



QSI

SUCCESS FOR ALL



QSI Shekou Lower Elementary Dragon Prints

Please Join Us for a

Play Day!

Saturday, March 12 11am-1pm

QSI Lower Elementary Playground

Bouncy Castle, open playgrounds, light snacks and fun!

Issue 23: March 11, 2011

Upcoming Dates:

- ☺ Lower Elementary Play Day—
Sat. March 12, 11am-1pm
- ☺ Success Orientation Assembly
Wednesday, March 16 - 8:30am
- ☺ Student Involved Conferences
March 23, 1:00pm—8:30pm
March 24, 8:30am—8:30pm
- ☺ No School for students
March 24-25

Schedule your time for Student-Involved Conferences now! Call the Lower Elementary office at 26029895 to book a conference time Wednesday, March 23 between 1:00pm-8:30pm or Thursday, March 24 from 8:30am-8:30pm.

Gift of Goods off to a Great Start!



Students have graphed, weighed and measured the donated goods as part of their current Mathematics unit!

The Lower Elementary has begun a fundraiser benefiting our partner charity, Captivating International. From March 7 - April 1 we encourage students to bring nonperishable goods to school to donate to two local orphanages that Captivating supports. Similar to the Seeds of Change fundraiser students participated in during November, we hope that supporting other children less fortunate than ourselves helps QSI students connect to the world outside of the schoolhouse walls, and supports our teaching of the Success Orientations.

Suggested donations include personal items such as shampoo or metal chopsticks as well as nonperishable food items like cooking oil and baby formula. Goods will be collected in the basket near the staircase, and your child can chart their donation on the large graph located on the Library windows. Your child will bring home more information in backpacks on March 7. For more information about Captivating International or Project Eden, please visit <http://www.captivating.org/project/details/4>.



Classroom Connections—The Writing Process

Beginning in the 5 year-old class, all QSI students learn the steps that authors and good writers go through when creating a piece of writing. The Writing Process, often shown as a pathway of 5 stages, is emphasized in Language Arts classes through each Essential Unit of study.

Students may draw pictures to describe them, brainstorm ideas in webs or using storyboards. They often meet in small conference groups with teachers to practice writing strategies, work individually or in groups to revise or make changes that improve their writing, or proofread and edit their work for grammar and spelling mistakes. Once the student has a polished piece of writing, they find ways to publish their work, often reading the piece or otherwise displaying it.

You can encourage your child's work with the writing process by helping them keep a blog or journal at home, and asking them questions about their writing—What ideas they find interesting? How do they decide to choose words to describe something? How do they organize their writing to make a story exciting? Next time you're at school, look for the many pieces of published work hanging on walls or coming home.

Understanding the Writing Process

When you look at a book, you do not see the process the writer used to make it. What you see in print might not be much like the first plan for the book. The author might have rewritten many times.

The writing process is often divided into five stages. Most writers go back and forth through these stages. There is no one correct way to write.



The QSI Parent Support Group has organized a group of volunteers to help increase communication between the classroom and home. PSG Class Liaisons are available to

- Notify parents of special school events and activities
- Be available for or find volunteers for class field trips or special activities
- Help organize class parties and celebrations should the class teacher need or want help
- Welcome new families to QSI
- Act as a backup service to the school's Emergency notification process

Please feel free to contact your liaison for further information

5 Year-old liaisons—[Kate O'Donnell](#) and [Michelle Bellerive](#),

6 year-old liaison—[Susie Rodgers](#)

7 year-old liaisons—[Coco Yang](#) and [Cathelijn Van DerWerff](#)

8 year-old liaison- [Karen Yuen](#)



Jessica, hard at work.