



# QUEENSTOWN PRIMARY SCHOOL

310 MARGARET DRIVE, SINGAPORE 149303

TEL: 64741044

FAX: 64713640

Email: [qtps@moe.edu.sg](mailto:qtps@moe.edu.sg)

School website: [www.queenstownpri.moe.edu.sg](http://www.queenstownpri.moe.edu.sg)

31 August 2022

## AN OPEN LETTER

SEPTEMBER 2022

Dear Parents / Guardians,

1. Warm greetings from Queenstown Primary School. This month, we honour and acknowledge the contributions of our teachers. Placing students at the heart of their focus, our teachers work tirelessly to nurture them, shape their character and work hard to ensure that our students are equipped with the essential values, skills and knowledge to meet the future. While we honour our teachers, let us not forget the contributions of our office and support colleagues, without whom the school cannot function. These colleagues are also educators as they are also at the frontline in administering care to students when they are unwell or hurt.

2. Please join us in showing gratitude by saluting our teachers and administrative and support staff. Happy Teachers' Day!

### ***In Celebration...***

#### **National Mathematical Olympiad of Singapore (NMOS) 2022**

3. NMOS is a National Mathematical Olympiad competition that aims to provide an avenue to challenge and stretch our students' Mathematical potential and nurture their Mathematical talent. Congratulations, Queenstowners! Well-done! Please refer to Annex A for our list of award winners.

### ***Upcoming Events...***

#### **Teachers' Day Early Dismissal (1 September)**

4. As previously announced, QtPS will be celebrating Teachers' Day with early dismissal on Thursday, 1 September. This will be the last school day of Term 3.

Level	Dismissal Time
Primary 1, 2 and 3	10.30 am
Primary 4, 5 and 6	10.35 am

5. The Student Care Centre will operate as per normal on this day.

6. The school will be celebrating the contributions of our educators on Thursday, 1 September. As such, we will be closing our school General Office on that day from 2 pm onwards to allow our staff to enjoy their Teachers' Day celebrations.

#### **Teachers' Day School Holiday and Term Break (2 to 11 September)**

7. The Teachers' Day school holiday will be on Friday, 2 September, followed by the Term Break from Saturday, 3 September to Sunday, 11 September. Students will return to school for Term 4 on Monday, 12 September. We would like to take this opportunity to wish all teachers a Happy Teachers' Day, and all of our QtPS Family a restful term break.

### **e-Learning Day and PSLE Listening Comprehension (16 September)**

8. As our P1 to P5 students will be engaged in e-Learning, they will not be required to attend school on 16 September. Please refer to our Google Site (<https://sites.google.com/moe.edu.sg/elearning-queenstown-primary/home>) on 15 September (after 6pm) for specific class instructions.

9. Our P6 students will be coming to school as they will be having their PSLE English and Mother Tongue Listening Comprehension Examinations on 16 September. P6 students will be given separate instructions on their reporting time in due course.

### **P3 to P5 EOY Oral Examinations (22, 23 and 26 September)**

10. The EOY Oral Examinations for English Language (EL) and Mother Tongue Languages (MTL) will take place on Thursday, 22 September, Friday, 23 September & Monday, 26 September. More details will be given to students in Term 4.

### **PSLE Written Examinations (29 September to 5 October)**

11. The PSLE written papers will be held from Thursday, 29 September to Wednesday, 5 October. P6 students will be given separate instructions on their reporting times and examination procedures. P1 to P5 students will come to school for lessons as per normal. We wish all our P6 students all the best in the upcoming PSLE. Onward to Success!

### **EOY Examinations for P3 to P5 Students**

12. To help you in planning a revision schedule with your child/ward, we would like to provide you with a brief overview, as shown below, of the End-of-Year Examinations for all our P3 to P5 students. A more detailed exam schedule will be given to students in Term 4.

Date	Subject
Thu, 22 September Fri, 23 September Mon, 26 September	English / Mother Tongue Oral Exams
Thu, 13 October Fri, 14 October	English / Foundation English Paper 1 & Listening Comprehension Mother Tongue / Foundation Mother Tongue Paper 1 & Listening Comprehension
Wed, 26 October Thu, 27 October	English / Foundation English Paper 2 Mother Tongue / Foundation Mother Tongue Paper 2
Fri, 28 October	Math & Foundation Math
Mon, 31 October	Science & Foundation Science
Tue, 1 November	Higher Mother Tongue (*selected P5 students only)

13. Thank you for supporting our Queenstownners through their examinations!

### ***General Information...***

#### **Safe Management Measures for Students**

14. You are strongly encouraged to inform your child's/ward's Form Teachers once your child/ward has been vaccinated against COVID-19.

15. In line with our national transition towards COVID-19 resiliency, we will gradually resume more school activities to support the holistic development and well-being of our students:

- Resumption of morning assembly in the School Hall for all students on Mondays, Tuesdays, Thursdays and Fridays.

- Students will report to their classrooms on Wednesdays for assembly
- Dismissal arrangements:
  - There will be staggered dismissal at the following timings and gates:

Level	Dismissal Time (pm)		Exit Point *
	Mon, Tue, Thu & Fri	Wed	
P1 & P2	1.25	1.10	Back Gate
P5	1.30	1.15	Back Gate
P3, P4 & P6	1.30	1.15	Field Side Gate

\*Please note that the Canteen Gate will continue to be OPEN for ALL students during their dismissal times.

16. With the further relaxation of the Safe Management Measures as announced on 24 August 2022, mask-wearing will be optional in both indoor and outdoor settings with effect from 29 August 2022. These changes apply to all MOE schools as well. However, do encourage your child/ward to continue to practise good personal hygiene, and to exercise social responsibility, so as to make our school a safer place for all students.

17. All students will continue to adhere to the following Safe Management Measures (SMM):

- Visual checks by teachers and school personnel
- Temperature-taking drills will be conducted every Wednesday
- Fixed seating plan in groups
- Frequent handwashing and wipe-downs of personal spaces

18. Parents / guardians are reminded to **keep your child/ward home if he/she is unwell. Inform the school immediately** if your child/ward:

- **is symptomatic (unwell) with ART+:** to see a doctor as soon as possible.
- **is asymptomatic (well) with ART+:** to self-isolate for 72h and retest using ART. If still ART+, retest again in 24h. Child may return to school after ART- result or after Day 7 1200 hrs.
- **has any member of the household with ART+ or PCR COVID-19 positive.** Your child/ward will be able to return to school if he/she is well. Before your child/ward leaves home, he/she is strongly encouraged to do a ART.

19. Though students need not wear the TraceTogether (TT) Token at all times, you are strongly encouraged to hold on to their TT tokens, so that we can step up contact tracing should this be needed.

#### **Queenstown Primary Parent Support Group (QtPSG) News Bytes**

20. Our QtPSG committee's monthly newsletter features past and upcoming events/projects and parenting tips. The September issue is attached to this letter for your reading pleasure.

#### **School's Calendar of Events (COE)**

21. Our September calendar of events can be found on our school website, at <http://queenstownpri.moe.edu.sg/useful-links/school-calendar-of-events>.



*Keep in touch with us...*

22. To be updated on what has been happening in our school, please visit us at:

<u><b>Our School's Website Page</b></u> <a href="http://www.queenstownpri.moe.edu.sg">www.queenstownpri.moe.edu.sg</a>	
<u><b>Our School's Facebook Page</b></u> <a href="https://www.facebook.com/qtps.sg/">https://www.facebook.com/qtps.sg/</a>	 QtPS Facebook Page

### ***Concluding Remarks...***

*Once upon a time, there was a seed buried in the mud. It was in pitch blackness, and the mud was cold and wet, so it shivered. It hated being stuck there in the dirty mud. But how did the little seed end up in the mud? Well, on the day that it had fallen on the ground, it had rained heavily, and a deer had come along and stepped on it, pushing it deep into the mud.*

*While it was wallowing in the mud, the little seed did not see:*

- the mouse that ate the seeds in the grass,*
- the bird that ate the seeds on the log*
- and the chipmunk that gathered the seeds on the ground to store and eat all winter long.*

*It couldn't see this because it was stuck in the mud. It didn't know how lucky it was.*

*Now besides being squished tight in the mud, it was also locked in its shell. It tried to get out of its terrible predicament, but the Autumn days got shorter and shorter. It got colder and colder too. The little seed had no strength to get out of its shell. The mud was frozen solid and the deep snow covered it. It went through a terribly cold and dark winter.*

*Finally, after what seemed like an eternity, slowly the days grew a little longer and a little warmer. The seed had work to do. It began to grow.*

*The water in the mud had softened its shell. Still, getting out of its shell was hard and it had to exert energy like never before. It struggled and struggled. Finally, it broke free. Then, it used more energy to go not up, but down, struggling to send a tiny little root through the compacted mud as it needed something to hold on tightly to. Next, it had to struggle yet again with great effort to send a tiny little shoot through all that icky mud to the light above. Finally, it was free - It had reached the warm sunlight.*

*You would think that the little seed's troubles were over. However, it was not so. In a whole year, it grew only a few inches, while the other plants grew by leaps and bounds, as if to mock the little seed. Every Autumn, it lost its leaves. In Winter, it barely survived, covered with snow. And as it got a little taller, it had to go through windstorms and blizzards.*

*But one thing was peculiar. Even while it grew slowly up to the sunny blue sky, it never forgot its roots. It had the wisdom to keep growing its roots deeper and deeper in the mud. In fact, it used every windstorm, every blizzard, every shaking, every vibration to wiggle its roots deeper and deeper into the mud. This was because it knew the importance of having a solid foundation- always remembering where it had come from, and also how it had been*

*protected and helped by the mud.*

*The years rolled on. Each Summer, it grew slowly but surely. Each Winter, it became a little tougher and stronger. It had little joys and little sorrows throughout its life like all of us do.*

*Then came the fiercest of all storms. The wind blew so violently that trees all around were dashed to the ground, broken and uprooted.*

*After the devastation, the sun shone once again. Because it hadn't forgotten its roots as a seed in the mud, it stood there in all its glory. It had become the mighty oak tree.*

*Adapted from <https://www.thank-your-stars.com/inspirational-short-story.html>*

23. It is hard to always be grateful, especially when we are faced with adversity. However, as we know from numerous scientific studies on gratitude, developing an attitude of gratitude in children and youths helps them to be happier, healthier, more optimistic, and to form stronger relationships. Our Term 4 Value of the Term, Gratitude, is an important value we want to instil in our Queenstownians so that they can be their best and happiest selves.

Warmest regards,



Ms Pearly Ng  
Principal  
Pearly\_Ng@schools.gov.sg

Annex A:

**National Mathematical Olympiad of Singapore (NMOS) 2022**

1. The awardees are:

NAME	CLASS	AWARD
Wang Fengshou Paul	5 Honesty	Silver
Lee Rui Zhe	5 Courage	
Nayaka Hajadi & Trin Bao Phong	5 Honesty	Bronze
Lam Pei Xuan, Joanne	5 Joy	
Titus Choo Kim Yan	5 Creativity	Honourable Mention
Chloe Lynn Annatashya Satyawijaya, Foo Fang Kai Josiah, Fu Haozhe, Goh Wenqian, Han Dohyun, Lee Yeonwoo, Levi Lee Song En, Li Xingye, Ryan & Murugappan Swetha	5 Honesty	
Jaden Seah Wee Hong, Kylea Tan, Matthew Lozachmeur, Thota Krishna Nandan & Yim Yebin	5 Joy	

## A Nerf-y Type of Challenge

Our Fathers' Group jumped back in action with a bang, attracting more than 50 pairs of parent and child participating at Queenstown Community Centre's Nerf Challenge on the 20<sup>th</sup> August. In some cases, we even had whole families participating in groups of four!

It was 3 hours of cheering and shooting on a Saturday afternoon as teams battled it out. If you had thought it difficult to envision the Father-child or Mother-child bonding opportunities; you'd be mistaken.

There were noticeable heart-warming moments, when some fathers were noticed to be reminding their children to exercise caution – to keep their Nerf Guns pointed to the ground before aiming to shoot and walking their children through the load and shoot steps. Predictably, Fathers, and in some cases, Mothers were shielding their children from Nerf bullets.

On the offensive front, parents could be seen sharing tips and strategy before each 5-minute rounds. A quick whisper here, a simple hand gesture or even a wink, one can tell, the connection's real!



## Parenting Tips

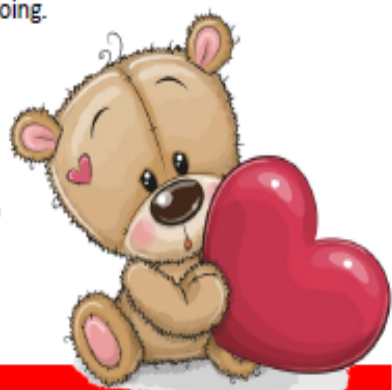
We sometimes get requests for articles or tips. These are not new suggestions. Rather, they serve as gentle reminders to ourselves, as it can sometimes be rather overwhelming for each of us. We recognize that, and we hope these reminders are supportive to the amazing effort and work each parent is doing.

### Offer a variety of activities to keep them engaged.

Children are more likely to misbehave when they are bored. Mind you, how soon before a person is bored differs greatly between an adult and a child. They probably need a little booster and it would be great if we can set aside options for indoor and outdoor activities for your child. Start a list. It can include items ranging from the basic such as reading, board games and puzzles to more adventurous ones, including science projects, nature walks and blanket tent adventures. Having a list helps, as we can consider featuring them on rotation basis to keep it fresh with the children.

### Set clear limits on your child's behavior.

It helps to manage expectations if we can find the opportunity to have a family discussion on "family rules" at home. This helps your child to nurture a better understanding of the consequences when rules are broken and gain a stronger rational thinking. To ease your child to "family rules", consider limiting to a few specific ones – important ones, explain how it's fair for everyone, ensure that it is easy to comply with, enforceable and stated positively (ie. it's not only about what we "...cannot do...", but it's also about what we "...can and should do ...").



To all Teachers of QtPS:  
**Happy Teacher's Day!**  
Thank you for being the  
strength, guide, and inspiration  
to our children!