

“Dragon Tales”
The Director's Newsletter



Vol. 12 - NO. 8 – October 14, 2011

"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

- Parent/Teacher Conferences – 19 – 20 October 2011 (see below)
- Teacher Professional Development – 14 and 15 November – **No School for Students**
- Coffee with Mr. Page – 17 November 2011 – 9:30 a.m. – 5th floor PSG Room
- PSG Meeting – 17 November 2011 – right after Coffee with Mr. Page – see below

(All events can be viewed on the QSI Shekou Website: <http://shekou.qsischool.org/index.htm> – click on the Calendar tab)

Director's Message: Update on Transportation Services

Dear Parents,

Last month I reported that we were beginning efforts to upgrade our transportation services and I am happy to announce that we are very close to selecting a new transportation vendor. Hopefully you will see a great improvement in services starting in January.

We began this important process by locating reputable transportation services in Shenzhen and we came up with a long list of registered, government approved transportation companies. We then sent out what is termed a “call for proposals” to approximately 12 of the top rated companies. After doing some research on each of these companies to determine their legitimacy and reputation, we narrowed the list to six companies we were interested in speaking to.



After all six companies were interviewed we narrowed the list to the top three candidates and asked to visit their headquarters and tour their facilities. This week, Mr. Matt Lake, director of QSI Shenzhen in Futian, and I visited the three along with our own transportation manager, Dream Meng and Helen Du, our Administrative Coordinator. Our visits proved quite valuable in our efforts to choose the best overall transportation provider for all of our students. In the next few days Mr. Lake and I will begin the process of selecting the transportation company that will best serve our students

and subsequently start the contract negotiation process in hopes of starting the new service on 9 January 2012.

After some initial concern about whether there are safe, reputable services available in Shenzhen, I can confidently report that we will soon have school transportation services that provide the following high level services:

- Safe, clean, regularly inspected and legally registered vehicles of various sizes that are fully owned by the company
- Well trained, experienced and uniformed drivers who are properly licensed. Employed legally by the company and evaluated on a regular basis for proper driving performance
- A well trained mechanical staff to keep buses running properly and to perform high level vehicle inspections
- An adequate level of accident liability insurance for all passengers and third party insurance on all buses as required by law
- A friendly and cooperative relationship with the transportation company so we can keep services tailored to the needs of our patrons and the school

In the near future I will be reporting to you further progress in our efforts to improve transportation services at QSI Shekou and QSI Shenzhen.

Sincerely, Mr. Page – Director



Parent/Teacher Conferences Scheduling your child's conference

This fall, we will be holding conferences over a two-day period. Following is the schedule for conferences:

- Wednesday, 19 October 2011**, 4:30 – 8:30 p.m. (Students attend a regular day of school)
Thursday, 20 October 2011, 8:30 a.m. – 8:30 p.m. (Students do not attend regular classes, but are encouraged to attend conferences with their parents.)
(Friday, 21 October 2011, NO SCHOOL)

If your child is 2 – 11 years of age, please call 26676031 and choose the campus to schedule the appointment.

Parents of all Middle School (12 and 13 year olds) and Secondary (14 – 18 years of age) may simply show up at the appropriate campus to visit with their child's teachers – no appointment needed – during the times listed above.

Note: On Thursday morning, 20 October 2011, between the times of 8:30 and 10:00 a.m., some teachers may not be available for conferencing as they might be attending their own child's conference. Our office staff will help you schedule a good time for you and your child's teacher. Thank you!

Dear Parents: The School Needs Your Help!

If you haven't updated your email address, cell phone number or permanent address recently, please call or email the school to do so. (8675526676031 or shekou@qsi.org)
We need your family information to be accurate, so don't wait, let us know right away!

Coffee with Mr. Page

This year, the coffee gatherings will again be on the third Thursday of each month (or close to this day if there is a conflict). A major topic will be announced, but much of the gathering will be devoted to open discussion time.

Next Coffee Date: 17 November 2011, 9:30 a.m. – 5th Floor, Main
TOPIC: Spring 2011 - Parent Survey Results



Your PSG!

The Parent Support Group (PSG) strives to stimulate interest in QSI and to provide support for the advancement of the school, its parents and students. We promote a sense of community by offering additional activities, events and volunteer opportunities.

For those of you unfamiliar with the Parent Support Group, all faculty, administration, administrative support staff and parents of QSI students are automatically members.

We have a wonderful group of volunteers who serve as the governing body and liaisons for all PSG groups. We continually welcome new volunteers.



Everyone is welcome to attend PSG meetings. It is a great way to learn about QSI and make friends. These are general meetings where various PSG committees provide updates to the board, present funding requests, and discuss activities of interest. The first PSG meeting of 2011-12 will follow Mr. Page' Coffee on September 15, unless otherwise noted.

We wish you all a wonderful school year.

Our next PSG Meeting is 17 November 2011 right after Coffee with Mr. Page!

Please don't hesitate to contact the PSG if you are interested in volunteering!

PSG President: Peggy Morrison Peggymorrison123@gmail.com

Remember these dates:

Oct. 15	Sports Boosters help at Tournament*	All day, Fenghua
Oct. 22	Sports Boosters help at Tournament*	All day, Fenghua
Oct. 29	Autumn Fair	Main Campus

Autumn Fair

Saturday, October 29th

1:00-4:00 pm

QSI Main Campus

Join us for games, activities and food!

EARLY BIRD DISCOUNT!!!

Prices for punch cards:

10 punches = 20 RMB, 30 RMB at the door

30 punches = 60 RMB, 80 RMB at the door

Entrance fee is free when showing a pre-paid punch card, otherwise 5 RMB at the door

Early Bird order forms available at QSI Reception offices

Games are 1 or 2 punches. Food items are 2 punches and higher.

Additional punch cards will be available at the door: 10 punches = 30 RMB, 30 punches = 80 RMB

Purchases may also be made during Parent Teacher Conferences at Reception Offices!

Please note that this newsletter is published weekly on our website (<http://shekou.qsischool.org/index.htm>) You can access it by clicking on "Newsletter" when you see the home page, or you can view it each weekend when it is emailed to you. We are.....Going Green!!