

Coming Events

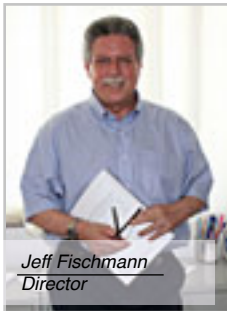
Oct. 1-3 National Day Holiday
 Oct. 10 L.S. Report Card
 Oct 15-16 Parent - Teacher Conf.

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Understanding the QISS Program

The heart of the educational program at QISS is to 'teach for understanding'. It is our purpose to adopt what is considered in our profession to be 'best practices'. That means adopting research based approaches of proven effectiveness that help our students develop understanding. We are striving to provide a program that challenges our students to use higher levels of thinking beyond mere recall of information. It is not 'what students know' that is most important to us. Instead 'what our students can do with what you know' is of greater concern to our faculty.



Jeff Fischmann
Director

We want our students to be able to analyze, synthesize, and reflect upon what they have learned until they understand the subject in greater depth. In order to develop greater understanding

we use what is referred to at QISS as 'Key Assignments'. Key Assignments are 'performance assessments' which require students to demonstrate their understanding through writing, speaking, debating, and giving presentations and dramatic performances in all their classes. We want our students to 'show us what they know'.

The best way for parents to understand what the QISS program is about is to visit the classroom when their children are performing their Key Assignments. Ask your child or children to keep you informed of when they will be giving their speeches, debates and dramatic presentations and then try to attend as many of these performances as you can. When you actually see what is going on at QISS, you will better understand how our program works. ☺

Fix These Sentences!



Peter Burnside
U.S. Principal

All students in grades 10-11 will be taking the PSAT (Preliminary Scholastic Aptitude Test) on October 15. The PSAT tests critical thinking skills in reading, writing, and mathematics. Grade 9 students may take the test for an additional fee of 100RMB. After taking the PSAT, students will receive a score report with advice on how to study for the SAT.

Part of the PSAT requires students to fix sentence errors. In preparation for this section, students are encouraged to tackle sample PSAT questions. Here are four common sentence problems and sample "bad sentences" from the PSAT. Can you fix them?

1. Being Consistent
 - After he broke his arm, he is home for two weeks.

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Strategies to Improve Your Child's Reading Skills



Tim Green
L.S. Principal

As you know, teachers are spending a lot of time this year working to improve your child's reading skills. As parents, can also help your child read more and read better. Listed below are a few strategies that can be implemented at home:

- 1) Praise or reward your child for reading. Gradually increase the amount of time the child has to read to get a reward or get praised. Intangible rewards such as smiles and hugs work best.
- 2) Have the child read aloud with you. Check for problems such as incorrect pronunciation, skipping words, or reading words that are not there.
- 3) If your child is not correctly pronouncing words, he/she may skip over them or read them incorrectly. Have your child work on sounding out words.

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U.S. Principal (continued)

- She likes to ski, plays tennis, and flying hang gliders.
2. Expressing Ideas Logically
- Nathan grew more vegetables than his neighbor's garden.
 - Barking loudly, the tree had the dog's leash wrapped around it.
3. Being Clear and Precise
- In the newspaper they say that few people voted.
 - If your car is parked here while not eating in the restaurant, it will be towed away.
4. Following Conventions
- He sat between you and I at the stadium.
 - Fred having to go home early. 🌐

No Earrings For P.E... Please



Lisa Woo
P.E. Teacher

First of all, we would like to extend a warm welcome to all students this year from the PE department. Our goals this year are threefold :

to raise awareness of the overall importance of health and fitness for student life and for the school community in general, to improve students' skills, knowledge and enjoyment of a variety of games, sports and physical activities, and finally, to motivate students to participate in daily physical activities which promote their overall fitness and health. So many studies have linked the importance of physical activity with academic achievement and social-emotional well-being.

Students are reminded that gum chewing is strictly prohibited in PE classes where swallowing gum unexpectedly while

Chloe, G1: My House



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PAC News

We had a very nice picnic last weekend. The PAC sold soft drinks, ice-lolly's and coffee and we made a small profit out from it. For the sales of the peanuts/garlic, indirect supporting LiYingYing and her family, we can gladly announce a profit of 770 RMB.

The next meeting of PAC will be Wednesday 8 of October. If you are interested in our work you are more than welcome to attend. Subjects for the next meeting will be the upcoming book fair on the 15th and 16th of October; also Halloween and fieldtrips will be discussed.

You can always read the minutes from our meetings on the webpage.

School is looking for a volunteer parent who would like to teach English to other parents. If you are interested in teaching please contact us or Peter Burnside.

On the Open house day, we handed out some volunteer forms to fill in. Please return those as soon as possible. If you did not yet receive it please contact one of the members if you would like to help.

What are we in PAC doing? We are parents and every first Wednesday of the month we come together.

The major functions of the Social Committee are to:

- Assist with organizing school events
- Assist in bringing about school improvement and the development of good will within the community
- Help support new families in the QISS community
- Find ways of fundraising to help support school events

You can find more on the webpage. <http://www.qiss.org.cn/pacsc.html>

- We will soon update it with the new information and members.
- We will put the minutes every month on this website.



Li Ying Ying

Last year with Entrepreneur day we collected money for a heart surgery to help a little 6 year old girl. Her name is Li Ying Ying and with the help of all of you we were able to help her and her family with funds for the operation. More information about her can be found on the PAC information board by the school entrance near the office. 🌐

Thank You

We hope that you enjoyed the International Picnic.

The International Picnic was an opportunity to celebrate the diversity of our student body and to enjoy time together, as a community. And would like to thank the parents and teachers who helped make this event possible.

Hugh, G1: My House



The QISS Book Fair is October 15 & 16. The Stars Book Importer from Beijing, the same as last year, will bring in a variety of titles and interest levels to sell on the spot. Please come to browse and purchase at your convenience. Keep in mind to bring a book bag with you, but if you wish to purchase a School Library Bag you can at the PAC corner. Snacks and coffee will be available for parents.

Don't Miss QISS Book Fair

To support the Primary Year Program (PYP) the Library would like to set up the mother tongue language corner. We would like to ask you to donate storybooks in your mother tongue language. The book can be both one language only or bilingual. We will set up the box near the PAC corner to receive the donations at the fair, and you can also donate the book all year round. We would like to thank you in advance for your donations and support. 🌈

L.S. Principal (continued)

- 4) Discuss with your child what he/she has just read. Ask questions such as: What happened?, Who did it happen to?, Why do you think it happened?, What will happen next?, etc.
- 5) Have your child earn TV, computer, or video game privileges by reading. Every minute they read equals one minute of TV, computer, or video game privileges.
- 6) Encourage your child to read anything they are interested in, even if it's tips to beat the latest video game. Your child will learn that reading can be fun and interesting.
- 7) Write letters to your child. This not only opens up communication, but also encourages reading.
- 8) Read yourself. Children are more likely to read if they see others reading.
- 9) Play word games such as Hangman, Boggle, crossword puzzles, and word finds.
- 10) Have your child read to younger siblings.

The old adage, Practice Makes Perfect certainly applies to reading. And it's no secret that the best readers in class are usually the best spellers, the best writers, and the most confident of students. So as the days get cooler, let's encourage our kids to spend more time inside reading, rather than watching another movie or playing a video game. Reading is the key to successful learning! 🌈

Thea, G1: My House



P.E. (continued)

exercising can lead to choking, serious injury and even asphyxiation. For this reason, chewing gum during PE is a serious offence.

Secondly, students are reminded that proper sports attire is required for PE classes; ie. sports shoes and sports clothing. Jeans do not allow the full range of body movement required in sports activities and non-athletic shoes do not give correct support to the feet or ankles. Jewellery should also be

removed during PE classes, as necklaces can choke and earrings can rip earlobes in different athletic situations.

Parents with children in the lower elementary school, please be aware of the days your child has PE so that you can help them be prepared for class.

Let's do our best to make this year a fun and productive one! 🌈

Survival Chinese

Where do you work?

Key Expression :

1. Nǐ hǎo! 你好! Hello!
2. Zhè shì wǒ bàba. 这是我爸爸。 This is my father.
3. Tā zài Zhōngguó. 他在中国。 He is in China.
4. Tā bù gōngzuò, tuìxiū le. 他不工作, 退休了。
He does not work. He has retired.
5. Zhè shì wǒ dìdi. 这是我弟弟。 This is my (younger) brother.
6. Tā yě zài Zhōngguó. 他也在中国。 He is also in China.
7. Tā shì gōngchéngshī. 他是工程师。 He is an engineer.
8. Tā zài Shànghǎi gōngzuò. 他在上海工作。 He works in Shanghai.
9. Zhè shì wǒ tàitai. 这是我太太。 This is my wife.
10. Tā yě shì lǎoshī. 她也是老师。 She is also a teacher.
11. Tā zài Davis gōngzuò. 她在 Davis 工作 She works in Davis (California).

Notes:

'zài'...gōngzuò' means 'to work somewhere'. 'zài' here serves as a preposition. Pay attention to the position of a prepositional phrase in the sentence. In Chinese it occurs before the verb.

Dialogue 1:

A: Zhè shì shéi? 这是谁?
Who is this?

B: Zhè shì Wáng Xiǎohuá.
这是王小华。
This is Wang Xiaohua.

Tā shì xuésheng. 他是学生。
He is a students.

A:Tā yǒu jiějie ma? 他有姐姐吗? Does he have a sister?

B:Yǒu. Tā yǒu yí ge jiějie, méiyǒu mèimei, gēge, dìdi. 有, 它有一个姐姐, 没有妹妹, 哥哥和弟弟。
Yes, he has an (elder) sister. He doesn't have (younger) sisters, (elder) brothers and (younger) brothers.



Robin, G1: My House



Lea, G1: My House

A:Tā jiějie zài nǎlǐ gōngzuò?
他姐姐在哪里工作?

Where does his sister work?

B:Tā zài Běijīng gōngzuò, shì gōngchéngshī. 她在北京工作, 她是工程师。

She works in Beijing. She is an engineer

Dialogue 2:

A:Zhè shì shéi? 这是谁?
Who is this?

B:Zhè shì Xiè lǎoshī de érzi.
这是谢老师的儿子。
This is Prof. Xie's son.

A:Tā zài nǎlǐ gōngzuò. 他在哪里工作?
Where does he work?

B:Tā zài Ohio gōngzuò. 他在 Ohio 工作。
He works in Ohio.

Notes:

- 'de' is a possessive marker. 'Xiè lǎoshī de érzi' means 'Prof. Xie's son'. When the relationship is very close, the word 'de' is optional. For example, 'wǒ bàba, wǒ māma, tā péngyou' and etc.

- Pay particular attention to the position of a location word in a sentence. In Chinese location words usually occur before the verb. Please compare the following Chinese and English counterparts:

- He works in Shanghai.

- Tā zài Shànghǎi gōngzuò. 🌀