



# QUEENSTOWN PRIMARY SCHOOL

310 MARGARET DRIVE, SINGAPORE 149303

TEL: 64741044

FAX: 64713640

Email: qtps@moe.edu.sg

School website: www.queenstownpri.moe.edu.sg

3 January 2019

## AN OPEN LETTER JANUARY 2019

Dear Parents / Guardians,

1. A Happy New Year to you and a special welcome to parents of our 2019 Primary 1 cohort. We trust that you will soon enjoy the warmth of our extended QtPS family as we work together to help realise the potential and talents of every Queenstowner. We believe that in this process of nurturing the young minds, both parents and teachers play critical roles. 2018 had been a fulfilling year and the achievements of the school would not have been possible without the dedicated hard work of our staff and your partnership.

2. Monthly Open Letters from School Leaders will be our means of communicating to you important information, as well as to update you on our school events. It is also a platform to share and celebrate the successes of our students and staff. We strongly believe that when our students taste success, they will grow up to be confident children and be motivated to scale greater heights for themselves. Thus, parents, it is important that you spare some time off your busy schedule to read our letters. Softcopies of the monthly Open Letters are also available on our school website.

### *Updates...*

#### **Staff Movement**

3. We would like to express our appreciation and gratitude to the following staff for their service, contributions and commitment to students. They will not be with us from this academic year and we wish them well in their endeavours.

- Mrs Helen Tan/ Vice-Principal, posted to CHIJ (Kellock)
- Mr Vincent Lee/ Subject Head ICT, posted to River Valley Primary School
- Mrs Carol Aw/ Teacher, posted to Temasek Primary School
- Ms Clare Sim/ Teacher, posted to CHIJ Primary (Toa Payoh)
- Mdm Josephine Leong/ Senior Teacher (Lower Pri), retired from service
- Mdm Sherlyn Li/ Teacher, on No Pay Leave
- Mdm Jasmin Shanawaz/ Teacher, resigned from service
- Ms Lim Zhi Ying/ Teacher, attending teacher training course at NIE

4. At the same time, we extend a warm welcome to the following new additions to the Queenstown family:

- Mr Azhar Bin Mohd Hussain, Vice-Principal
- Ms Natasha Quek, Level Head English Language
- Ms Yeo Teck Wai, Level Head Mathematics
- Ms Labelle Lee, English Language & Mathematics Teacher
- Mr Charles Ng, English Language & Science Teacher

### *In Celebration*

#### **PSLE results**

5. We would like to extend our heartiest congratulations to the batch of 2018 P6 students who have done well. 95.9% of our P6 students qualified for Secondary education. The following table shows the mean performance of our students:

Description	Year	2016	2017	2018
Mean PSLE T-score for all students		194.3	191.8	197.7
Mean PSLE T-score for students taking 4-Standard only		209.6	210.0	214.9
% with T-score $\geq$ 250		11.7	8.9	13.2

6. The following is a breakdown of the Secondary posting results for students taking the 4-Standard course:

Eligibility \ Year	2016	2017	2018
% Express (without E/NA)	63.7	64.5	66.7
% Express (with E/NA)	72.5	76.3	81.3
% Normal (Academic)	22.8	20.1	15.8
% Normal (Technical)	4.7	3	2.9
% eligible for Sec Sch	100	99.4	100

### **5th National Primary School Go Championships 2018**

7. A group of our students from our Weiqi CCA participated in the above competition in November 2018. Congratulations to these winners! They have made QtPS proud!

Category	Award	Participants	Class in 2018
School Category	3 <sup>rd</sup> position	Tay Shen Thaddeus	4 Diligence
		Qian Zeming	4 Honesty
		Goh Kang Qi, Rhesa	4 Joy
Individual Category	Bronze	Tay Shen Thaddeus	4 Diligence
		Qian Zeming	4 Honesty
		Goh Kang Qi, Rhesa	4 Joy
		Foong Jing Heng	5 Joy
	Consolation	Anthony Chua Peng Xuan	3 Diligence
		Chan Ai Ki	3 Honesty
		Foong Ye Heng	5 Honesty
	Participation	Tan Dong Ze Issac	3 Care
		Ho Yi Xian, Ian	3 Diligence
		Jeremy Chen Kang Jie	4 Creativity
		Liu Xingyu	5 Diligence
		Wang Wuyang	5 Honesty
		Xavier Koh Wen Rui	5 Joy

### **Annual Mathlympics for Primary Schools 2018**

8. Our students took part in the Annual Mathlympics Competition in 2018 and we are pleased to announce the winners. Congratulations to these winners and well done! The winners are:

Award	Participants	Class in 2018
Gold	He Weiheng Ryan	4 Honesty
	Sun Beichen	5 Honesty
	Ni Haoran & Dominic Oeij	5 Joy
Silver	Lok Jun Yi & Lee Jayden Seojin	5 Honesty
Bronze	Jaden Tjeng	4 Joy
	Ahmad Rizky Alkiano, Julien Leong Qicheng & Wang Yucen	5 Honesty
	Foong Jing Heng & Mattheus Siau Yi Hern	5 Joy
Participation	Qian Zeming	4 Honesty
	Otto Theodore Carpenter	4 Joy
	Eyo Yang Zheng Xu, Yang Lin Xuan, Xiong Allison, Madupu Sanjana Reddy & Gopal Anurupa Ajeet Wagle	5 Honesty
	Lee Wei Jun, Seri Asma-Ina Syukrina Binte Abdull Rahman, Leong Teng Koon, Sahni Arya, Teo Poh Huan, Lee Wei Yang, Merrill & Xavier Koh Wen Rui	5 Joy

### ***Important Announcements...***

#### **Temperature-taking Exercise**

9. As a preparatory measure, please note that all students are required to have a personal Oral Digital Thermometer (ODT) at all times. There will be a Temperature-taking Exercise on **Monday, 7 January**, as part of our standard procedure for safety and security measures. Please ensure your child/ward has an ODT in working condition and brings it to school with immediate effect. A one-time complimentary ODT will be given to our P1 students by the class teacher prior to the exercise. All P1 students will be taught how to use the ODT.

**Gifted Education Programme (GEP) Screening Test (Only for P3 students)**

10. The Gifted Education Branch of the Ministry of Education will be conducting the GEP Screening Test on Friday, 23 August. The test is open to all P3 students and it will be based on what students have learnt from Primary 1 to Primary 3 in the English Language and Mathematics syllabuses. This test is designed to identify students with high intellectual potential. Let us be mindful that we do not put unnecessary pressure on our children and there is no need to have any extra or special preparation for this screening test. A separate letter will be issued to all P3 parents in August.

11. The tentative schedule for the two stages of the GEP Identification Exercise 2019 is as follows:

Stage	Date	Participants	Papers
GEP Screening Exercise	23 August 2019 (Friday)	Primary 3 students enrolled in government and government-aided schools	English Language Mathematics
GEP Selection Exercise	15 & 16 October 2019 (Tuesday, Wednesday)	Only shortlisted students will be invited to the Selection stage	English Language Mathematics General Ability

**Briefing for P1-P6 Parents**

12. Parents/Guardians are our very important partners because you play an important role in supporting our students in the learning and development process at home. As such, we would like to invite you to our annual Briefing for Parents on **Saturday, 19 January**. The objectives of this briefing are to keep you informed of school matters, as well as for you to meet up with your child's/ward's Form Teachers.

13. The details for the briefing are as below:

For Parents/ Guardians of Primary 1 & 2 Students	For Parents/ Guardians of Primary 3 & 4 Students	For Parents/ Guardians of Primary 5 & 6 Students
<p><b><u>8.30 am to 9.30 am</u></b> Briefing by School Leaders &amp; YH in the <b>Hall (Level 2)</b>:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• School Directions 2019</li> <li>• School's achievements</li> <li>• Curriculum &amp; Assessment Matters</li> <li>• PAL &amp; CCA Matters</li> <li>• Signature Programmes</li> <li>• Cyberwellness</li> </ul>	<p><b><u>10.00 am to 11.00 am</u></b> Briefing by School Leaders &amp; YH in the <b>Hall (Level 2)</b>:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• School Directions 2019</li> <li>• School's achievements</li> <li>• P3 GEP &amp; P4 SBB</li> <li>• Curriculum &amp; Assessment Matters</li> <li>• CCA Matters</li> <li>• Signature Programmes</li> <li>• Cyberwellness</li> </ul>	<p><b><u>10.00 am to 11.00 am</u></b> Interaction with/Briefing by Form Teachers in your child's/ward's respective <b>classroom</b>:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Homework Policy @ QtPS</li> <li>• Attendance &amp; Punctuality Policy @ QtPS</li> <li>• Q&amp;A session</li> </ul>

For Parents/ Guardians of Primary 1 & 2 Students	For Parents/ Guardians of Primary 3 & 4 Students	For Parents/ Guardians of Primary 5 & 6 Students
<p><b><u>10.00 am to 11.00 am</u></b> Interaction with/Briefing by Form Teachers in your child's/ward's respective <b>classroom</b>:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Homework Policy @ QtPS</li> <li>• Attendance &amp; Punctuality Policy @ QtPS</li> <li>• Q&amp;A session</li> </ul>	<p><b><u>11.30 am to 12.30 pm</u></b> Interaction with/Briefing by Form Teachers in your child's/ward's respective <b>classroom</b>:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Homework Policy @ QtPS</li> <li>• Attendance &amp; Punctuality Policy @ QtPS</li> <li>• Q&amp;A session</li> </ul>	<p><b><u>11.30 am to 12.30 pm</u></b> Briefing by School Leaders &amp; YH in the <b>Hall (Level 2)</b>:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• School Directions 2019</li> <li>• School's achievements</li> <li>• DSA</li> <li>• Curriculum &amp; Assessment Matters</li> <li>• CCA Matters</li> <li>• Signature Programmes</li> <li>• Cyberwellness</li> </ul>

14. Kindly indicate your attendance on the Reply Slip on page 8 and submit it through your child's/ward's Form Teacher by **Thursday, 10 January** so as to allow us time to prepare the logistical arrangements for the session. Thank you and we look forward to meeting you.

### **No-Frills Birthday Celebrations**

15. Birthdays are an annual joyful event to celebrate our birth, especially for our children. While we understand that you would like to celebrate this day for your children, especially in the company of their fellow classmates, we would like to appeal to all parents **not** to provide their children with birthday cakes, food items, tidbits, goodie bags, gift packs, etc to share with their classmates in school. The reasons are as follows:

- we want to promote healthy living
- we want to safeguard our students' safety as some of them may suffer from food allergies.

16. To celebrate the birthdays of our students, the school conducts monthly mass birthday celebrations on the first Friday of each month during the school's morning assembly. At these sessions, the names of students who will be celebrating their birthday in that month will be announced. These students will then be invited to stand and the entire school community will join in the singing of a birthday song for them. Students enjoy this time and feel valued as significant individuals of the QtPS family.

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

#### **Safety and Security Matters**

17. Student safety is our priority. The safety of our students using roads leading to and from the school is the responsibility of all. We need motorists to play their part by slowing down as they approach the vicinity of the school, and parents to reinforce the importance of road safety with their children. Road Crossing in the morning is patrolled by our staff. The road can be very busy and dangerous at this time. Thus, we would appreciate parents being positive role models by using the zebra-crossing too.

18. Attached on page 7 is a school site map 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. Please make the necessary arrangements to meet your child at the pedestrian gates – either the Canteen Gate or Back Gate.

19. 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 a visitor's pass 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.

#### **Commencement of Co-Curricular Activities (CCA)**

20. CCA will commence for most students in Term 1 Week 3. For students who are in Sports CCAs and who are representing our school in the National School Games, CCA will commence earlier. Parents/Guardians, you will receive your child's/ward's CCA Schedule by **Friday, 18 January** from the CCA Teachers-in-Charge. SH/PE & CCA (Mr A'srie) will also be issuing your child/ward with a CCA Welcome Letter in Term 1 Week 1. Please refer to the two CCA documents for more details.

### ***Reminders about School Procedures***

#### **Updating of Student's Personal Particulars Form**

21. We will be issuing your child/ward with a Personal Particulars Form. Please help us to update the particulars on the form and return the form to your child's/ward's Form Teachers by **Friday, 25 January**. After this updating exercise, please inform the General Office in writing of any changes to your contact number, address and/or citizenship status. **It is crucial that the school has the updated student's particulars so that we can get in touch with you swiftly in the event of any emergency.**

#### **Importance of School Attendance**

22. Research has shown a close correlation between students' achievement and their attendance. Students who attend school regularly are more likely to accomplish in their studies and enjoy their schooling experience. Attending school regularly during the early school years is especially critical for students as they

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, guided by our school's philosophy that "Every Child Matters and can Accomplish".

23. **As such, the school expects all students to attend school regularly.** 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. We seek your cooperation and understanding in ensuring that your child/ward attends school regularly.

24. 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.

25. If your child/ward is down with an infectious disease, for eg chicken pox, Hand-Foot-Mouth Disease, please take your doctor's advice and let your child/ward rest at home. Children have close contact with one another in class and as these conditions are highly infectious, kindly call the school to inform us so that we can monitor the situation with other students in class too. 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.

#### **Insurance Coverage for students**

26. As part of our dedication to student welfare, we have taken an annual insurance policy to cover all students in the event of any injury incurred during school activities. The period of the policy is from 2 January to 31 December 2019. Your child/ward will receive a brochure with details on:

- how to report a claim and the documents which are required;
- methods of submitting claims; and
- the value of the reimbursements related to expenditures incurred.

27. Do feel free to contact the school for assistance or clarification.

#### **Pre-assembly Reading Activity**

28. 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 from 7.30 am to 7.45 am 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)**

29. Please access the calendar of event for the month of January at our website, <http://queenstownpri.moe.edu.sg/useful-links/school-calendar-of-events> or through the QR code below.



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

*“Thoughts lead on to purposes;  
purposes go forth in action;  
actions form habits;  
habits decide character;  
and character fixes our destiny.”*

By Tyron Edwards

30. Since this is the first Open Letter for 2019, we would like to begin the year with the school value of *Positive Thinking*. We hope to inculcate in our students the value of *positive thinking* as we believe that it

develops character and shapes their destiny. We would like to seek your assistance by reinforcing the same message of *Positive Thinking* at home.

31. With your continued support, we are confident that 2019 will be yet another exciting and fulfilling year for your child/ward and the school.

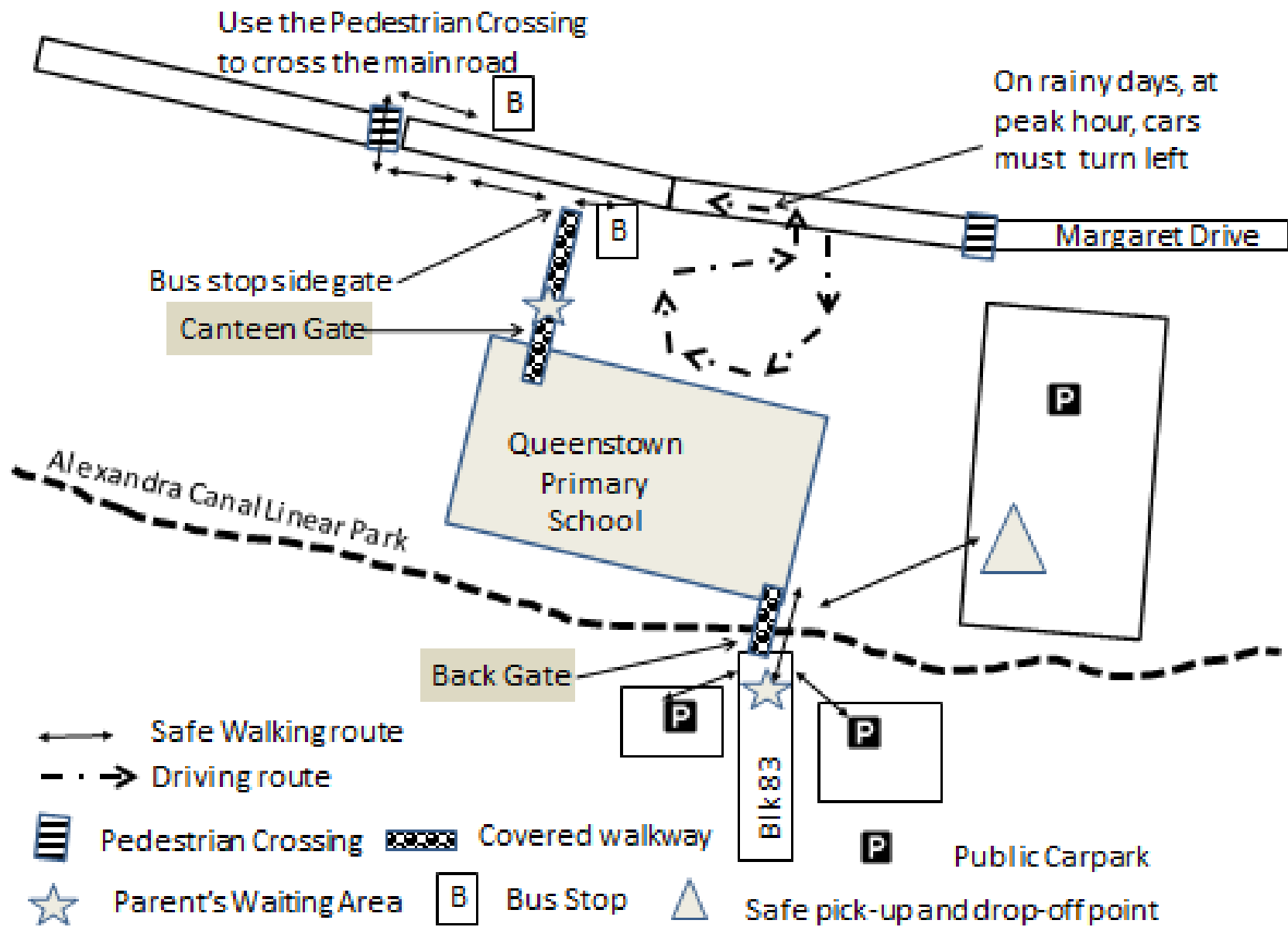
Best regards,



Ms Pearly Ng

Principal

Pearly\_Ng@schools.gov.sg



**Reply Slip**  
**Queenstown Primary School**  
**Briefing for Parents of Primary 1 to 6 students – Saturday, 19 January 2019**  
(Please tick  accordingly)

(a)  I will be attending the session and have noted the time and venue.

Number of people attending (including child) \_\_\_\_\_

(b)  I will not be able to attend the session.

(c) I would like to find out more about

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
Name & Signature of Parent

Name of Child : \_\_\_\_\_ Class: \_\_\_\_\_

Contact Number : \_\_\_\_\_ (H) \_\_\_\_\_ (Mobile)

***Kindly submit this Reply Slip to your child's/ ward's Form Teacher by  
Thursday, 10 January 2019***