



启发小学

QIFA PRIMARY SCHOOL

50, WEST COAST AVENUE. SINGAPORE 128104

Principal's Letter – Term 1, January 2014

Dear Parent/Guardian

Welcome

Today marks the start of a new academic year, and it was great to see the pupils again and welcome them back to school. A warm greeting to the parents of our Primary One pupils and all those who have just joined us; you are now part of our Qifa family. We hope that 2014 will see each child in Qifa blossom into an individual of sound character, with a caring heart and curiosity for learning. To achieve this, my teachers and I would like to invite all parents to partner us in the education of your child especially in the area of character development.

***Every Student, an Engaged Learner**

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

2013 Primary School Leaving Examinations (PSLE) Results

Our 2013 Primary Six pupils lived out the school motto: '*Strive to Excel*' in the PSLE as they achieved a historical highest PSLE aggregate, and the number of our pupils who made it to the Express stream (without Express/Normal Academic) improved by a significant 12.2% from the previous year. We also made highly commendable improvements in our quality results (A* and A) for English, Mathematics and Science, with Mathematics and Science surpassing the national mean. I would like to give credit to our teachers, particularly our Primary Six teachers, who have contributed greatly to the pupils' academic success. Without their dedication and hard work, Qifa would not have been able to achieve such encouraging results.

Our Aesthetics Programme

As Qifa continues to strive for academic excellence, the school is also committed to providing a holistic education for our charges such as in the area of aesthetics. I would like to highlight our school's progressive 6-year aesthetics curriculum and fringe programmes which include visual arts and music.



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OUR AESTHETICS CURRICULUM PROGRAMMES

Visual Arts

LEVEL	Enrichment	Media and Techniques
P1	iPad – Digital Art (Terms 3 & 4)	Colour Pencils / Toning
P2		Oil Pastels & Water Colours / Wax Resist
P3	Chinese Painting (Term 2)	Poster Colour / Printing
P4	Batik Painting (Term 3)	Water Colour / Ink & Wash
P5	Ceramics (Terms 1 – 4)	Ceramic Paint / Dabbing
P6	Animation Art (Term 4; Post-PSLE)	2B-6B Pencil & Charcoal / Toning

Music

LEVEL	Enrichment	Core Skills / Instruments
P1	Stomp!	Body Percussion, simple note-reading and singing (in unison, 2-part canons and using solfège names and handsigns)
P2	Ukelele	
P3	Korean Pop Dance	
P4	Exposure to External Performances (e.g. Singapore Symphony Orchestra, Singapore Chinese Orchestra, etc)	Recorder 1 (Basic)
P5		Recorder 2 (Extended)
P6		Digital Music / Keyboarding



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Fringe Programmes

Term 1	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• SYF Performing Arts Competition
Term 2	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Music Appreciation (Pre-Assembly)• Visual Art Talent Development Programme (Part 1)• Musical Talent Showcase• Clementi Primary Aesthetics Camp (June Holiday)• National Library Visual Art Display (Part 1)• Viewing of Musical Concerts
Term 3	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Visual Art Appreciation (Pre-Assembly)• Visual Art Talent Development Programme (Part 2)• Musical Talent Showcase• National Library Visual Art Display (Part 2)• Aesthetics Week
Term 4	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Japanese School Visual Art Exchange• Visual Art Talent Development Programme (Part 3)• Musical Talent Showcase• National Library Visual Art Display (Part 3)

***Every Teacher, a Caring Educator**

Strategic Thrust 2 – Providing Care and Support for Staff

New Staff

The school would like to extend a warm welcome to the following new staff who have joined the Qifa family: Ms Moh Choy Ying, Level Head of Science from Jurong Primary School; Ms Lee Wee Nee from Gongshang Primary School who will be teaching the English language and Science; Ms Audrey Chew from Boon Lay Garden Primary School who will be teaching Art, English and Mathematics, and Mdm Janet Seah who returned from leave, and she will be teaching the Chinese language.

In addition, the school has newly engaged an Information and Communications Technology (ICT) executive, Ms Rahimah, to better support our drive to integrate technology in teaching and learning, as well as to equip our pupils with ICT skills for the 21st century workforce.



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***Every Parent, a Supportive Partner**

Strategic Thrust 3 – Building Effective and Sustained Partnerships

Networking Sessions

As mentioned earlier, my team and I would like to forge closer partnerships with you. Therefore, I would like to encourage you to meet us at the upcoming Networking Sessions this term. I will be sharing with you more details of the school's strategic directions and programmes for 2014. During these sessions, you will also have the opportunity to meet with your child/ward's Form &/or Co-Form Teachers. More details on the above will be sent in a letter to you at a closer date.

Primary 5 & 6

1830-2030 Friday, 24 January 2014

Primary 3 & 4

1830-2030 Friday, 7 February 2014

Primary 1 & 2

0900-1100 Saturday, 15 February 2014

In Partnership with you

Throughout the year, if you have any pressing concerns or constructive feedback for us, please feel free to approach your child/ward's Form, Co-Form and Subject Teachers, or email us at the following school email address: qifa_ps@moe.edu.sg. You can call the General office at 6778 3085 to leave a message for the teacher to contact you or send an email to the teacher concerned. The email addresses of our staff are available on the school website at: <http://www.qifapri.moe.edu.sg/about-us/school-teaching-staff>.



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***Every School, a Good School**

Strategic Thrust 4 – Providing Quality Management

Improvements to School Facilities

The Primary Education Review and Implementation (PERI) upgrading works are nearing completion, and the school expects a handover of our new indoor sports hall, sheltered basketball court, dance studio, band studio and a broadcast studio by the end of January this year. We received our new performing arts studio in the school library last year which we will put to good use this year for various pupil performances. To encourage more pupils to visit the school library and promote avid reading, we have spruced up and bought new child-friendly furniture for the school library.

New tables and chairs have also been ordered for the pupils' classrooms which were given a fresh coat of paint during the holidays. In addition, we have completed renovations in our Arts Studio to better support the delivery of our visual arts programmes, and created a hangout named ***Playspace @QIFA*** which will be opened shortly for the children to use during recess to play some board games and table soccer.

New staff areas such as a spacious Staff Lounge, Staff Resource Room and Nursing Room for new mothers have been recently added which demonstrates the school's commitment to realising our second school strategic thrust of ***'Providing Care and Support for Staff'***. We are confident that the improved physical environment will help us to enhance teaching and learning in Qifa.

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 **Tuesday, 7 January 2014** by the school. Each Primary One pupil will be issued a free thermometer during the temperature-taking exercise.

We will be conducting a pre-exercise check on Oral Digital Thermometers (ODTs) on **Monday, 6 January 2014**. We would like to seek your assistance in ensuring that your child/ward brings his/her personal ODT on the two days mentioned.



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Finally, on behalf of my school staff, I would like to wish everyone a happy new year. We look forward to a productive year ahead for your child/ward at Qifa Primary School, and thank you for your continual support.

Yours sincerely

May Wong-Tan (Mrs)
Principal