



# QUEENSWAY SECONDARY SCHOOL

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

14 September 2021

Dear Parents/Guardians,

## Teachers' Day Appreciation

I take this opportunity, on behalf of the staff at QSS, for the kind gestures and expressions to all of us. The notes that were placed on the "Kudo Board" were certainly well received and appreciated. It was also heartening to see our students making the special effort to present teachers with their self-made cards and gifts, which truly expressed their appreciation for their teachers. I want to also thank the PSG for arranging the gift pack for each of our staff. I know many of you contributed to this and the thoughtfulness in selecting the items was much appreciated.

As I said to my colleagues, I am very appreciative of their commitment and dedication to the holistic education and development of our students. Like some of you pointed out, this included being at the school gates at 6.30 am every morning to conduct visual checks on students coming to school to help ensure that our school can be safe for every student and staff. Their commitment to spend time to engage students with meaningful learning, whether in academic work or life skills, and more than often, a listening ear for students going through a challenge coupled with sound advice to help them move forward or manage the situation.

Personally, I am grateful that they exhibit so much care for our students, often going the extra mile for those in need and even digging into their personal funds to support a child in need. At the same time, they keep themselves professionally equipped, ready to use the best pedagogy with technological support to help our students learn. In QSS, our teachers certainly go a long way to Care, Lead and Inspire and it is my privilege to serve together with them.

## President's Award for Teachers (PAT)

This year, a total of 5,062 educators from 335 schools and institutions were nominated by school leaders, teachers, parents, as well as former and current students. I am pleased to share with you that though a number of our teachers were nominated, one of our teachers, Ms Teo Yong Chin was among the 17 finalists.

Ms Teo, who is also Subject Head, PE & Outdoor Education, has certainly impacted many students, past and present. She is well-known for her firm but caring demeanour, teaching students proper respect for themselves and others. Her role as teacher-in-charge of Volleyball has seen both our boys' and girls' teams doing very well at both Zonal and National championships. Some of her students, who never played volleyball before coming to QSS have even progressed to the National team. Her sense of loyalty and commitment has been caught by her former students, who often came back to spar with the current teams.

Ms Teo goes out of her way to engage and support students and they speak fondly of how she has impacted and changed the trajectory of their lives. Her impact goes beyond those in volleyball, as many of the students in various areas of development now were present when the PAT team came to do the photo shoots for the award. We are delighted to have such a dedicated and caring teacher as Ms Teo Yong Chin, who can be recognized at the National level. We are very proud of her!!!



*Honouring the Past, Inspiring our Future.*



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## Keeping safe as Singapore moves into living with COVID-19

We return to the final school term of the year with a rising rate of COVID-19 infections in the community. Despite this, we also hear or read about people who flagrantly disregard Safe Management Measures (SMM) to the extent of being abusive to those advising them on the proper measures to take so that they keep themselves and others safe.

I am grateful to parents/guardians who have been most supportive of our efforts. The large majority of our students have built it into their routines to ensure that they have their face masks worn properly from the time they leave home till they return home. This is sensible as we do not know if those we are interacting with could be carrying the virus and the protection the masks provides certainly makes a difference.

Again, the large majority of our students do remember to bring their own oral digital thermometer for temperature checks before the start of the school day and after school activities. This helps ensure that they are not developing a fever during the day. Other routines that they have done well in is wiping down after they are in class or at the canteen, keeping the place safe for others to use after them.

Our Government has advised that for the next 2 weeks people should not be socializing at their workplace. This is something you could also remind your child/ward, that they should return home immediately after school to reduce risks to themselves and others, particularly family members who may be more vulnerable. As adults, we should set the right example for our children, as this is for their well-being as well as that of others. Thus, I have stressed with our students that if they are unwell, they should see a doctor. Similarly, if anyone at home is unwell, especially in the next 2 weeks, we would greatly appreciate that you inform your child's/ward's Class Mentor so that we can advise you accordingly.

We are entering into the phase of the year where examinations will be taking place. Having the right discipline to keep ourselves healthy would avoid any stresses due to infection of COVID-19 affecting your child/ward from missing classes or worse, missing the examinations. The first part of the GCE N-Levels began yesterday and we have been stressing the importance of staying healthy and adherence to SMM with our students. Do continue to drive this message home with your child/ward.

Yours sincerely,

Peter Tan Chong Tze  
Principal



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