



# Queensway Secondary School

2A Margaret Drive Singapore 149295 Tel: 6474 1421 / 6476 6416 Fax: 6474 1302 Email: qss@moe.edu.sg

25 April 2022

Dear Parents/Guardians,

Like all Singaporeans, many of us would cheer our Government's further relaxation of rules pertaining to Safe Management Measures (SMM) in the community from 26 April 2022. The effort by everyone, over the past 2 years, has been challenging for many but there are also positives we can take away from the experience. For instance, it hastened the move towards technology use by many Singaporeans and people around the world. Before this, *Zoom* or *MS Teams* were words not familiar to many. These days, these words are used as "verbs", and everyone is familiar with how to use the apps. Also, all secondary school students are familiar with the use of their Personal Learning Device (PLD) and are very comfortable with using Student Learning Space (SLS) and Google Classroom for their learning. Practically all parents/guardians make use of Parents Gateway to receive information from schools and MOE, and also use it to provide consent for their child/ward to participate in various activities.

At the same time, I believe that all of us have a greater appreciation of good health practices and the processes that keep us safe. While there were initial rumblings about mask wearing, contact tracing, the use of Trace-Together Tokens, and also vaccination, I am sure that we are all appreciative that these measures kept us and our loved ones safe. There has been a heightened level of self and societal responsibility and respect for others, and all these will do society and ourselves good, as we move towards normalcy.

While much of the SMM requirements are being relaxed, like waiving the requirement to bring TraceTogether tokens to school, **all students will continue to be required to wear their masks when indoors**, as they will still be in close range of each other, and this is still a national requirement. We will also begin to allow our classes to have their meals in the school canteen during recess, though I would still encourage that students do not share food and drinks, as besides COVID-19, other viruses can be transmitted when food and drinks are shared.

Semester 1 will be coming to a close within a month and hopefully by then, more measures will be relaxed. We look forward to all our students having a **common arrival and dismissal time from Semester 2** and will advise you on this before the term closes. We will also be planning a **face-to-face Parent-Teacher Meeting at the end of Term 2** for parents to engage your child/ward's teachers about their progress through this Semester.

## Speech Day 2022

Last Friday, we celebrated our **61<sup>st</sup> Speech and Prize Presentation Day**. This was an occasion for us to celebrate our school's achievements in academic and non-academic aspects of schooling. Also, it was an opportunity after more than 2 years for students and staff to commemorate the occasion with former teachers and staff, as



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well as alumni of QSS. Although we could not accommodate everyone in the school hall, students, parents and alumni were able to watch the proceedings virtually, which was another new experience gleaned from adaptations over the past 2 years. Though we had a smaller parade, the Uniformed Groups and our Band did very well, during the parade segment. Our Choir sung beautifully, and we were honoured to have a long-serving Senior Teacher, Ms Lee Ley Lun, as our Guest-of-Honour.

We recognised the achievements of our students and I hope these motivate all of them to continue to press on towards excellence in all they do.

## National Schools Games

It has been a while since our sports teams have had the opportunity to compete in the National Schools Games. It was heartening to see the fine attitude and drive our students showed in preparing themselves for the competitions. They trained with determination and gave of their best in training and then in competition.

I commend our B-Division teams for their efforts, though their fortunes were different. Our Sepak Takraw and Hockey teams gave a good showing for their efforts but did not manage to qualify beyond the group stages. I would particularly want to recognise the progress of our Hockey team. You may be aware that our Hockey team is a unique partnership between our school and ACS (Barker Road). When this team played their last NSG competitions when they were in Sec 1, they lost every game except their last match by a score of 1 - 0. Some of their margins of were quite wide. This year, they won their 1<sup>st</sup> match and though they lost the remaining games, they fought hard, so that their opponents only managed to score 1 goal against them, including traditional hockey powerhouse, Raffles Institution. Excellence does not always mean you come up tops, but I am proud of the excellent spirit and determination the team put in to make such a huge improvement.

Our Volleyball Boys team qualified for their 1<sup>st</sup> South Zone Finals. This is again a tremendous effort and improvement as their opponents were equal in skill and drive. Though they finished Runners-up, I am very proud of their efforts and certainly felt their dejection in not winning the title. Meanwhile, our Volleyball Girls did our school proud by clinching the South Zone Title in convincing fashion. They won each of their matches by a 2 – 0 score line and are, in my view, the best Girls team I have seen in my 5 years in QSS, as they were strong both in defense and attack. I congratulate our Volleyball teams for their fine efforts and outcomes.

Meanwhile, our Football Girls and Boys team continue to press on in their competitions. Our Girls will be playing their semi-finals this Tuesday at the Jalan Besar Stadium, while our Boys have qualified for the Quarter-finals, with the draw to be held later today. We wish both teams well and look forward to cheering them on in their upcoming matches.



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## Uniformed Groups

I am pleased to also share with you the good outcomes of our various Uniformed Groups in our school. These awards were presented to them for their achievements from last year by their respective Headquarters.

Boys' Brigade	-	Silver
Girls' Guide	-	Gold
National Cadet Corp	-	Distinction
National Police Cadet Corp	-	Gold
National Civil Defence Cadet Corp	-	Gold

Congratulations to our teacher-officers and students for the very good effort they put in to achieve this recognition.

## Travel Declaration

To ensure schools continue to be a healthy and safe environment for all, we require parents/guardians to make a **travel declaration for your child/ward only if he/she intends to travel** during the holidays.

To make a travel declaration for your child/ward via Parents' Gateway (PG), go to [SERVICE > DECLARE TRAVELS].

- For travel during mid-year holiday, please declare your child/ward's travel plan(s), indicating both the country and city of travel, and any city of transit, **by 27 May 2022 (Friday)**. Only one parent is required to do the declaration.

If your child/ward is **not travelling** during the holidays, **no action is required** on your side. When planning your travel, please refer to <https://safetravel.ica.gov.sg> for more information and updates on travel. **If there is a change of travel plan(s) after declaration, please submit a new travel declaration for the updated travel destination via PG or inform the school if there has been a cancellation of travel plan(s).**

Thank you for your partnership and support to keep our school safe.

Our theme for Speech Day 2022 was "Honouring the Past, Inspiring our Future, Onto Excellence." This is something we see our Upper Secondary students striving towards, especially as our Sec 2, 4 & 5 students will be beginning their Mid-Year Examinations soon. As a school, we continue to press on towards developing our students to be the best Queenswayans they can be, whether in the academic or non-academic pursuits, living to our motto of "**Success through Diligence**"!

Yours sincerely,

  
Peter Tan Chong Tze  
Principal