



Queensway Secondary School

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Dear Parents/Guardians and Queenswayans,

We have come almost to the end of Term 3, the longest school term any of us have experienced, starting from 2 June. It has been tiring for both teachers and students, not made any easier by all the Safe Management Measures we have had to put in place. For instance, teachers are in school each morning before 6.30 am to man the school gates to monitor that students coming to school are well. This process, including temperature taking is conducted daily at Assembly, before the start of school. On top of this, our teachers like all Singaporeans have to work with their face masks, teaching either with the mask or shield, through the day. Through the day, they are monitoring and managing students' learning and behaviour ensuring that our school is a safe environment for our students.

Meanwhile, they are engaged in other activities that most do not see, such as preparing for lessons, meeting via Zoom for planning or training so that our students get the best that we can offer. They are also setting assessment papers and examination papers, doing invigilations at the national GCE N- and O-Levels, some are also examiners or markers at our national examinations. All of these and more, including the marking of students' daily work, counselling or disciplining students, are the teacher work activities that are not seen but happens.

I am honored and privileged to work with a team of very dedicated and committed Queensway teachers. They put in long hours and genuinely care for the well-being of our students. There are times I see that they are fighting back their tears when they agonize over the students they care so much for, yet some of these remain indifferent to their teacher's care. I am glad that I can also see the joy in their work as they see their students turn the corner in their learning or behavioural attitudes. It gives teachers great happiness to see their students mature in life!

Teachers' Day Celebrations

It is fitting that we recognize and honor our teachers and I am glad that there is a special day set aside to recognize and celebrate the work and effort of our teachers. Thus, on Thursday 3 September, we will have a special day to commemorate Teachers' Day. School will commence as usual. Except for our Sec 4 Express and Sec 5 students who are taking their Preliminary Examinations, all other levels will have lessons till 8.45 am. We will commence the Teachers' Day Celebrations, in 2 parts. This is how we adapt with COVID-19 to make it meaningful and special.

8.45 – 10.00 am: The Peer Mentors in each of the classes will be planning some game activities and there would also be a school-wide activity for all students to be involved in. During this time, we will have all students bring their breakfast to class and enjoy breakfast with their teachers. The canteen will not be opened that day, so students will need to bring food and drinks from home.

10.00 – 10.45 am: School and MOE Celebrations for Teachers' Day. Teachers and students will enjoy specially curated programmes in recognition of teachers in our school and Singapore. Our graduating Sec 4 Express and Sec 5 students will join in this segment.





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Students will be

dismissed after 10.45 am but dismissal would be staggered with Sec 1 and 3 students first before Sec 2, 4 and 5 students.

Should you have children who are former students of Queensway, we would appreciate that you tell them not to come to school to meet their teachers, as you can see from the programme above that teachers will be quite engaged. The main reason for this is because of COVID-19 and all schools are discouraging former students from returning to their schools.

We have made the provision for all students, parents and former students to send their well-wishes and e-cards or videos to their teachers. Please go to our school's website and you will find the link to send these to our teachers.

While Teachers' Day is special to recognize our teachers for their contributions to the school, Queensway is also very blessed to have a team of dedicated and hardworking support staff working with us. I am also very grateful for our administrative and executive staff who engage our students in many ways to assist them and help them learn to be responsible citizens. They also play a big role in helping to keep the school clean and safe for everyone. As I always remind our teachers, their work will be even more burdensome without a good team of support staff working with us.

GCE N-Level Examinations

We have reminded our graduating N-Level students that their examinations commence on the Monday immediately after the September holidays. Also, during the September holidays, we will be conducting lessons for these students. The schedule will be given to them. It will benefit them to attend these lessons to prepare for this first set of N-level papers. After this first set of examinations, they will resume school to prepare for the next set of N-level examinations that will commence in October.

CCA Stand-down

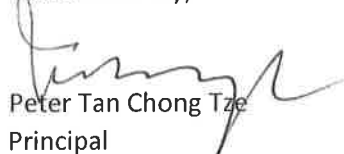
All CCAs will stand down from 3 Sep onwards, and will resume after the End Of Year Examinations. We hope that you will remind your child/ward to use their afternoons meaningfully, and prepare for the examinations.

Conclusion

I will be reminding our students to be appreciative of their teachers in thoughtful ways, through self-made gifts or cards, etc. They should not be spending money buying expensive gifts for their teachers. Should they do so, their teachers would have to possibly reject their gift and your child/ward may feel hurt. Most certainly, I would like for them to be appreciative as this is a value of humanness that we all must have.

This holidays, do spend time with your family, especially on 4 September, which is Eat with Your Family Day! Enjoy a good September break.

Yours sincerely,


Peter Tan Chong Tze
Principal

