



QUEENSTOWN PRIMARY SCHOOL

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31 December 2022

AN OPEN LETTER JANUARY 2023

Dear Parents / Guardians,

1. A Happy New Year to you and a special welcome to parents of our 2023 Primary 1 cohort. We trust that you will soon enjoy the warmth of our extended QtPS family as we work together to nurture our students into Flourishing Individuals and Future-Ready Citizens.

2. The Monthly Open Letters will be our means of communicating important information to you, as well as to update you on our school announcements and events. It is also a platform to share and celebrate the successes of our students and staff. Soft copies of these Open Letters will be sent through Parents Gateway and our school website. Do sign up for Parents Gateway if you have not already done so as most of our school-wide communication (e.g. letters, consent forms, etc.) will be circulated through this online platform.

Updates

Staff Movement

3. **Farewell:** We would like to express our appreciation and gratitude to our outgoing staff for their service, contributions, and commitment to the students of QtPS. We wish them all the best in their future endeavours as they embark on the next chapter of their careers.

- Mrs Karen Toh, Assistant Year Head/ Lower Primary, posted to Farrer Park Primary School
- Mdm Chia Ai Tian, Teacher, posted to Alexandra Primary School
- Mrs Ho Lai Mun, Teacher, posted to Yuhua Primary School
- Mdm Lim Li Yin, Teacher, posted to Pasir Ris Primary School
- Mr Tan Yew Wee, Teacher, posted to White Sands Primary School
- Ms Nurul Naqiyyah Binte Mohd Kamal, Teacher, attending teacher training course at NIE
- Ms Yang Jing Ning, Teacher, attending teacher training course at NIE
- Mrs Goh Shuhui, Senior Student Welfare Officer, posted to Alexandra Primary School
- Ms Woo Wai San, Management Support Officer, retiring from service
- Mr Abdul Khaliq Goh, Teacher, resigned from service

4. **Welcome:** We also extend a warm welcome to the new members of the QtPS family.

- Ms Chew May, Vice-Principal
- Mdm S Srija, Level Head/ English Language, English Teacher
- Mdm Fang Shilin Calista, Subject Head (Student Leadership), Mathematics and Science Teacher
- Ms Cheung Man Wai, Mother Tongue Teacher
- Ms Wong Jie Ying, Mother Tongue Teacher
- Mdm Tan Chia Huee, Mother Tongue Teacher
- Mrs Chew-Lim Shu Min, Physical Education Teacher
- Mr Balajee Haridas, Mother Tongue Teacher

- Ms Charmaine Goh, Art Teacher
- Mdm Yan Sok Ying, Operations Support Officer
- Mdm Vasanthi D/O Sathiaselan, Corporate Support Officer

In Celebration...

The Queen's Commonwealth Essay Competition 2022

5. The Queen's Commonwealth Essay Competition 2022 is a global creative writing competition for students under 18 years old. A number of our Queenstownians took part in this competition in 2022. We would like to congratulate these students on their effort and excellent performance! Well done! Please refer to Annex A for our list of award winners.

12th Super Zonal Scrabble Competition 2022

6. Students from our Scrabble Club CCA took part in the above competition in 2022. The competition provided a platform for students to interact with like-minded enthusiasts and to share the finer points of the game with players from other primary schools. Congratulations, Queenstownians! Well-done! Please refer to Annex A for our list of award winners.

Important Announcements...

Start of the School Year

7. Please note that the new academic year will begin on Tuesday, 3 Jan 2023 for the P1 students. The P2 to P6 students will only report back to school on Wednesday, 4 Jan 2023.

Chinese New Year (CNY) Celebrations (20 January) and Holidays (23 to 24 January)

8. QtPS will be celebrating the Chinese New Year on Friday, 20 January. This year, we celebrate the Year of the Rabbit! Students are encouraged to come dressed in their ethnic costumes and their school shorts/skorts, school socks, and school shoes. Please note that as Monday, 23 January and Tuesday, 24 January are public holidays, school will thus resume on Wednesday, 25 January. We wish all our Chinese Queenstownians and their families a Happy and Prosperous Chinese New Year! To the rest of our Queenstown Family, Happy Holidays!

Safe Management Measures for Students

9. As announced by the Multi-Ministry Taskforce (MTF) on 7 October 2022, children aged 5 to 11 are recommended to receive a booster dose 5 months after they have received their second dose. Booster vaccinations for children aged 5 to 11 years began on 25 October. You are reminded to inform your child's/ward's Form Teachers when your child/ward has the vaccination dose or booster shot. Your child/ward will then be excused from strenuous physical activities for the next 2 weeks.

10. 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

11. 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 an ART.

12. 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.

School Dismissal Timings & Gates

13. There will be staggered dismissal at the following timings and gates:

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

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

15. **P1 students will be dismissed half an hour early for Week 1 only.

Updating of Student's Personal Particulars

16. MOE will be rolling out the Student Details Form (SDF) to all parents/ guardians from Tue, 3 Jan 2023. The SDF is the digitalisation of the Pupil Data Form (PDF) and the Individual Student Details Report (ISDR). An announcement to ask parents/ guardians to verify the data in the SDF will be sent via Parents Gateway by the Communications and Engagement Group (CEG) at staggered dates, depending on your child's/ward's educational level. As such, do look out for the announcements via Parents Gateway, and complete your submission **by Tuesday, 31 January**.

Sale of Uniforms

17. Our school uniform vendor will be selling school uniforms in the school foyer from Tuesday, 3 January to Friday, 6 January. Those who wish to purchase school uniforms may do so during this time. Purchases are to be made in cash only.

General Information...

Recess

18. We have made changes to the recess timing. Please refer to the table below for the updated recess timing for the respective levels:

Levels	Recess Time	
	Mon, Tue, Thu & Fri	Wed
P1 & P2	9 am – 9.30 am	8.45 am – 9.15 am
P3 & P4	9.30 am – 10 am	9.15 am – 9.45 am
P5	10 am – 10.30 am	9.45 am – 10.15 am
P6	10.30 am – 11 am	10.15 am – 10.45 am

Safety and Security Matters

19. Road safety around the school: Student safety is our priority, and the safety of our students using roads leading to and from the school is the responsibility of all. As a driver,

please play your part by slowing down as you approach the vicinity of the school. As a parent, please reinforce the importance of road safety with your children. The road can be very busy and dangerous, especially before the start of school and at dismissal time. Thus, we would appreciate parents being positive role models by using the zebra-crossing.

20. Traffic and pedestrian map: Please see the school site map on Page 8 indicating the traffic flow for vehicles entering the school and the location of pedestrian gates. For the safety of our students, please follow the directional signs and instructions from our security personnel. During dismissal time, private vehicles will not be allowed to enter the school to allow students who are taking the school bus to walk safely to their respective awaiting buses. Parents / guardians will only be allowed to drive into the school to pick up their children / wards after all our school buses have left the school compound. An approximate time of 20 minutes after dismissal is expected. Please make the necessary arrangements to meet your child at the pedestrian gates – the Canteen Gate, Field Gate, or Back Gate.

21. Parking: Due to the limited parking lots within the school, we seek your understanding that all visitors to the school will have to park at the public car park adjacent to the school. All visitors entering the school premises are to obtain visitor passes from the Security Guard Post outside the General Office. As the security of our students is of utmost importance to us, please comply with our security measures.

Reminders about School Procedures...

Importance of School Attendance

22. School attendance: **All students are expected to attend school regularly.** Research has shown a close correlation between students' achievement and their attendance. Students who attend school regularly are more likely to succeed in their studies and enjoy their schooling experience. Attending school regularly during the early school years is especially critical as children require a strong foundation in literacy and numeracy, as well as strong social-emotional competencies to cope with the academic demands at the higher levels. In QtPS, we aim to nurture every child holistically so that our Queenstownians can become Flourishing Individuals and Future-Ready Citizens. We seek your cooperation and understanding in ensuring that your child/ward attends school regularly so as to support his/her schooling success.

23. Absence from school: As curriculum time is precious, we strongly discourage parents from planning overseas trips during curriculum time, unless it is an unforeseen emergency. The only exceptions for absence are (i) the student is ill and is covered by valid medical certificates, and (ii) parents have sought prior permission from the Principal for leave of absence.

24. Illness: If your child/ward is not feeling well, please bring him/her to see a doctor and only allow your child/ward to return to school when he/she is feeling better. Any absence from school must be accompanied with either a medical certificate from a doctor or a letter of excuse from you when your child/ward returns the next day. **For letters of excuse, the school will only accept two letters per term.**

25. Infectious disease: If your child/ward is down with an infectious disease, e.g. chicken pox, Hand-Foot-Mouth Disease, please

- take your doctor's advice and let your child/ward rest at home.
- call the school to inform us of your child's/ward's diagnosis. It is important that parents/guardians inform the school in case of infectious disease so that we can monitor the situation with other students in their class. We seek your understanding in this matter as the health of our students is our concern because learning can only take place when our students are healthy and alert.

- seek clearance from your doctor before allowing your child/ward to return to school.

Pre-assembly Reading Activity

26. Reading is a lifelong habit that we aim to nurture in our Queenstowners and many efforts have been put in to promote reading in QtPS. As such, we conduct daily pre-assembly reading sessions. During these sessions, students will engage in reading silently before the flag raising ceremony. Please ensure that your child/ward has an English Language storybook with him/her on Mondays to Wednesdays, and a Mother Tongue Language storybook on Thursdays and Fridays, as we aim to develop in him/her a good reading habit.

School's Calendar of Events (COE)

27. Our January calendar of events can be found on our school website, at <https://www.queenstownpri.moe.edu.sg/useful-links/school-calendar/>



Keep in touch with us...

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

<p><u>Our School's Website Page</u> www.queenstownpri.moe.edu.sg</p>	
<p><u>Our School's Facebook Page</u> https://www.facebook.com/qtps.sg/</p>	 <p>QtPS Facebook Page</p>

Concluding Remarks...

29. Our QtPS theme for 2023 is *'Together, We Thrive'*. In QtPS, we believe strongly in cultivating a growth mindset in our students, so that they will possess the confidence to meet their potential, and to bloom and flourish. As educators and parents, let us work together to cultivate an environment with positive influences for our children, one in which they can continue to challenge themselves, so that they can grow and thrive. With your continued support, we are confident that 2023 will be yet another fulfilling year for your child/ward and the whole QtPS family.

30. Before I pen off, let me leave you with this quote by Joel Osteen:

"Make up your mind that no matter what comes your way, no matter how difficult, no matter how unfair, you will do more than simply survive. You will thrive in spite of it."

Warmest regards,

Ms Pearly Ng
 Principal
Pearly_Ng@schools.gov.sg

Annex A:

The Queen's Commonwealth Essay Competition 2022

The awardees are:

Name	Class in 2022	Award
Karissa Tan Shi Hui & Teoh Zi En	4 Joy	Gold
Mohammed Farhan Bin Sikandar Shah	5 Honesty	
Rei Nadhyra Binte Azhar	6 Creativity	
Shannon Loh Wenxi	6 Joy	
Charlotte Rosalie Soh Yu Han	5 Courage	Silver
Lee Yeonwoo	5 Honesty	
Loh Soon Kee, Ethan, Jada Summer Miranda Adduru & Mulawin Maxine Ko	6 Creativity	
Ding Zhi Jie Aden	6 Honesty	
Audrey Clarissa Kho, Liu Zerui & Madeleine Audrey Chandra	4 Joy	Bronze
Ashley Chen Jingwen	5 Courage	
Queenie Koh Zi Hui	5 Diligence	
Aura Nagpal, Chua Wan Xuan Natalie, Han Dohyun, Javier Ten Yu Hee & Soo Li Qing	5 Honesty	
Emily Yeow Jia Yi, Liu Rui Kai Evan & Tan Yi Heng Lucas	6 Creativity	
Adrielle Lim Ting Ern, Chamonix Chin Wen Xuan, Chong Yi Rou, Duong Chau Anh, Emily Li Wei Tong, Jimmy Lee Yujie, Kang Wenrui, Kang Xuey Meng, Kyran Tan Kai Loon, Lee Yu Han, Leong Shu Ying, Chloe, Lim Kang Yu, Liu Boxuan, Ng Jing Xi Nicole, Sumayyah Binte Md Hamkah, Teo Rui Zhe, Teo Zheng Yu, Drake, Xavier Yue,	6 Honesty	
Keira Ling En Ting, Lai Kai Xin Valery, Lim Zhi Rui & Seet Zi Lin Kris	6 Joy	
Danial Safin Muhamad Fawzi	5 Courage	Participation
Chen Gongjue, Cho Kyu Jin, Goh Wen Qian, Low Si Ting, Tay Jia Xin & Trinh Bao Phong	5 Honesty	
Jayden Lim Zheng Yang, Lee Guan Hwee & Lim En Xuan, Nicole	6 Creativity	
Danny Adam, Dheevaashini Gnanaharan, Gabriel Constantine Chan, Goh Yan Feng & Lee Min En	6 Honesty	

12th Super Zonal Scrabble Competition 2022

The awardees are:

Division	Category	Award	Participants	Class
Junior		Best School Player	Quinton Chia Kai Yu	3 Joy
Senior			Emily Li Wei Tong	6 Honesty
Junior	South Zone	Zonal Champion	Seah Kai Jun Leo	3 Courage
			Tan Jia En	3 Creativity
			Pae Rebecca Elise	3 Joy
Senior	South Zone	Zonal 2 nd Place	Choong Tze Wei Cameron & Muthukrishnan Govindan	5 Honesty
			Ethan Chia Shiang Yu	6 Joy
Senior	Super Zonal - Overall of Zones	Overall 4 th Place	Kylea Tan	5 Joy
			Lim Kang Yu & Xavier Yue	6 Honesty

