



Queensway Secondary School

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14 September 2020

Dear Parents/Guardians and Queenswayans,

Welcome back to Term 4, the shortest schooling term for secondary students. Before going further, I want to thank those of you who contributed to the thoughtful gifts that were co-ordinated by the QSS Parents Support Group. The beautifully hand-sewn face masks in 3 different sizes were both comfortable and functional. It was also nice to note that your child was involved in the sewing of the face masks for us. The sweet treats prepared for all of us were delicious and thoroughly enjoyed. We were also very heartened by the meaningful and thoughtful messages our students expressed to their teachers. It was an enjoyable celebration as students brought breakfast to celebrate together with their Class Mentors, and a number of them even brought breakfast for their Class mentors that morning. Thank you for making Teachers' Day special for our teachers and staff.

I want to also thank a group of parents who supported our Sec 4 students in their preparations for their GCE O-Level English Orals. The time you took to attend the briefing and training, and also the afternoons you spent with our students, giving them feedback was very much appreciated by our students. Your efforts supplemented the efforts of our teachers and also gave our students the additional practice of having to face someone they were unfamiliar with for their Orals.

QSS is indeed fortunate to have supportive parents who journey with us to benefit our students. Even your efforts to remind your child/ward to wear their masks daily is an assistance to us as we educate our students together.

End-of-Year Examinations

Parents/Guardians of Sec 1 to 3 students would have received the result slips for your child/ward in Term 3. Please sign the result slip and have your child/ward return it to his/her Class Mentor if it has not been done. You would have an indication of how your child/ward has done and this together with the upcoming End-of-Year Examinations will have an effect on his/her promotion to the next level, and for Sec 2 students, the Subject Options your child/ward can make.

The End-of-Year Examinations will follow the schedule that has already been provided to your child/ward. They have about a fortnight towards these and I hope you will get your child/ward to spend sufficient time preparing for them by putting their time to productive use. CCAs have been suspended since the end of last term and your child/ward should plan how to use the afternoons and evenings well.

Challenges arising from COVID-19

While we have been managing the measures to prevent COVID-19 for months now, we continue to read of people who have been flagrant in their compliance to these measures. These surface when such people have been taken



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to task with fines and/or imprisonment. Sadly, these would not be necessary if we all choose to be responsible for others and not just want to do what we wish or want.

Our government has been providing face masks to all citizens and in QSS, we also issued 2 reusable face masks to our students before National Day. Temasek Foundation is going to issue another 2 reusable face masks to everyone soon. Please remind your child/ward that these should always be worn properly. While the majority of our students are responsible, I have had to take some students to task for not wearing their masks properly in public, whether on public transport or walking along the streets. This has been thankfully few in numbers but it is a message you can continue to remind your family about. If you are wondering how we could identify these students, technology has been put to good use in these instances.

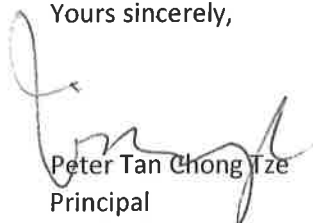
We will continue our Safe Management Measures of having staggered arrival and dismissal times, as well as having students wipe down their tables after use at the end of the day. Our students will continue to bring their thermometers, something that the majority have been doing very well, to take their temperatures before the start of the school day.

Conclusion

Much of this letter has reflected responsibility and respect for others in actions that we take. These are two of our school values and are values we all want our children to have even when they are adults. It is, thus, important that we teach them, practice them and reflect on them when we see these being carried out, just as much as when we see this lacking in our children's actions. Taking time to point it out is necessary, but how we do it also makes a difference.

I was recently at a barber shop to get a haircut. The child slotted in his money into the machine to pay for his haircut. When he looked at his receipt, he realized that he had slotted in \$12 for a \$10 haircut. He walked out of the shop and told his father what happened. His father started shouting at him for his carelessness. He also tried to ask the staff to retrieve the money from the machine, which they could not. He continued berating his son. Though deserved, a consequence for his carelessness would have been a better approach than to embarrass him in public. I believe the boy would have learned responsibility and respect shown to him. Let's consider how we teach our children values, for they learn from how we engage with them!

Yours sincerely,


Peter Tan Chong Tze
Principal



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2010-2017

