



QUEENSWAY SECONDARY SCHOOL

• Address: 2A Margaret Drive, Singapore 149295 • Office: 6474 1421 • Fax: 6479 1302 • Email: qss@moe.edu.sg

04 January 2021

Dear Parents/Guardians and Students of QSS,

Welcome back to school, and for our Sec 1 students, welcome to the school where you will forge many happy memories in your next 4 years. I trust that you all had a good school holiday break though it would have been a break unlike any others you have experienced. 2020 is now behind us and let us look forward to new beginnings in 2021, which is also the beginning of a new decade. Look forward to the new learning experiences you are going to have, new friends you are going to make, new challenges you are going to overcome so that at the end of this year and at the end of this decade you can look back and say that I have become a better person because I chose to embrace all the challenges with a positive outlook and live out our school's motto – Success through Diligence!

Our QSS motto is most apt for life as it states truth! All of us want to find success in our lives. The on-going COVID-19 situation shows how critical diligence is in combating the spread of the virus and to find a vaccine to reduce the incidences of contracting or succumbing to the effects of the virus. Many people worked diligently, many behind the scenes, looking for ways to find solutions that help us to live lives as normally as possible. Though we have not “come out of the woods yet”, yet the diligence of scientists and doctors are finding success for patients. For every severely sick COVID-19 patient that recovers to return home to their family, it is the diligence of a team of medical workers who diligently looked after them. In this, I hope that all of us can see that we need to put diligence into our efforts if we want SUCCESS!

Honouring the Past, Inspiring our Future – QSS celebrates 60!

This is a significant year for us at QSS as we turn 60, officially on 2 September 2021! We can look back with pride at the many cohorts of Queenswayans who have graduated from our school and are or have played significant roles in our Nation. Many of our alumni hold senior positions in governmental organizational, many in public service such as education and nursing, even with recipients of the President's Award for nursing and teaching among the ranks of our alumni. At the same time, we have alumni who are entrepreneurs and heads of large multi-national organizations.

Each of these alumni embody the motto of our school – Success through Diligence. When I spoke to many of them, they had humble backgrounds, some growing up in rental flats that are close to our school. Yet, despite their challenges, they worked hard and have found success. More than just finding success for themselves, they are contributing to society and building our nation. A number of them continue to contribute in different ways especially to Queenswayans. For instance, the Chairman of the QSS School Advisory Committee (SAC), Mr Lim Yew Kiang, is a successful banker and an alumni of our school. Mr Danny Sin, the President of the Queensway Alumni Association is also a successful business leader and also serves on our SAC. They have generously sponsored events and recognition awards for our students besides organizing activities for alumni and current students to interact. Others volunteer their time to help and support our students. Over the past few years, a generous alumni makes a significant contribution annually to support our financially needy students to ensure that their additional needs for food and transportation is provided through their schooling years.

QSS has, and continues to impact young students who join our school and nurture each one to grow to be a significant member of society. Thus, the theme for our 60th Anniversary Celebrations – Honouring the past, inspiring our Future. We honour and recognize the significance of the heritage we receive to inspire us to strive towards greater success in our future.

You will see the logo for the 60th Anniversary at the footer of the letter, our Student's Handbook and all paraphernalia produced this year. The badge was the original school badge on an upward ascent as we see the number “60” going higher. This is what we aspire for QSS and our Queenswayans. I will share more about our celebratory events this year, which may be adjusted, being mindful of the COVID-19 situation.



Honouring the Past, Inspiring our Future.



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Welcoming our new Vice-Principal, Mr Jay Loh Kar Wai

I would like to introduce our new Vice-Principal, Mr Jay Loh, who has been posted to our school on 15 December 2020. Mr Loh was formerly at Deyi Secondary where he held different portfolios over more than 14 years and joins us with much experience and knowledge. I am glad to have him come to complement our School Leadership team as he joins Mr Ng Hock Soon, Mr Yong Wei Leong and I to provide leadership to bring our school to greater heights.

School-Home Communication

All parents/guardians would have received a Parents Gateway post from the Year Head or Assistant Year Head overseeing your child's/ward's cohort. Those whose child/ward are in Sec 2 – 4 would be familiar with them as our Year Head/Asst Year Head follows through the cohort they oversee. In the letter you would also have received your child's/ward's timetable for Semester 1.

Parents Gateway is our main means of communication with parents. You should thus ensure that you have the app activated so that you do not miss out on any of our communications with you. Your child/ward would return home with a 4-page "Individual Student Form". Please go through it and make any necessary changes using a red-ink pen. All changes must have official supporting documents to substantiate the change. After going through the form, please ensure that your child/ward returns the form to their Class Mentor no later than Friday, 8 January.

Safe Management Measures (SMM) in QSS

We will continue to maintain the SMM that was practised in Term 4. If your child/ward is not well or has flu-like symptoms he/she should see a doctor and not come to school. All students should be wearing their masks from the time they leave home till they return after school. All students are also to bring their personal oral digital thermometer (ODT). Errant students who fail to wear their masks or bring their ODT will face consequences. These are socially responsible practices and we expect all Queenswayans to be good role models of a responsible citizen.

Sec 1 Meet-the-Parents (MTP) and Open House – 8 January 2021, Friday

I will subsequently inform Sec 2 – 5 parents about the MTP for your child's/ward's cohort but am letting you know should your child/ward be involved as an Orientation Group Leader or assisting in the Open House. For Sec 1 parents/guardians, Mr Feroz Ali, Year Head, will be sending a PG notification providing you the Zoom links for both the Principal's Address and Class Mentor time by Thursday, 7 January. There are separate links for your child's/ward's class as their Class Mentor would be addressing you. We will begin the session at 3 pm and your child/ward will be dismissed at 5.40 pm after a short but special ceremony in their class.

Conclusion

I again bid you as parents/guardians of students in QSS a very warm welcome. I look forward to an exciting year ahead, working together with my colleagues to nurture and develop each of our students to the best that he/she can be. In QSS our core values are Discipline, Respect, Responsibility and Excellence. We all, as adults in our students' lives, want the best for them and to prepare them for the future ahead of them. The imbibing and practice of these core values will see them in good stead for life. Being disciplined is fundamental to ensuring one finds success. Having respect for self and others gives them confidence in life. Being responsible to self and others will see them developing a core value that ensure success even as they push towards excellence in what they do

Yours Sincerely,

Peter Tan Chong Tze
Principal



Honouring the Past, Inspiring our Future.