on their experiences during and after the storm. Special spiritual education sharing sessions were conducted, and students engaged in meaningful reflective activities, which helped them to express their feelings about the storm. Many students did not hesitate to share the inspiration they gained through the experience. Moreover, students wrote encouraging words to those who have been affected by the storm and expressed their gratitude in other ways. Let's look at some of our students' sharing from S5A!

Embrace thankfulness

Raine

To be honest, I really didn't notice anything wrong with the school campus or our classrooms. However, after seeing some pictures of what the typhoon did to them, I realised that the janitors had put some hard work into cleaning everything up! For that, I thank all of them for caring and helping out.

Micah

I feel grateful because there are people who volunteer to help others, especially for transportation and resources. We are forever thankful for what they have done.

Ewan

The storm made travelling to school via public transport nearly impossible, and extremely dangerous. The school was extremely thoughtful to open up their network of school buses to all students.

Yasmine

When the EDB released the news that schools would be suspended, I felt relieved that the EDB and the government were working hard to ensure the safety of students and school staff. I was even more grateful when the school released a special arrangement concerning school bus services on eClass. My mother and I felt safer and we are thankful for it.

To people who have been affected by the storm

Siddhant

Please do not be discouraged and always try to look at the brighter side and be optimistic.

Michael Kennelly

There is always light at the end of the tunnel. When it seems hard and painful, something good will happen and come out of it.

Julia

Stay strong. Don't ever lose faith. Good things will come your way. And remember, bad things don't stay.

Heartfelt Video Interview Produced by Students

After the storm, Ewan from 5A, who is the Student Artist of the Year, interviewed some students and produced a video with his team members. Let's watch the following video about the interview.