



Queensway Secondary School

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Dear Parents/Guardians,

Welcome once again to Queensway Secondary School. I trust you and your family enjoyed a good break during the recent school holidays. I had the pleasure of welcoming back all Sec 2 to 5 students and welcoming all our new Sec 1 students to Queensway Secondary School this morning.

This morning, I addressed the Sec 2 to 5 students and will do the same with Sec 1 students tomorrow. I shared a story which I read some years ago, and which was recently shared by a friend. You may want to ask your child/ward if he/she remembers the theme of the story as this aligns with our school's Vision, "Caring Citizens and Life-long Learners in a School of Excellence".

In addition, I urged the students to leave behind those bad memories, habits or lifestyles they had in 2021. The ones that upset you, their parents/guardians and teachers, and also got them into trouble. They should consider how they can become a better version of themselves. Thus, your children /wards were challenged to consider the person they want to become in 2022. They were also told to consider the steps they would take to become the person they want to be and how they would know when they are becoming or have become that person.

May I ask you, as their parents/guardians, to also engage with them about this? Helping your child/ward become a better version of themselves would take many supportive people around them, including you, their teachers and their friends. Your child/ward's efforts to work towards this, and your encouragement in this, will go a long way to make him/ her a happier person. I would urge that you make every effort to recognise their efforts towards their goal. Positive affirmation at the right time is a strong reinforcement to supporting your child/ward.

Changes to the School Leadership and Heads of Department

I am pleased to share with you that Ms V Priya Rajan was posted to our school on 5 December 2021. Ms Rajan is an experienced Vice-Principal, having been in this role at Deyi Secondary School and Crescent Girls' School, and also having served as a curriculum specialist in the Curriculum Planning and Development Division in MOE. She joins us now after a sabbatical to pursue further studies. I am glad to welcome her to the School Leadership team, guiding our staff and students towards the goals and objectives we set out in developing Queenswayans towards being confident, life-long learners who are caring and responsible.

We also bid farewell to Mr Yong Wei Leong, who served for 7 years as Vice-Principal (Admin) in our school. He now moves to Farrer Park Primary School. In his years with us, he played a critical role in ensuring the safety and security measures that included the provision of facilities and support for students and staff to ensure a conducive environment. He made good contributions in recommending processes that would support our teachers in guiding our students in their learning processes, including the good management of financial and physical resources that benefits our students. He has an important role in his new posting and we wish him well in his posting.

I am pleased to also share with you changes among our Heads of Department. Mr Glynn Tan, HOD/Science, has been appointed as Vice-Principal at Gan Eng Seng Secondary School while Mr Royston Loh, HOD/Humanities, has been appointed Senior Curriculum Specialist at the Curriculum Planning and Development Division in MOE. We wish them well in their new



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roles. Also, Mr Lim Hua Leng, our long-serving HOD/Mother Tongue who served many years in various schools, has reached retirement. I am grateful that he has chosen to continue to serve as a teacher in our school, sharing his expertise with his colleagues and continuing to help our students.

Regarding new key personnel, I am pleased to share that Ms Tong Ai Li is covering the role of HOD/Science this year, and we have 2 new HODs joining the school this year. Mr Teo Kian Wee joins us from Yishun Town Secondary as HOD/Mother Tongue and Ms Irene Wong joins us from Tanjong Katong Girls School as HOD/Humanities.

I share this with you should you need to contact my colleagues. Meanwhile, should you need to contact the other HODs or teachers, their email addresses are available in our school's webpage and you can email them.

School Calendar and School Rules

Your child/ward would have been issued the Students' Handbook this morning. I would advise that you refer to it for the school's calendar to understand the various programmes that have been planned for your child/ward. It would be essential for your child/ward to attend school regularly and should your child/ward be unwell, please inform their Class Mentor. Medical Certificates should be submitted promptly upon return to school.

It would be good for your child/ward to develop the habit of going to bed before 11 pm each night so that he/she can get about 7 hours of sleep. This helps him/her to be able to be attentive and participative in class. The Class Mentors and the Disciplinary Committee will follow-up on students with frequent late-coming or absences and appropriate disciplinary actions will be taken to help them make a positive change. The attitude of being punctual is a habit that is important not only as a student, but equally important when your child joins the workforce.

The Student's Handbook also contains the school rules and regulations. You may want to familiarise yourself with these expectations that we have for the students. The large majority of students are able to function well within these expectations, but where necessary, actions will be taken to help our students learn to study and learn together in the QSS community, to ensure a positive learning environment for all students.

Conclusion

It is important for your child/ward to know that you are engaged and interested in what happens in his/her life. School is a very big part of your child/s / wards and I urge that you engage with your him/her regularly. Sometimes, conversations with teenagers can be difficult. Let me encourage you to press on. Being a Principal of over 22 years and the education service for an even longer time, our school motto holds true for parents as much as our school. So live our motto of "Success through Diligence."

Yours sincerely,

Peter Tan Chong Tze
Principal