



# Queensway Secondary School

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

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Dear Parents/Guardians,

I am pleased to begin this letter with some good news to share with you.

## **Outstanding Youth in Education Award (OYEA)**

I am pleased to share that Ms Grace Lee, our covering Subject Head/Student Leadership was recently conferred the OYEA award by Minister of Education, Mr Chan Chun Sing. Students who have been taught by Ms Lee, and parents/guardians who have interacted with her, would know she is a dynamic young teacher who is very caring towards her students.

A total of 1460 teachers were nominated for this award this year and Grace is 1 of 6 teachers to have been conferred this award. I would encourage you to read the SchoolBag mailer that is sent out by MOE ([The Power of Honest Conversations](#)) and you will find out how Grace engages her students in class and also works with our Student Leaders and Peer Mentors to build a culture of excellence and care in our school.

## **Queensway's Volleyball teams are Queens of the South Zone**

Last Friday, while other students were on Home-Based Learning, our C-Division Volleyball Girls were preparing themselves for the South Zone Volleyball Finals. This is the first time that our C-Division Girls' team has qualified for the Finals and the girls were nervous. This was clearly seen when they quickly fell behind the team from Fairfield Methodist Secondary School. However, our girls calmed themselves down and got ahead at times during the 1st set. We were on a knife edge as both teams had to play out the deuce to decide the winner of the set. Our girls convincingly secured both the points and the set. They went into the 2nd set with much confidence and were in the lead all the way to secure their 2nd set, match, and title, making them the 1st C-Division Girls team from QSS to win the South Zone title.

This makes it our 1st Double for our B- and C- Division Girls teams, with the Senior team winning their South Zone title earlier in Semester 1. I am extremely proud of the girls as they live the values of our school. Both the boys' and girls' teams show high *Discipline* in their training, right up to leaving the training or competition grounds clean after using it. They show tremendous *Respect* for their teachers and coaches, as well as their opponents and can be seen to take *Responsibility* for themselves and each other when they are together. Thus, it is no surprise that they produce the *Excellence* they expect of themselves. That they won the South Zone titles is truly icing on the cake!

They have represented our school well and we congratulate them on their successes. I must also acknowledge the alumni volleyball players who make the effort to return to join our students in training to give them the experience of facing the challenge and build their tenacity and temperament

## **School Football Academy (SFA)**

With a goal of reaching the World Cup Finals in 2034, SFA was officially launched last Saturday. Queensway Secondary School is one of the 10 schools selected to be in the programme, which will provide for additional opportunities for our students to be developed in their footballing skills and style of play that will prepare them for their future in football. It is envisioned that talented players will have the opportunity to have stints in foreign clubs particularly in the Spanish La Liga and be able to represent Singapore in time to come. We have been proud to have Queenswayans represent Singapore in both the men's and women's National teams and this programme will pave the way for those who are looking to playing football as a career, the opportunity to do so. We are also proud of our Boys' team that participated in the tournament last Saturday,



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finishing as 3<sup>rd</sup> runners-up. I know they are determined to develop themselves to do better as they progress in the weeks and months ahead.

## **Catch-Up Programme (CUP)**

Yesterday morning, we briefed our Sec 3 students that we will be commencing the CUP from this week. CUP is a programme that is targeted at students who persistently do not complete or submit their homework. For students who are 'unable' to do homework due to a lack of content knowledge, there are remedial and consultation opportunities for them. On the other hand, CUP is for students who are "unwilling" to complete and submit their homework, which reflects a lack of discipline and responsibility.

CUP will be held on Wednesdays and Thursdays and will be managed by our Heads of Department (HOD), who will supervise these students during CUP. Parents/Guardians will be informed that their child/ward will need to report for CUP either on Wednesday, Thursday, or both days if they have much overdue homework. I would urge parents/guardians not to "rescue" your child/ward, by saying they have tuition or other activities. Tuition is wasted on these students if they do not take the responsibility to complete schoolwork assigned which their schoolmates can complete.

On the day of CUP, the Class mentors will collect the students' handphones and hand them over to the HOD in charge. Only after the overdue assigned work has been satisfactorily completed, and verified by the Subject Teachers, will student handphones be released. If your child/ward is identified to attend CUP, he/she can call you after that to inform you that they are heading home.

We are piloting this with the Sec 3 students and will likely roll this out to other levels next year. While it is a deterrent that will also consume our teachers' time and resources, we believe that the strong messaging that students need to exercise self-discipline and self-responsibility to complete their tasks will also go towards making them a better child/ward to you. I look forward to your co-operation.

## **National Day Celebrations (Mon 8 Aug 2022)**

We will be coming together as one community to celebrate the 57th anniversary of our nation's independence on Mon 8 Aug. Students are to report by 8.00am as usual and will be dismissed at 10.30am. All students are encouraged to don our national colours of red and white for the occasion. This year's National Day theme, "Stronger Together, Majulah!", is a call for all Singaporeans to forge ahead as a united and strong people towards a better future. "Stronger Together" reminds Singaporeans that unity in our diversity is what makes us stronger. Communities, families and friends coming together forms the foundation of our nation's strength and resilience and enables us to overcome challenges. "Majulah", which means "onward", encapsulates our hopes and spirit as a nation since our independence 57 years ago, and is a rallying call for Singaporeans to strive for a better future, and grow from strength to strength as we emerge from COVID-19.

## **Conclusion**

We are already in the 5<sup>th</sup> week of Term 3. Our Sec 4 students are in the midst of the GCE "N" and "O" levels. For Sec 1 -3 students, the End-of-Year examinations are around the corner. Do engage your child/ward to be disciplined and responsible to allocate sufficient time for their revision and academic development in order to do well.

Yours sincerely,

Peter Tan Chong Tze  
*Principal*