



# 启发小学

## QIFA PRIMARY SCHOOL

50, WEST COAST AVENUE. SINGAPORE 128104

### Principal's Letter – Term 1, January 2015

Dear Parent/Guardian

#### **Welcome Back** 😊

On behalf of the staff at Qifa Primary School, I would like to wish you and your family a joyous 2015. Each new year comes bearing its own gifts, and at Qifa we are excited to untie the ribbons together with the children to welcome what is in store for us.

I would like to extend 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 2015 will be a fulfilling year for every child as we seek to nurture every child into an individual of sound character, with a caring heart and joy for learning.

#### **\*Every Student, an Engaged Learner**

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

##### ***2014 Primary School Leaving Examinations (PSLE) Results***

Last year, our Primary Six pupils made further improvements from the stellar performance of the 2013 cohort in terms of PSLE aggregate, the number of pupils who made it to the Express Stream (without Express/Normal Academic) and eligibility for secondary education. We have also achieved highly commendable quality results (A\* and A) for Higher Mother Tongue, Mother Tongue, Mathematics and Science, with Mathematics and Science surpassing the national mean.

The school is heartened by the PSLE performance of our 2014 Primary Six pupils who lived out the school motto: '*Strive to Excel*'. I would also like to give due credit to our teachers, particularly our Primary Six teachers, who have played an instrumental role in contributing to the pupils' academic success. Without their deep sense of commitment and hard work, Qifa would not have been able to achieve such positive results.

#### **\*Every Teacher, a Caring Educator**

##### ***Strategic Thrust 2 – Providing Care and Support for Staff***



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### ***New Appointments and New Staff***

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

Mdm Selene Tan, School Staff Developer who was a senior curriculum specialist in English Language from MOE;

Mrs Jarina Peer, Senior Teacher for Science who has taught previously in schools with the Gifted Education Programme (GEP);

Ms Sherlyn Leong, Subject Head/National Education & Social Studies from West Spring Primary School who is teaching English Language and Mathematics;

Mrs Lisa Chua, Subject Head/Character and Citizenship Education & Discipline from Da Qiao Primary School who is teaching English Language and Mathematics;

Mr Ken Teo, Subject Head/Physical Education & Co-curricular Activities (PE/CCA) from Teck Whye Primary School who is teaching Physical Education;

Mr Brendan Lim, Learning Support Coordinator for English Language from Stamford Primary School;

Mdm Evelyn Gan and Mr Su Yizhong from Hong Kah Primary School who are teaching English Language, and Mathematics and Science respectively;

New teacher graduates: Ms Silvia Lim who is teaching Art, Mdm Ruzi who is teaching English Language and Mathematics, and Ms Han Mengshi who is teaching Chinese Language.

In addition, we would like to bid our fond farewell to Mr Pang Hwee Joo, HOD PE/CCA who retired from service in December last year. He is succeeded by his Subject Head of PE/CCA, Ms Kwok Hui Min.

### **\*Every Parent, a Supportive Partner**

***Strategic Thrust 3 – Building Effective and Sustained Partnerships***



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### ***In Partnership with you***

Beyond good grades and paper qualifications, a child needs to develop steadfastness and strength of character to navigate the future work environment which is increasingly uncertain and complex. As a parent, you are the key navigator of your child's growth. The development of a child's character begins at home with parents but schools play a critical role to reinforce the parents' efforts. Your child will benefit the most when we work together to bring out the best in your child. Having a close partnership with us will help you to better understand your child's learning experience in school so that you can provide him or her with the necessary family care, support and reinforcement at home.

You can support your child in various ways. I would like to share with you a useful article titled 'Create a good environment for studying at home' by Professor Markman:

<http://www.edutopia.org/blog/good-environment-home-study-art-markman>

I would also like to encourage you to join the school's Parent Support Group (PSG) so that you can get involved in the school's activities, and get to know other parents and your child's friends in school. You can sign up for activities that suit your schedule and you do not necessarily have to devote long hours in the school's PSG to be fully engaged in your child's education. We would like to partner you to develop your child to be the best that he or she can be.

### ***Networking Sessions***

*"At the end of the day, the most overwhelming key to a child's success is the positive involvement of parents"* (Jane D. Hull).

As mentioned above, my team and I would like to forge closer partnerships with parents in the education of your child/ren. I would like to encourage you to join us for the upcoming Networking Sessions this term. I will be sharing with you more details of the school's strategic directions and programmes for 2015. During these sessions, you will also have the opportunity to engage with your child/ward's Form &/or Co-Form Teachers. More details will be sent in a letter to you at a closer date.

#### ***Primary 1 to 3***

0900-1100    Saturday, 24 January 2015

#### ***Primary 4 to 6***

1830-2030    Friday, 30 January 2015



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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](mailto: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>.

### **\*Every School, a Good School**

#### ***Strategic Thrust 4 – Creating Quality Systems***

##### ***Single Session***

I would like to thank all parents for your kind understanding and support as we transit to single session. We have received feedback on the services provided by our bus operator and we would like to assure you that we are monitoring the situation closely, and have met and engaged the bus operator on feedback received.

We observed that some children are dropped off by their parents in school as early as 6.40 a.m. Do note that the pupils only need to report to the school hall by 7.40 a.m. We have adjusted our reporting time from 7.15 a.m. to 7.40 a.m. this year so that the children can have longer hours of sleep before the start of school.

##### ***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 **Wednesday, 7 January 2015** by the school. Each Primary One pupil will be issued a free thermometer during the temperature-taking exercise. We would like to seek your assistance in ensuring that your child/ward brings his/her personal ODT on that day.

Thank you.

Yours sincerely

May Wong-Tan (Mrs)  
Principal