

## QSI Shekou Lower Elementary Dragon Prints

### Welcome To QSI Lower Elementary!

Issue 1: August 26, 2011

Dear Parents and families,

I want to welcome you to a new school year at QSI Lower Elementary! We have been working hard to prepare our classrooms and hallways to welcome your children, and I expect we will have another happy and successful year together.

We have many new changes this year at QSI. We welcome ten new teachers to our building. We hope you get to know them as the year progresses, and we are happy to have such a talented and experienced group of teachers join us!

This new year also brings a new school lunch program. Markus Maher of Aulon Ltd will provide a high quality, nutritious school lunch. If you would like to view the menu, please visit the [website at www2.aulon.cn](http://www2.aulon.cn). You can click on the QSI tab to see the LE lunches for the month of September.

You will be receiving a letter in the first few days of school from your child's teacher introducing themselves and explaining some classroom procedures. We ask that you send your children with a healthy snack each school day, as well as a water bottle. We encourage students to drink plenty of water throughout the day, especially during the warm season!

Thank you for helping us to get the school year off to a great start. I'm looking forward to being a part of the many of the successes your child will experience this year. Please feel free to visit the school or contact the office at the numbers below.

Best Regards,  
Cliff Geis-Poage  
Director of Instruction

The first session of After School Activities begins September 5th, 2011.

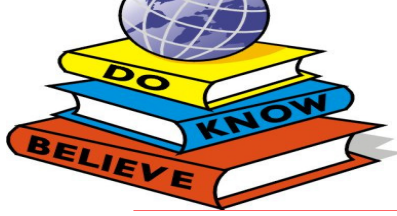
Until then, school ends for all students at 3:12pm.

We apologize for any difficulty this may cause.

### Upcoming Dates:

- ☺ First day of school—Thursday August 25
- ☺ After school activities—Session 1 begins Sept 5, 2011
- ☺ Lower Elementary Open House September 7, 6:00-7:00pm
- ☺ Autumn Festival Holiday — NO SCHOOL Sept. 12





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### Join Our Parent Support Group!

Are you looking for ways to volunteer at your child's school? Connect with other parents? Share your passion and expertise?

Consider joining our PSG! This group meets every two weeks to support QSI and improve communication between the school and the home.

Contact Peggy Morrison for more information at:

[peggymorrison123@gmail.com](mailto:peggymorrison123@gmail.com)



### The Role of Homework in QSI Lower Elementary

Homework is a frequent topic of conversation in schools. How much, how little, what's due...sometimes it's hard to know when the school day ends and a child's home life begins! In the Lower Elementary, homework is an opportunity for parents and teachers to communicate with each other, for children to begin building positive academic routines, and to reinforce some skills learned during the day.

A good rule of thumb for the amount of time a child should spend on schoolwork at home is the "10-minute Rule" recommended by the American National Education Association. The 10 Minute Rule suggests 10 minutes of homework for each grade the child has completed. This would mean a 6 year-old child would expect to have 10 minutes of work on most nights, while an 8 year-old would have 30 minutes on most nights.

Some specific guidelines to help parents with homework are:

#### 5 Year Old Classes

**Time:** Specific homework will not be assigned each day; however, students will bring home a story book daily to share with parents.

- Read with children daily
- Assist children in bringing book back to school daily
- Assist children in constructing positive routines at home

#### 6 to 8 Year Old Classes

**Time:** It is expected that students will have between 10 to 30 minutes of assigned homework related to the program most days. In addition, students should read a book taken home from school daily.

- Talk to teachers when unsure about assigned homework or the time required to complete it
- Provide a quiet work/study area and the necessary materials
- Support completion of tasks
- Provide positive reinforcement and encourage their child to be an independent learner
- Ensure children get adequate sleep-establish a regular bedtime
- Limit the amount of time their child watches television and plays video or computer games