



Queensway Secondary School

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Dear Parents/Guardians,

Yesterday, I had the opportunity to welcome our students back to school and I reminded them that while Safe Management Measures (SMM) have been eased, COVID-19 continues to be a challenge as, only yesterday, there were almost 8,000 reported cases and 4 deaths. I reminded our students on the following and would appreciate your support to remind them about it:

- **Bring Trace-Together Tokens to school daily**, so that they and you can be informed if they are identified as close contacts.
- **Wear masks properly throughout**, from the time they leave their home till they return home. Masks should fully cover the mouth and nose, and not just be at the tip of the nose.
- **Avoid talking while eating and drinking**, as their masks are off.
- **No sharing of food and drinks.**

We have also been encouraging **students who recently recovered from COVID-19 or who took their vaccine recently to refrain from strenuous activities**. Please remind your child/ward about this too.

Catch You Doing Great

At QSS, our 4 Core school values are *Discipline, Respect, Responsibility* and *Excellence*. We regularly remind students about the practice of these values in their daily lives and where possible, teachers also incorporate the teaching/learning of these values in their academic lessons, as well as in their CCAs. As your child/ward journeys with us, I encourage you to reinforce these values at home. We focus on one value for each term, so you might consider this for your family too.

To further bolster the positive practice of these values, we encourage students and staff to “catch” their peers **Doing It Right!** In Term 1, the focus was on the value of **Discipline**. We were glad to see that there were 160 nominations from students and staff, and we were able to celebrate the practice of *Discipline* among our students while encouraging the rest to press on for self-development.

In Term 2, we will be focusing on the value of **Respect**. At home, some practices of this value would be in greeting each other the first time we see each other in the day; being sensitive to the needs of others, for example keeping the volume low when watching programmes on the television or listening to music on speakers; and speaking respectfully, regardless of whether the other person is older or younger, and making sure to practise active listening in a conversation.

Being **punctual** is also being respectful. How many of us have been frustrated waiting for people who are late for appointments, or events that do not start punctually, and especially if you had rushed to be punctual? I am glad to see that the large majority of our students are punctual, if not early, for school. However, for a small group of



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students, parents would have been informed via messages that your child/ward was late for school. Please speak with your child/ward of this aspect of respect. It is also a form of discipline to develop as they will eventually go to work, and for the boys, to serve National Service. Fathers who have served National Service would know the unpleasantness of the lack of punctuality and for those who work, it can affect our performance rating or even employment. Let's build these right values and habits in our children while they are young.

Science Fiesta

In line with our school's vision for our Queenswayans to cultivate a joy of learning in Science, the Science Department will be organizing the annual **Science Fiesta on 13 April 2022 (Wed) from 2pm – 4pm**, where there will be a series of hands-on activities and demonstrations to enthuse students and introduce Scientific concepts in a fun and engaging way. Attendance for the Science Fiesta is compulsory for all Sec 1 and 2 students, while Upper Secondary students are welcome to join us at the event after their last lesson. Apart from having interactive booths showcasing the three Science disciplines (Biology, Chemistry and Physics) and our Applied Learning Programme (ALP), students will also have the opportunity to sign up for **experiential lab sessions** (on a first come, first served basis) such as squid dissection, where they can learn about the adaptations of this invertebrate, and extend their learning to the conservation of marine ecosystems.

Conclusion

I am hopeful that life will continue in a progression to normalcy. For this to happen, each of us must take the responsibility to support the efforts to combat COVID-19. There are broader international and national efforts to manage the situation and it takes everyone to do their part. I am deeply appreciative of the QSS staff who have stepped up over these past few years to make schooling safe and conducive for our students and the students for responding positively to all the efforts made. As parents/guardians, your support too has been crucial.

One of the upcoming changes would be the **National Schools Games**, where our sports teams will be able to participate in competition. I know the students involved have been eagerly anticipating the opportunity to play and compete again. We will also be bringing back **some level activities** and eventually towards having **Unstructured Play** and having a **common arrival and dismissal time** for our students. We will take a measured approach towards this and keep you informed as we progress towards normalcy in school life.

Yours sincerely,

Peter Tan Chong Tze
Principal