

## Doing Right As A School Family

It was 5 January 2023 - the third day of the new school year.

Our assembly ground was buzzing with the usual morning chatter as the school family prepared for flag raising and morning routines.

For some reason, the microphone that was on the podium failed just as we were going to call the school to attention. Sensing that something was amiss, our media resource students sprung to action and tried to rectify the issue.

I was particularly keen to see how the entire student body would react to this. There were close to 2800 staff and students watching the scene unfold before their eyes. Would we hear more chatter and chuckles among the masses as they witnessed their friends trying to solve this problem?

On the contrary, the entire student body, without any prompting, waited patiently. In an instant, there was peace and quiet. Despite the glare from the morning sun, everyone stood still, watching the developments on stage as our students tried to trouble-shoot the problem. No word was uttered, no fidgeting was noticed, no mischief among our students was in sight.

At that moment, I witnessed self-discipline, patience, and empathy as those who could not solve the problem watched intently for a positive outcome.

And they did so without being told to.

Among the many actions that our students undertake, it is the right decisions they make that encourage our hearts. When they apply themselves and decide on a right course of action to take, it affirms what Proverbs 21:3 says.

*To do what is right and just is more acceptable to the LORD than sacrifice.*

*Proverbs 21:3*

Sacrifice, or the performance of religious ceremonies, is less important to God than the way we do right, exercise correct judgement on matters and treat others.

Jeremiah 29:11, our theme verse for 2023, reminds us that God has a purpose for each one of us; one that has a future and a hope. And as God defines His plans and purposes for each of our lives, it is also the encouragement of peers, whom we interact with on a day-to-day basis, who endeavor to do what is right even when the odds are stacked against them, and who encourage us to do what is correct whether we are being watched or otherwise.

This encourages us to walk in step with God and sharpens us to be ACSians ready to do His will.

**THEME 2023**

