



QUEENSWAY SECONDARY SCHOOL

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

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Dear Parents/Guardians,

We are coming close to the end of Term 3 and I am grateful for the co-operation and support that as parents/guardians you have given. You may have read in the newspapers that Singapore has reached the 80% vaccination rate on Sunday. While this means a large number of people in Singapore are vaccinated, it does not mean we can afford to let our caution down. There will be relaxation of certain practices, however, the good practice of wearing a face mask, daily temperature taking and regular hand-washing will continue as good practices to maintain, for your child's/ward's personal well-being and also for protection of others in your family.

Celebrating our 60th Anniversary – 60 million steps challenge

As part of our 60th Anniversary celebrations this year, we launched the 60 million steps challenge with a goal to also raise 6,000 kilograms of rice for needy families in Queenstown. I am pleased to share with you that our students and staff managed to clock 248 million steps in the challenge. This is heartening as it shows that Queenswayans can achieve their goals when they set out to do it. As Safe Management Measures (SMM) eases, we look forward to blessing the needy families in Queenstown. There will be opportunities for you to support this effort and I will share more with you in due course.

GCE “N” and “O” Level arrangements

Last Saturday, MOE sent out information through Parents Gateway (PG) on the conduct of the National examinations from September. These measures would make it possible for more students to be able to take their examinations while keeping other students and staff safe. Please refer to the PG note and contact your child's/ward's Class Mentor if you are uncertain of the instructions. We will be briefing the “N” Level students today as their examinations will begin after the September school holidays. We will brief the “O” Level students later as their examinations are later in the year.

Blessing our Graduating Students

Last week, a group of 24 parents with children in various levels decided to bless each of our graduating students with a Care pack, to wish them well and to encourage them to press on towards their best effort. Each pack came with a note that was selected to encourage them. I am grateful to these parents for their thoughtful gesture to bless and support our students. The students were not expecting this, so it was certainly a nice surprise for them. Such unexpected gestures also teaches us that all of us can choose to bless someone and brighten their day. In these challenging COVID-19 times, let's look out for opportunities that we can be a blessing.

Teachers' Day Celebrations – Thursday, 2 September 2021

I am very grateful for the dedication and commitment of our Queensway teachers. Aside from the challenges of teaching with their face masks, they were stoically ensuring all the SMM processes to keep students and staff safe since the measures were introduced last year, including manning each of the school gates from 6.30 am each school day. They were



Honouring the Past, Inspiring our Future.



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monitoring the well-being of students who had to serve home quarantine due to family members being COVID-19 patients or were close contacts with those who were infected by

the virus. All these while pivoting skilfully to teaching with technology-enabled lessons when students received their personal learning devices. Each time, every effort was made for the best possible outcome for our students and I am truly grateful for this committed team I have the privilege to serve with.

This Thursday, to celebrate Teacher's Day and recognize our teachers, school will commence as per normal for all students. Students will be dismissed from 10.45 am onwards, at staggered times with Sec 1 and 3 students being dismissed before the rest of the school.

Students will NOT need to bring their Chromebooks that day, but we will need them to bring their thermometer, writing materials (for pre-concert activity) and their book for silent reading. They may need to bring the logistical items for the class activities their class has planned for.

Parents and students who wish to express their gratitude and good wishes to our staff can do so by going to the Gratitude Portal at <https://thankyoucher.edu.sg> to pen in or draw your good wishes and appreciation. As we do not want to encourage former students to come back in groups, please help us to share this link with former Queenswayans to express their good thoughts for their teachers!

Conclusion

It has been a very busy 8 months and we can all look forward to a breather before we launch into the final term of the year. Hopefully, the COVID-19 situation in Singapore continues to be contained with everyone's effort and life can return to some normalcy for all of us.

The QSS Alumni had planned for our 60th Anniversary Celebrations Dinner on 2 September, the day that Queensway Secondary School started 60 years ago. However, with the current situation, they have decided to postpone the event to a later date to be announced. I am aware that there are quite a number of Queenswayans amongst our parents/guardians and this would have been a great opportunity for all of us to come together to reconnect old ties. We will, however, need to wait to see how things continue to develop. Thankfully, we are in a better situation than most other countries, so we ought to be grateful and can be hopeful.

Yours sincerely,

Peter Tan Chong Tze
Principal