

“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. You can now access them easily on our website!



Upcoming Events

- **9 – 27 May** – Spring MAP testing (watch for more information on this from your child’s campus leadership team.)
- **12-14 May** SDRC MS Basketball tournament
- **19 and 20 May** – Secondary Drama Production (see below)
- **21 May** – Track and Field Meet – QSI vs SIS – Fengha Campus
- **25 May** – QSI Sports Celebration (look for more to come)
- **27 May** - Narrative Reports Home for ages 5 – 13; Secondary on last day of school
- **28 May** – Bring and Buy Yard Sale – 2 – 5 p.m. – Main Campus – look for the flyers!
- **31 May** – Elementary/Middle School Spring Music Concerts (more coming soon)
- **3 June** – Secondary 4 Graduation
- **6 – 7 June** – Main Campus Drama Production
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Director’s Message: Standardized Tests Help QSI Make Informed Decisions (But we don’t stop there!)

Dear Parents,

Each year at QSI we use a variety of standardized tests to help us make decisions about our instructional program and the academic achievements and progress of our students.

You might be wondering, just what is a standardized test? A standardized test is a test that is designed to measure how a student of a certain age might be expected to perform in an academic area. Before it is offered to the public it is designed by experts and then administered to thousands of students of similar age to get average performance levels and careful notice is given to how students in different types of categories (ethnicity, socio-economic levels, non-English speakers, for example) perform. After many “practice test runs” of the test, the experts then offer them to public and private school organizations. The experts continue to gather data on how well the test measures what is expected – the more data gathered, the better. More adjustments can be made to a test over time and the test becomes a more “reliable” measure of true student performance. This establishes a test as being “standardized”. In the past, most of these tests have been designed to measure student performance in a particular country (The UK, Canada, or the United States, for example).

Recently, however, over the past decade or so, these tests have also been “standardized” using practice test runs on international students from around the globe.

In all QSI schools, the most widely used standardized test is the Measure of Academic Progress (MAP) test which is designed to measure student achievement and ability in mathematics and reading of English. The experts who wrote the MAP test have been gathering data from international schools for several years and they are improving the test each year to help schools international school get the most accurate data they can from the very diverse populations they serve. QSI Shekou began using the MAP test formally this year for the first time. (It was used as a pilot, or practice, last year.) This month we are administering the spring version of the test which serves as a “post” test to the fall “pre” test version.

Another standardized test we use earlier in the school year is the Education Research Bureau (ERB) writing test. This a test used in North America to test the English writing abilities of students. Like the MAP test, the ERB writing test

continues to be more finely “standardized” throughout the world. The results of the students tested at QSI will soon be shared with the staff and sent home to parents. Spring MAP test results will be coming home soon, as well.

QSI Shekou uses the results of the MAP and ERB tests to help teachers and administrators make informed decisions on how to improve the overall instructional program. Parents can compare how their child’s scores compares to others of similar age. However, these standardized tests are just one way to measure academic progress and we ask parents not to depend only on the standardized tests. Good schools and teachers use a wide range of assessment techniques to help measure a student’s true abilities and these are often the most authentic and accurate methods. At QSI we use observation, oral presentation, project based learning and teacher designed assessment tools along with the standardized test to help us get the best possible “profile” of a student’s achievements and abilities.

I hope this helps you more clearly understand we use assessment to help us create the right learning environment for your child.

Respectfully, Mr. Page

PARENTS, Don't Forget!

Re-enrollment can now conveniently be completed online. To re-enroll, please visit <http://qsishekou.org/register> . We encourage all parents, those returning to QSI next year and our new families to use this new ecologically clean method of registration.

QSI Shekou Funstitute is Coming Your Way! **A Valuable Summer School Opportunity for QSI Students!** **14 June – 19 July 2011** **Morning Program 9:00 a.m. – 12:00 noon** **Afternoon Program 12:30 p.m. – 3:30 p.m.**

This year, the Funstitute will focus on learning exploration and academic development in the mornings with opportunities for students to work on QSI curricula in a variety of subject areas as well as Intensive English and Chinese Language. There will fun field trips included.

The afternoon program will be a sports program that will teach team building and individual skills in Volleyball, Soccer and Basketball.

Be on the lookout for the colorful flyers/registration forms now available in your school’s office or on line...or...Go to the school website (<http://shekou.qsischool.org/index.htm>) and catch the flying banner. Click on it and you’ll get a copy of the form.

QSI Secondary Drama Presents, the 2005 Tony Award Winning Musical **The 25th Annual Putnam County Spelling Bee**

May 19th and 20th, 7:00 pm
Fenghua Theater (connected to the high school campus)
35 RMB

A group of 12 year old misfits participate in a county Spelling Bee in which only one will be crowned the champion and go onto the famous National Spelling Bee. Music, dancing, and definitely comedy, ensue as character vie for first place. The show includes some elements of

improvisation and audience participation as some spellers are chosen from our very own teaching staff (ahead of time of course) to become a part of The 25th Annual Putnam County Spelling Bee - One of the funniest musicals to hit Broadway in years and winner of the prestigious 2005 Tony Award for musicals. This is sure to be a great drama production for the whole family.

Oliver's Bring and Buy Yard Sale

**(QSI's Annual Yard Sale)
Coming - Saturday, 28 May 2011**

Come and sell your unwanted items OR pick up a bargain at ...

Saturday 28th May 2-5pm

QSI Main Campus GYM (next to Park'n Shop)

Table rental: RMB 100 each

A donation may be given on entry.

Money raised/donated will go to the Lady Pao's Children's Cancer Centre (CCC) at the Prince of Wales Hospital (Hong Kong) in the name of Oliver Rodrigues-Hesketh. If you feel that you do not have enough to sell to warrant renting a table, why not share a table with a friend? Alternatively, we can sell your things for you if you're happy to donate your sale proceeds to the CCC!

Sellers retain ALL PROCEEDS from their sales or they may wish to donate them.

Please contact Aimee Badger at 159 1411 9734 or email: oliversyardsale@gmail.com to secure your table or to answer any questions.

8th Sino-Chinese and Foreign Children Drawing Competition Tuesday June 1, 2010

The QSI Art Department has been invited to a drawing competition on WEDNESDAY June 1, 2011. Open to only 40 students, this competition will be held at Shekou Garden City from 2:30 p.m. until 5:30 p.m. Four (4) students per age level, ranging from 6-years-old through 14-years-old have been asked to participate with a theme of "We love Universiade". With only a small number of students accepted for participation, QSI staff will select students from each class to go to this competition based upon their art ability and skill, and also their cooperative attitudes in school. We wish our 40 students good luck with this drawing competition!

Coffee with Mr. Page

**THURSDAY, 26 May 2011
9:00 am, 5th floor PSG Room
This will be our last coffee of the year.**

Topic – Ideas and Plans for Next Year

PSG Meeting

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

PSG President: Peggy Morrison peggymorrison123@gmail.com

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!!

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