



QUEENSWAY SECONDARY SCHOOL

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

17 April 2023

Dear Parents/Guardians,

I hope your child/ward returned home the previous week to share with you about our 1st Queens Week as I had outlined in the earlier letter to you. It was certainly a joy to see our students taking initiative to put themselves forward to present various performance items in front of their peers, and getting the due recognition and affirmation for their talent, courage and willingness to share. On Tuesday, it was nice to see students coming to school in attire that they would like to be seen to their friends. There was a wide array of dressing types, and it was certainly colourful. Some chose to have themes for themselves so as to identify with particular groups and the creativity was something very nice to see.

Of course, we wrapped it up with Sports Day on Thursday afternoon and it was certainly nice to see the whole school turning up to enjoy the events and activities planned for the day. There was a lot of cheering and when the event closed with the school anthem, it was a rousing way to close the week before a long weekend. We apologise that the programme over-ran on Thursday due to technicalities and also we were trying a new format of Sports Day where we have more participants in the events than students cheering in the stands. It was important that our students and staff could enjoy themselves, but we will review the programming to end punctually in the future. Our students can look forward to the 2nd edition of Queens Week in Semester 2.

62nd Speech Day

Last Friday, our school celebrated our 62nd Speech Day, commemorating our 62nd year since our founding on the same site. It was a very energizing and electrifying celebrations as many of the guests, parents and students shared how much pride they felt for the school, going through the whole programme. This also was a first large-scale celebrations held since 2019, due to COVID-19.

The parade started off promptly at 5 pm, though there were rumblings of thunder in the distant. Our uniformed groups made up of the National Cadet Corp, National Police Cadet Corp, National Civil Defence Cadet Corp, Girls' Guide and the Boys' Brigade were promptly called to order and marched in smartly into the parade ground to the rapturous applause of the guests and Sec 4 and 5 students watching them.

Our Guest-of-Honour, Mr Tan Chong Huat, alumni from the Class of 1979 arrived to take the salute and inspect the Guard-of-Honour before witnessing the march past. Mr Tan is a lawyer by training and the founding partner of RHT Law Asia and the RHT Group of Companies in the ASEAN region. Mr Tan is also currently the President of the Singapore Golf Association.

We were also glad to invite Mr Tan to officially open the newly refurbished QSS Fitness Room with more fitness equipment to allow our students to train and keep fit. Our students can look forward to using this room and I am sure they will, like for our Lexicon (school library), find it another purposeful place to use their time productively after school hours.

As we went into the Speech Day segment of the afternoon, we were delighted by our Concert Band, Chinese Dance, Modern Dance and Choir. They performed delightfully and enthralled the audience with their passion and energy. Our Concert Band and Choir will be participating in the Singapore



Honouring the Past, Inspiring our Future.

Youth Festival Arts Presentations this coming week and we wish them well. Meanwhile, I am delighted to share with you that our Chinese Dance were awarded the Certificate of Distinction, the highest award, and our Modern Dance were conferred the Certificate of Accomplishment, the 2nd highest award. Kudos to both dance groups, the Chinese Dance for their elegance and Modern Dance for their spunk and energy. It should be noted that this is our Modern Dance's first participation in the SYF Presentations, and they have certainly acquitted themselves very well.

We were also delighted to recognise our teaching and non-teaching staff who have served loyally in QSS and MOE with affirmation of their dedication and contribution to developing our Queenswayans. There were many academic awards to present to our students who have done well at the GCE "N" and "O" Levels in 2022. I certainly hope that the 2023 cohort of Sec 4 and 5 students who were in the audience were challenged and inspired by their seniors and will work just as hard in their CCAs and academic endeavours to produce outstanding results.

The theme for the evening was "Celebrating Excellence, Empowering Dreams"! This was certainly evident in the very good outcomes from the involvement of our students both in the recently graduated and graduating cohort. To cap-off the celebrations of excellence, we were pleased to be informed that this year, all our 5 Uniformed Groups, whom I named earlier, were recognised by their respective Headquarters with the highest award of Gold or Gold with Distinction, according to their UG's system of recognition. This is the first time in quite a few years that all our UGs have managed to attain the highest award from the Headquarters in the same year.

QSS Bear

The bear has been a favoured mascot for various cohorts of Queenswayans, but we never had a particular design. We have thus decided to commemorate our 62nd Speech Day with the launch of the official QSS Bear! Those of you who have visited our website, Instagram or Facebook pages would have seen photos of guests and students with the QSS bear. To commemorate our event and the launch of our mascot, all students will be given stickers of the QSS Bear to challenge them towards being better versions of themselves as they develop in QSS.

As I said to our students, the bear is a strong and powerful animal. The bear is also intelligent and can be very adorable. Also, bears are very protective of their family, and we hope to see our students bear these qualities of strength, determination, with some playfulness, but mostly taking pride and being protective of our school and the good name we have inherited from our past, even as we celebrated our 62nd anniversary. Let us continue to press on in Queensway for our students and the school to find "Success through Diligence"!

Yours sincerely,



Peter Tan Chong Tze
Principal