

## "Dragon Tales"



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*"QSI Shekou maintains a rigorous academic program, in a warm and nurturing environment - the preferred school for expatriates in Shenzhen" – QSI parents*

*Please note: Each of our campuses (ECC, Lower Elementary, Main and Fenghua) also publish weekly newsletters with additional information relevant to their operations and schedules.*



### Upcoming Events

- **24 February** – Status Reports sent home (end of 3<sup>rd</sup> Quintile – 23 February)
- **7 – 8 March** – Class Photos (see below)
- **23 – 24 March** – Student, Parent, Teacher Conferences (Students are asked to accompany their parents and be involved in the conferences. More info will be coming)
- **25 March** – No School

### Director's Message: Standardized Testing at QSI Shekou

Dear Parents,

Those of you who have children 8 years old through Secondary 2 (15 years old), you will soon be receiving your child's scores from the MAP (Measure of Academic Progress) testing session last month. As you read through the cover letter and explanation of what the scores mean, please keep in mind a few key points.

1. For many of our students this was their first exposure to a computerized testing environment. Because it was their first time, their scores may not be the most accurate reflection of their capabilities. We will administer the test again in the spring to get a second set of scores with what should be a more accurate reflection.
2. The test was given to all students during the same period of time (testing window) and this is what we call a "snapshot", or one time chance at showing academic achievement. The test scores will most likely not give a "complete" picture of what a child is capable of. Authentic assessments such as writing exercises, projects and presentations are better ways of showing a more complete measure of what a child's knowledge and skill levels are.
3. The MAP tests are normed tests. This means the test is given to thousands of students in the United States in the same age range to get predicted "average" scores for similar aged students. The testing organization that created the test, NWEA, is beginning to gather scores from thousands of students internationally and will start giving normed "average" scores for similar aged students throughout the world.
4. Please keep in mind, if your child is not a native English speaker, his/her performance on the test may not reflect the same level of success on the test as would have been the case had your child taken the test in his/her native language.

The MAP test scores provide another very important purpose for our school. It allows us to measure how well our instructional program prepares students for such tests and where we can improve our overall educational program. Teachers will be studying scores of age level groups in the subjects tested (reading comprehension, mathematics, etc.) to see if there are areas of concern and use the data to imply better instruction. This will be an even more powerful measure of the quality of our academic program following the spring administration of the test.

Respectfully, Mr. Page – Director

## *Flu Season at a Peak!*

Dear Parents:

We have moved into peak flu season with increasing reports of A/H1N1. Currently, Guangdong Province has reported 143 confirmed cases ranging in severity. Despite the recent increase in cases, the overall impact of A/H1N1 is not expected to be as significant as experienced in the 2009-10 flu season.

At QSI, we are taking all precautions to prevent the spread of flu. We are working with the Chinese Department of Health to monitor flu conditions and make decisions to protect the health and welfare of students and staff.

We ask **for your assistance**:

- Do not send your child to school if they are sick. Any child who is determined to be ill while at school **will be sent home**.
- Keep your sick child home for at least 24 hours **after** they no longer have a fever.
- Know the signs and **symptoms of the flu**. Symptoms of the flu include fever (over 37.5 C), cough, sore throat, a runny or stuffy nose, body aches, headache and feeling very tired. Some people may also vomit or have diarrhea.
- Teach your child to **wash their hands** frequently with soap and water or an alcohol-based hand rub.
- Teach your child to **not share personal items** like drinks, food or utensils.
- Teach your child to use tissue to **cover mouth or nose** when coughing or sneezing.
- Seek medical attention, if you have any questions or concerns regarding your child's health.

*Beginning Monday, 21 February 2011, we will be taking temperatures of all individuals entering our school buildings using electronic temperature devices. If we get a confirmed elevated temperature reading we will ask the person to go home. We may ask for a doctor's note stating that the patient is free of symptoms in order to return to school.*

We will keep you informed of any updates or changes as they pertain to QSI and the student body.

Thank you – QSI Shekou Administration

## **Annual Art Festival – Postponed**

**The QSI Art Festival, originally scheduled for this month (February) has been postponed until May, just before the Strawberry Tea.**

**May is Art Month and we wanted to have the festival coincide.**

**MORE ABOUT THE ART FESTIVAL IN UPCOMING NEWSLETTERS!**

### **Coffee with Mr. Page**

**WEDNESDAY, 3 March 2011**

**8:30 – 9:30 am, 5th flr PSG Room**

**Topic: QSI Summer School Program**

## **PSG Meeting**

...to follow immediately after Coffee with Mr. Page  
Please plan to attend both meetings!

**PSG President: Peggy Morrison** [peggymorrison123@gmail.com](mailto:peggymorrison123@gmail.com)

## **Class Photos**

**Monday, March 7 – 9 a.m. – 12 noon – Ages 5 – 13**  
**Tuesday, March 8 – 10 a.m. – 1:00 p.m. – Ages 2 - 4**  
**Tuesday, March 8 – 12 noon – 3 p.m. – Ages 14 - 18**

## **Third Term Tuition Fees due to Accounting Office**

It is time to start thinking about paying third term fees if you haven't done so already.

The due date is 24 March 2011!

Please make sure to contact the Accounting Office (2667-6031) or [maggie-lagura@shk.qsi.org](mailto:maggie-lagura@shk.qsi.org)  
if you have any questions or concerns regarding your invoice.

We appreciate your attention to this important matter.

## ***First Annual QSI Science Fair coming this spring!***

Middle School and Secondary students are currently being instructed on the requirements.

Projects will be judged and displayed in April.

**STAY TUNED FOR DETAILS** from your child's science teachers.

### **PARENTS!!!**

Please note that this newsletter is published weekly on our website (<http://shekou.qsischool.org/index.htm>) by clicking on "Friday Letter" when you see the home page, or you can view it each Friday afternoon when it is emailed to you. (DO YOU HAVE YOUR CURRENT EMAIL ADDRESS REGISTERED WITH US? CALL STELLA LEE AT 26029896 IF YOU NEED TO UPDATE IT OR ANY NEW FAMILY INFORMATION.)  
Going Green!!

## **Affiliations**



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