

Eye of the Dragon



QSI International School of Shekou

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Winter Music Festival

This Year's winter concert for the main campus was held in a music festival style. With two stages and various musical mediums, parents could enjoy their child's performance as well as other short pieces by different groups.

The festival was the brain child of QSI music teachers Mr. Haigh and Mr. Souder. Their vision was to offer students more opportunity to both listen to music and perform for their parents. They spent countless hours beyond their standard practices, exploring how we could pull off such an event at our main campus. These two made one decision which will benefit our students for years—they helped us to buy a portable stage. In order to make the concert more accessible, we had a professional stage custom built for our performances. The 90 square meters of stage can be arranged in any shape that we design so expect to see more plays, concerts, and dramas in different venues over the next year.

Mr. Souder would love to have a video tape of the event, so if you taped your child performing then please contact him directly at grant-souder@shk.qsi.org



Status Reports and Narratives

Next Friday, December 16, students in the main campus will bring home their status reports and narratives for the second quintile. Please pay special attention to these documents since our teachers have taken the time to write an individualized update on each student in each subject in school. If you have any questions about a comment, please feel free to contact the teacher directly.

Status reports are given to parents five times a year and serve as official communication on how a child is achieving at QSI. In addition, parents may request at any time to have a status report printed so as to see how a child is performing.



Ask the Director of Instruction

Question: My child has a "D" in a class. What does that mean? Is that the same as an "F"?

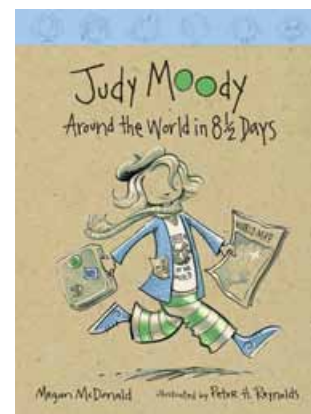
Answer: QSI is a mastery learning school and does not issue failing grades. In traditional schools, students can "fail" and then move on, whereas here students may not move on to the next unit of study until the previous tasks are mastered. The "D" grade therefore is not a failing grade, but serves as additional communication to students and parents that a child is "deficient in effort."

Students receive a D when they have the ability to master the material, but refuse to take the time to do so. Conversely, students who do not have the ability or just need more time will never receive a D.



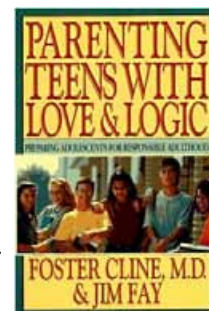
Book of the Week

Judy Moody: Around the World in 8 1/2 Days. Judy is back in her 7th book! In this edition, she has a huge geography project to finish while at the same time juggling her old friends with the new girl in school. Will she finish in time? Will the new girl be a friend or nemesis? Read and find out how Judy will deal with life in the 4th grade.



Parenting Book Study

Parents, ever have one of those days (or weeks) with your pre-teen/teen ager? We have some help available for you. Join two of our QSI school counselors Mrs. Kenealy and Mr. Anfinson as we read and discuss the book **Parenting Teens with Love and Logic**. The Love and Logic program is a well respected and "...provides simple and practical techniques to help parents have less stress and more fun while raising responsible kids". We will meet for seven weeks on Thursdays, starting February 2, 2012. If you have questions or are interested in joining us please RSVP with Mr. Anfinson at eric-anfinson@shk.qsi.org.



QSI Middle School Sports and Activities For Winter Term

| Activity | Practices | Date and Location of Tournament/performance |
|---------------------------------|---|--|
| Chess | Continuing on Wednesdays Mr. Stoltman's class New players always welcome! | Here vs. SIS and Hong Kong March 9th |
| Volleyball | Boys: Mon/Wed/Fri Girls: Mon/Wed/Thurs Continuing Through March 3 | Tournaments in Guangzhou and SDRC Here at QSI March 3 |
| Basketball | Starts March 5 Mon/Wed/Thurs/Fri @ Secondary Gym | Tournaments in Guangzhou and QSI SDRC in Hong Kong May 12 |
| Drama | Continuing on Mon/Wed/Thurs/Fri | Performance at Main Campus February 10 |
| Strings | Advanced Strings Mondays Strings Wednesdays Mr. Souder's class Cellos and Violas needed! | Spring Concert May 29 |
| Band | Advanced Band Mondays Mr. Haigh's class Band Wednesdays | Spring Concert May 29 |
| Drama Aladdin | Mon/Wed/Thurs/Fri February 13 | Performance venue TBD June 6 |
| ACAMIS Knowledge Bowl | Tuesdays at lunch in Mr. Mims' Classroom | SIS March 9 th |
| ACAMIS MUN Model United Nations | Wednesdays at Lunch (later after school as well) Mr. Mims' Classroom | Xiamen March 31 |
| Programming Club | Thursdays In Computer Lab | None Through May |
| Art Club | Mondays and Wednesdays In Art Room | None Through May |
| Rock Band | Thursdays Mr. Talrleton's class | None Through May |

Keeping Healthy

Even in China, the winter months bring their fair share of colds, flu viruses, and fevers. By adhering to a few simple rules, many of these can be stopped before getting out of hand.

1. Wash your hands—This rule applies to parents as well as kids. In addition to before eating or after the bathroom, be sure to wash your hands as soon as you walk in the front door.
2. Get enough sleep—children and adults are much more susceptible to disease when they are not properly rested.
3. Eat nutritious foods during the cold months. Yes, the holidays often bring with them all of the delicacies and sweets that we can handle, but during this time of the year, children must eat healthy to stay healthy.



Concern for Others



December is concern for others month at QSI. One of the more common questions that teachers get is to how a student might achieve get an E in a certain area. Our teachers use a rubric to help them determine E, S, and N level behavior and actively teach how students might demonstrate proper conduct that leads to the better marks. Below is a part of our E guidelines for Concern for Others:

E level

- Actively includes others in activities.
- Tutors/offers assistance to other students and adults.
- Promotes unity by encouraging others in all aspects of school and community life.
- Approaches new students, making them feel welcome at QSI.
- Voluntarily shares.