



# Queensway Secondary School

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

19 July 2019

Dear Parents/Guardians,

The term is moving along and especially for our graduating students, they are already in the midst of their GCE N- and O-Level Oral Examinations. They will next be taking their Listening Comprehension examinations.

## GCE O-Level Mother Tongue/Mother Tongue "B" Listening Comprehension – Tuesday, 23 July

In view of the need to have a quiet environment for the conduct of this examinations and also for teachers who will serve as invigilators to be punctual at the examination venues in other schools, all students will be dismissed at 1 pm that day.

## Secondary 4/5 Preliminary Examinations

Your child/ward has been issued with the school's Preliminary Examinations Time-table. Where possible, we have aligned the flow of subjects according to what will happen when they take their National examinations. This would give a sense to your child/ward as to how he/she will structure the revision process so that he/she is ready for the examinations. The Preliminary examinations would give a good gauge of his/her readiness for the N- or O-Levels. It is also important to note that there will be some GCE N-Level papers immediately after the September school holidays, thus these students should plan to put their time to good use.

## Racial Harmony Commemoration

The theme for this year's Racial Harmony Commemoration is "The Singapore Connection". 2019 is a special year for us as a Nation as we celebrate our Bicentennial, a very significant milestone in a nation's history. It is more significant as we have much to be proud of as Singaporeans, especially for the progress we have made over the past 200 years. Though one of the smallest nations in the world, we have "punched above our weight" and our economic, health and educational developments have been highly regarded around the world. We have also forged a strong racial unity amongst our citizens and are constantly looking at ways we can strengthen this.

We commemorate Racial Harmony because it is not something we want to take for granted. Reading the newspapers or postings on social media will tell us that racial harmony can be fragile if not nurtured. Sadly, we read of racial-hate crimes that has resulted in loss of lives and a tremendous impact on the families who were affected. Thankfully, we also read of how people have rallied together to stand beside those who are targeted in racial bigotry.

However, we do not need to wait for an incident to happen before we respond to building racial trust and communication in our society. A school is a microcosm of society and we in Queensway Secondary must make it our role and responsibility to build racial understanding within our school. So, some questions you may wish to ask yourself is:

1. What percentage of friends do I have who are a different race from me?
2. Among my close friends, how many do I have who are from a different racial group?
3. In the past year, have I invited friends of a different racial group to my home?
4. How aware am I of the customs of the other racial groups in Singapore, other than mine?  
Do I have friends that I am comfortable to find out about these?





# Queensway Secondary School

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

These questions are not exhaustive and as we ask our students to reflect on them, I also urge you as parents/guardians to reflect on them too. This is important because it is often that we pass on our perspective or stereotypes to our children. Aside from what we articulate in words about another racial group, our body language reactions are equally as telling.

We live in a complex world that can either become more friendly or unfriendly for ourselves and our children. If, as adults, we role model an attitude that is not divisive but embracing of people from other races, our children have a better chance of growing up in a society and world that is more racially harmonious.

### Outcomes of Uniformed Group Awards

In the last letter, I shared with you the outcomes of our school’s Performing Arts Groups at the Singapore Youth Festival Arts Presentations. I am pleased to share with you the outcomes of our uniformed groups as well as outstanding achievements by individual students in some of these groups. These are awards presented by the respective Headquarters in recognition of the excellent work done in 2018.

|                              |              |
|------------------------------|--------------|
| Boys’ Brigade                | Silver Award |
| Girl Guide                   | Gold Award   |
| National Cadet Corps (Boys)  | Gold Award   |
| National Cadet Corps (Girls) | Gold Award   |
| National Police Cadet Corps  | Gold Award   |

We want to congratulate the following students who have done our school proud by being awarded the highest award a secondary school student can attain from their respective uniformed group Headquarters. They have demonstrated a high level of excellence in their personal and leadership qualities and are good role models for their peers. They are:

| Uniformed Group | Rank & Name                                | Award                      | Class |
|-----------------|--|----------------------------|-------|
| Boys’ Brigade   | Warrant Officer Too<br>Chuan Tze Benjamin  | Founder’s Award            | 404   |
| Girl Guide      | Company Leader Giselle<br>Low Jia Zuan     | Baden Powell Award         | 402   |
|                 | Secretary Alysa Ng Zi You                  | Baden Powell Award         | 402   |
| St John Brigade | Senior Staff Sergeant Avan<br>Ong Jing Ren | Chief Commissioner’s Badge | 404   |
|                 | Senior Staff Sergeant Koh<br>Yee Teng      | Chief commissioner’s Badge | 404   |
|                 | Senior Staff Sergeant Poh Li<br>Han        | Chief Commissioner’s Badge | 401   |

We look forward to our students continuing to grow in our Vision of “Caring Citizens and Life-long Learners in a School of Excellence” as we work with them to develop holistically. We also thank you for your support.

Yours sincerely,



Peter Tan Chong Tze  
Principal

