



启发小学

QIFA PRIMARY SCHOOL

50, WEST COAST AVENUE. SINGAPORE 128104

Principal's Letter – Term 3, June 2016

Dear Parent/Guardian

Welcome to Term 3 at QPS

I hope you have had a restful and meaningful break with your child/ward during the school holidays. It was great to have the children back in school after the June holiday. Term 2 was a fulfilling term for the school as many of our pupils participated in the various sports and Singapore Youth Festival (SYF) competitions which inculcated school values such as 'Resilience' and 'Pride in Work' in the pupils.

Term 3 looks to be a busy and an exciting term as the school commemorates Racial Harmony Day, celebrates National Day, and the Primary Six pupils go full steam ahead with their Primary Six Leaving Examination (PSLE) preparations.

***Every Student, an Engaged Learner**

Strategic Thrust 1 - Providing a Holistic and Value-added Education

Qifa's Academic and Non-Academic Achievements

The school has been blessed with many outstanding academic and non-academic achievements this year, and I will only highlight a few here. Please visit our school website under **CCA & Competitions 2016** for more results.

Two of our pupils from 6 Exemplary were conferred the **Best Speaker Award** in the *Wits and Words Inter-School Debate Championship 2016*. Owena Eng Wan-Yu was conferred the Best Speaker Award (Overall, 3rd Preliminary Round, and Quarter Final) and Srisha Murthy for the 2nd Preliminary Round. Our team emerged as the **Top 5 Team in the West Zone** and **Top 8 Team Overall** which are very heartening results. Well-done, our debaters!

Owena Eng also won the **Second Prize** for the *2015-2016 Young Author Awards* and together with Christie Chong from 6 Exemplary, they emerged **Top 3** in the *National Poetry Festival: Singapore Botanic Gardens On-the-Spot Poetry and Photography Competition*.

In the *15th Inter-School National Scrabble Championship 2016*, our pupils turned in such an impressive performance that Qifa is the school with the most number of awards received for the different categories in the championship. For more details for each of the awards, please refer to the school website under **CCA & Competitions 2016**.



启发小学

QIFA PRIMARY SCHOOL

50, WEST COAST AVENUE. SINGAPORE 128104

Our pupils from Angklung, Choir, Guzheng, and Ethnic Chinese, Malay and Indian Dance performing art groups demonstrated the school values '*Self-discipline*', '*Resilience*' and '*Pride in Work*' as well as lived out the school motto '*Strive to Excel*' at the **Singapore Youth Festival (SYF) 2016** Competitions. All the teams have made commendable improvements from their last SYF performance in 2014. In particular, Chinese and Malay Dance groups aced their performances and clinched **Certificates of Distinction** while the rest of the groups achieved **Certificates of Accomplishment**.

Post SYF, the school created a platform for our SYF performers to showcase their talents to their parents in **A Night with Our Stars**. We presented certificates and plaques to the performers, and tokens of appreciation to the instructors and teachers after their performances on Friday, 20 May at 6.00 p.m. in the school hall.

As a recognition of their stellar performance, our Chinese Dance group has been selected to put up a performance for members of the public 'Dance Extravaganza' at the Esplanade Outdoor Theatre on Saturday, 2 July 2016.

Our Volleyball Junior Girls and Boys were triumphant at the *National Inter-Primary Schools Volleyball Championships 2016*. After extremely close and tough fights, the Senior Girls team was crowned the **Champions**, the Junior Boys and Girls teams emerged as the **1st Runners Up** while our Senior Boys team was placed **4th** in the National Championships. They have improved from last year's results and done the school proud. Credit also goes to the coaches and teachers who dedicated time and effort to prepare and lead the four teams in the national championships.

Overseas Immersion Programmes

Our Primary Five pupils led by HODs Mathematics and English Language: Mrs Loh Kah Yen and Mrs Doreen Chan, and two Chinese Language teachers: Mr Kenny Ng and Ms Serene Cheong, went on a 6-day educational trip to Meizhou, Dabu and Xiamen in China. They visited two local schools, namely, the Meizhou Hongdu Primary School and the Dabu County Zhang Yun Zai Experimental Primary School, and interacted with the pupils there.

It was an enriching experience for the pupils as they sat in and participated in the Chinese Calligraphy, Chinese Painting and Chinese Paper Cutting lessons with their Chinese buddies which were thoughtfully planned by our host schools. Our visit was reported in the local news. In addition, the pupils learned about the Hakka culture and traditions through sightseeing tours at cultural and historical sights such as the Meizhou Hakka Museum.



启发小学

QIFA PRIMARY SCHOOL

50, WEST COAST AVENUE. SINGAPORE 128104

Another group of Primary Five pupils led by HOD Science, Mrs Sia Song Ling, SH PE/CCA, Mr Ken Teo, Mdm Putri, SH/Malay Language and Mr Tan Hue visited our partner school and other historical sites in Bangkok, Thailand from 25 to 29 May 2016. The pupils had an enriching experience, and they had many opportunities to internalise and demonstrate the school values as well as develop multi-cultural skills through their interactions with their peers in the partner school, and with others during the trip to Thailand. They also visited some historical sites such as the Ayutthaya Historical Park, and the Death Railway and River Kwai Bridge in Kanchanaburi.

Our Primary 4 pupils will be going on a two-day overseas immersion programme to Malacca in July where they will be exposed to a different historical and geographical environment in our neighbouring country. We hope that you will support and encourage your P4 child to participate in this cultural immersion trip which also seeks to inculcate important lifeskills and values in the children.

***Every Teacher, a Caring Educator**

Strategic Thrust 2 – Providing Care and Support for Staff

Staff Movements

New Appointments

Our heartiest congratulations to the following staff who have joined the school leadership team:

Mdm Linda Tiang, Assistant Year Head (P3-4)

Mr Kenny Ng, Subject Head (Special Projects – Values in Action)

New Staff

The school is thankful for the additional manpower support from MOE as we welcome the following new staff to the Qifa family:

Mrs Cindy Ong, Vice-Principal Academic 2 who was previously HOD/ Information Communication Technology from Dazhong Primary School;

Ms Noordiyana, Subject Head/ Character and Citizenship Education from Pei Hwa Secondary School who is teaching Malay Language;

Ms Joyce Chen, Music Coordinator from Gan Eng Seng Primary School who is teaching Mathematics and Music;



启发小学

QIFA PRIMARY SCHOOL

50, WEST COAST AVENUE. SINGAPORE 128104

Ms Nurfaiddillah, Social Studies Coordinator from Punggol View Primary School who is teaching English Language and Social Studies;

New teacher graduates: Ms Delci Lau and Ms Karen Kong, who are both teaching English Language and Mathematics, Ms Shi Wen Jie and Mr Leang Shi Yean who are both teaching Chinese Language.

Staff Departures

In addition, we would like to bid our fond farewell to Mrs Chow who is retiring from service on 30 June after serving the school with much dedication for the last 20 years, and Mr Ian Chan who has left the service.

Staff Learning & Development

To further equip our staff with other important work and life skills besides pedagogical skills, they went through two very useful courses in June. The first was the First Aid /Cardiopulmonary Resuscitation (CPR), Automated External Defibrillator (AED) and Evacuation Awareness Training. The second was a workshop on 'Transactional Analysis' (TA) conducted by renowned psychotherapist Dr Jessica Leong which gave the staff and I insights on the use of communication strategies for effective communication and relationships, the application of TA in school context and to manage stressful and challenging situations.

***Every Parent, a Supportive Partner**

Strategic Thrust 3 – Building Effective and Sustained Partnerships





启发小学

QIFA PRIMARY SCHOOL

50, WEST COAST AVENUE. SINGAPORE 128104

Home-School Partnership

Thank you for taking the time to come for the Meet-the-Parents Session in May 2016 to find out more about how to better support your child/ward following his/her SA1 results, and to address issues raised by the Form/Co-Form/Subject Teachers. In response to feedback received and because we recognise the value of engaging with and partnering our parents, this year the school has decided to organise an additional Meet-the-Parents Session in the second semester on 14 November 2016.

As a community, I hope that we will continue to work closely to inculcate the right values in the children. Do encourage your child/ward to complete their daily assignments to the best of their ability so that they continue to grow in '*self-discipline*' and demonstrate '*pride in work*'. Instilling the right habits of diligence and punctuality will stand them in good stead for the future.

I seek your support in this area, to help them to get to school on time and attend school regularly. Please write in to me to seek permission should you need to take your child out of school for more than two days (excluding weekends) during term time for non-medical reasons. Do note that the school does not encourage parents to take their child/ren for a holiday during a school term.

Safety and Security Matters

The safety of our children remains a top priority in the school. Thank you for displaying your Visitor Pass prominently and reporting to the General Office when entering the school during the non-dismissal times. These have helped our security staff to manage trespassing, and ensure the safety and security of our children in the school. We would like to remind you to continue to wear your Visitor Pass without demand whenever you are in school.

Parents, do be reminded that you are not to engage directly with other pupil/s especially with regards to discipline matters. Should there be any matter of concern, please bring this to the attention of the Form and/or Co-Form Teacher for follow up and resolution.

School Bus Rules & Expected Behaviours

If your child/ward is using the school bus service, we would appreciate that you partner the school to remind him/her of the following:

1. Seat belts are to be worn at all times.
2. Standing is strictly prohibited. All passengers are to remain seated at all times.



启发小学

QIFA PRIMARY SCHOOL

50, WEST COAST AVENUE. SINGAPORE 128104

3. The school bus should be kept clean; there should be no eating or littering in the school bus.
4. Use of inappropriate language towards the bus attendant, driver and other children on the school bus will not be condoned.

The school has been working with a handful of children who have displayed inappropriate behaviours on the school bus. We have alerted some parents in certain instances of repeated or serious misbehaviours. Do note that the bus vendor is at liberty to stop providing bus service for an errant child who has been warned repeatedly but fails to adhere to the bus rules above.

***Every School, a Good School**

Strategic Thrust 4 – Creating Quality Systems

2016 Primary 1 Registration

2016 Primary One Registration (for admission to Primary One in 2017) begins this week, and I am pleased to announce that we have already filled three out of the seven classes under Phase 1 Sibling Priority. We expect more places to be filled under Phases 2A and B by children of staff and 40-hours Parent Volunteers Scheme.

Construction of Sheltered Linkway and Waiting Area

As part of our ongoing efforts towards improving the physical tone of the environment and enhancing school safety and security, we have finally secured the go-ahead by MOE to build an extended waiting area, and sheltered linkway at the side gate to the main school building. Construction work started during the June holiday however it will take some time for the whole project to be completed. In the meantime, we seek your kind understanding about the inconvenience caused.

Conduct of Temperature Taking Exercise

As part of our measures to maintain the school's preparedness to ensure that all pupils are familiar with temperature-taking in order to provide a healthy and safe environment for all in the school, there will be a temperature-taking exercise conducted on **Thursday, 30 June 2016** by the school.

We will be conducting a pre-exercise check on Oral Digital Thermometers (ODTs) on **Tuesday, 28 June 2016**. You have been informed via the SNAC platform yesterday. We would like to seek your assistance in ensuring that your child/ward brings his/her personal ODT which is in good working condition.



启发小学

QIFA PRIMARY SCHOOL

50, WEST COAST AVENUE. SINGAPORE 128104

Some Important Dates to take note of

S/N	Day/Date	School Activity/Holiday	Remarks
1	Monday, 4 July 2016	Youth Day (in-lieu)	No school for all pupils
2	Wednesday, 6 July 2016	Hari Raya Puasa Holiday	No school for all pupils
3	Monday, 8 August 2016	National Day School Celebrations	School ends at 10.30am for all pupils
4	Tuesday, 9 August 2016	National Day Holiday	No school for all pupils
5	Wednesday, 10 August 2016	National Day (in-lieu)	No school for all pupils
6	Thursday, 18 August 2016	PSLE Oral Examinations Day 1	No school for P1-5 pupils only
7	Friday, 19 August 2016	PSLE Oral Examinations Day 2	No school for P1-5 pupils only
8	Friday, 2 September 2016	Teachers' Day School Holiday	No school for all pupils
9	Monday, 12 September 2016	Hari Raya Haji Holiday	No school for all pupils
10	Friday, 16 September 2016	PSLE Listening Comprehension Examinations	No school for P1-5 pupils only
		Mid-Autumn Festival School Celebrations (evening)	
11	Thursday, 29 September to Wednesday, 5 October 2016	PSLE Written Examinations	School for P1 – 5 from 12.30 to 6 p.m.
12	Friday, 7 October 2016	Children's Day Holiday	No school for all pupils
13	Monday, 17 October to Thursday, 20 October 2016	PSLE Marking Exercise	No school for all pupils
14	Monday, 31 October 2016	Deepavali (in-lieu)	No school for all pupils
15	Wednesday, 9 November 2016	School Administration Day	No school for all pupils
16	Monday, 14 November 2016	Meet-the-Parents Session	No school for all pupils
17	Friday, 18 November 2016	Honours Day	No school for P1 – 4 pupils except for those involved



启发小学

QIFA PRIMARY SCHOOL

50, WEST COAST AVENUE. SINGAPORE 128104

In Closing

On behalf of my staff, I would like to wish everyone good health and a fruitful term ahead.

Yours sincerely

May Wong-Tan

Principal, Qifa