

# 29 January 2021

## School Newsletter



## Important Dates

### February

- 2 Director Chat (MAP Testing) & PSG Meeting - Online at 7 PM ( [Click here to join the meeting](#))
- 12 Professional Development for QSI Staff - No School
- 15 Distance Learning Day (Lessons at home)
- 17 SO Nominations
- 26 End of Quintile 3

## Director's Letter

Dear QSI Families,

We are wrapping up our 3rd full week of distance learning and entering the extended 2 week section of the lockdown. On Jan 28th, I did receive an e-mail from NRW education department. The e-mail shared the following information:

- A review on how distance learning should operate.
- Distance learning is in effect until Feb. 12th.
- Expressed concern of mutated COVID strain and the impact on the length of the lock down.
- NOTE: NRW Education Department posts the communication to schools at <https://www.schulministerium.nrw.de/ministerium/schulverwaltung/schulmail-archiv>

I do receive questions from the community regarding the likelihood of the lockdown being extended beyond Feb 12th. At this point, it is difficult to make a prediction. While the number of recorded COVID cases are decreasing, the impact of the new COVID strain is an unknown. For the time being, I am monitoring the German government's plans for the lockdown. Should more information that impacts the school become available, I will share it with the QSI community.

I would also like to let you know that the German government will provide schools with specific guidelines on how to transition back to face-to-face instruction. I am reading different plans on how schools **could** return to face-to-face instruction. I am not reading any plans that are **conclusive**. Some plans range from alternating days for students to specific age levels only returning to on campus lessons. I imagine that you will also read various ideas from the news and other media reports. Please know that when the lockdown has an official end date from the German government, I will communicate as soon as possible any known details on how students will return to campus.

It is important that a few calendar dates for the month of February be reviewed. Please note that February 12th is the teacher's professional development day and the students will not have any online lessons that day. In addition, should the lockdown end on February 12th, any plans to return to face-to-face instruction would begin on February 16th. Please know that February 15th is a scheduled distance learning day on the QSI 2020-2021 calendar and lessons would be provided for that day.

As we move into the 4th and 5th week of distance learning, I'd like to share some resources on indoor activities that can help your child stay physically active. Below are two links that offer creative suggestions to encourage children to stay active during a lockdown.

- [Physical Activity Ideas](#)
- [8 Ways to Exercise with Kids](#)

The school is excited to have Ms. Mirela and Mr. Julian work with secondary students on the virtual Model United Nations activity. The secondary students are working with other QSI schools to participate in a virtual Model United Nations meeting. The students will get to work and interact with other students from different QSI campuses. It is very exciting for our students to have the opportunity to work with others beyond the QSI Munster area.

We are currently in the process of testing students via the NWEA MAP testing program. You should receive information from your children's homeroom teacher on testing dates.

To prepare for the NWEA MAP test, we have a few links shared below to help. The first link is a practice test for the younger students. The practice test is short and can be completed with the parents. Getting correct answers on the practice test is not the purpose. The focus of the practice test is for students to experience what the test looks like. We do not want to create stress for the students by having them work on a digital platform they have not used before. The practice test lets them become familiar with the platform; this allows them to focus more on the content during the real test. The second link is the link for the NWEA MAP test. It is important that you test the link to make sure your device works with the test. Most tablets and computers purchased within the past 3 years will work the testing platform.

The next PSG and Director Chat meeting is on Feb 2nd at 7PM via teams. The time was changed to the evening so the distance learning lessons would not be impacted by a morning PSG and Director Chat meeting time. The Director Chat topic will focus on MAP Testing.

If you have any questions about the above information, please do not hesitate in contacting me.

Sincerely,

Dr. Garner

## NWEA Practice Test Link for 5-11 YO

For the 5-11 YO students, it helps

Link for the practice test - <https://practice.mapnwea.org/#/practice-landing>

username: grow

Password: grow

## Map Testing Browser Address for 5YO-17YO

Below is the web address for the students to take the MAP test. Information on the testing dates and time will be delivered by the homeroom teachers.

<https://test.mapnwea.org>

- This browser needs to allow pop-up windows to be turned on
- You may need to adjust the pop-up windows setting on the testing device

## QSI Success Orientations



# TRUSTWORTHINESS



# CONCERN FOR OTHERS



# RESPONSIBILITY



# GROUP INTERACTION





# KINDNESS & POLITENESS



# AESTHETIC APPRECIATION



## Parent Support Group (PSG) Contact

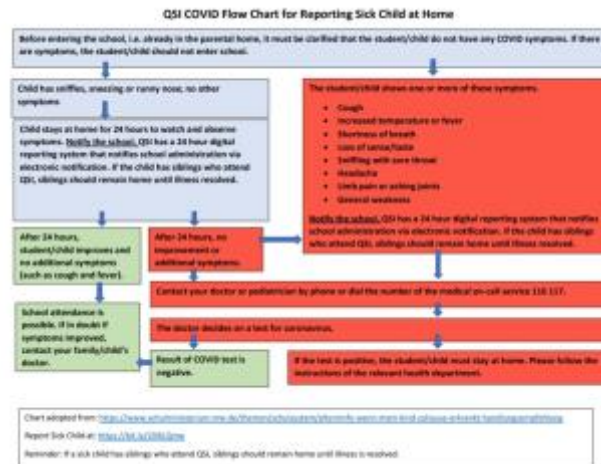
The QSI Parent Support Group is available on WhatsApp and Facebook.

WhatsApp: Contact Mrs. Lawes at [lauralawes@outlook.com](mailto:lauralawes@outlook.com) to be added to the WhatsApp group.

Facebook: You can find the PSG Facebook page at the link - <https://www.facebook.com/groups/1626025644281325>

## Absence Reporting Form

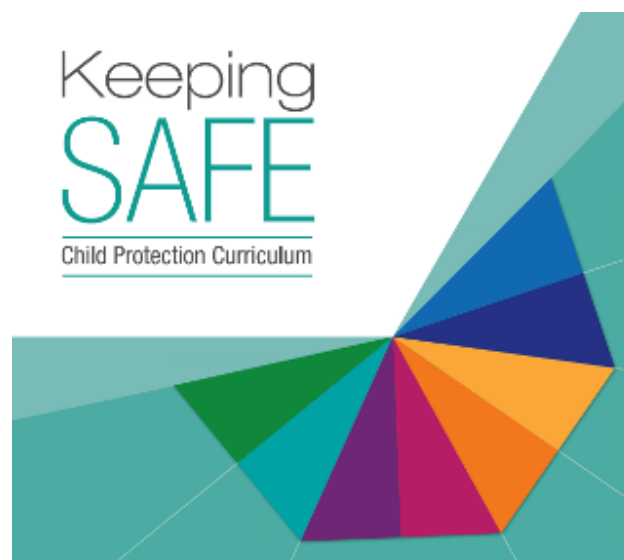
If your child will be absent, please complete the absence form. [Click here for the form.](#)



## Early Departure Form

If you are picking up your child in the middle of the school day, please complete this form so the school can record the departure. [Click here for the Early Departure Form.](#)

## Keeping Safe Curriculum



Homeroom teachers have started to include the Keeping Safe Curriculum in the weekly lessons. These are short lessons that educate children on how to keep themselves safe and who to ask for help in unsafe situations. This is a global curriculum that QSI uses at all campuses. Below is a list of the key themes and focus areas that students will study. More information on the program can be [found here](#).

### **Themes**

The curriculum follows 2 main themes:

- we all have the right to be safe
- we can help ourselves to be safe by talking to people we trust.

### **Focus areas**

The 2 themes are explored through 4 focus areas:

- the right to be safe
- relationships
- recognizing and reporting abuse
- protective strategies.

## **Playground Reminder**

Please remember that the school playground is not accessible while school is in session between 8:00 AM and 3:45 PM.



## QSI Safety Reminders Via Success Orientations



**SHOW CONCERN FOR OTHERS**



**WEAR A  
MASK**



**BE RESPONSIBLE**



**WASH YOUR  
HANDS**

## Community Announcements

If you know of any upcoming family friendly activities or events that maybe of interest to our QSI families, please share them and they can be added to this section. NOTE: Any event shared is not connected to QSI.

## QSI School Operations During COVID-19:2020-2021

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[Click here to access the COVID-19 Operations PDF file.](#)

[Click here for 2020-2021 Parent/Student Informed Consent Letter – Covid19.](#)

You can sign and e-mail to [brian-garner@munster.qsi.org](mailto:brian-garner@munster.qsi.org). You will be able to sign at school as you drop your child off at the entrance.

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## Scheduled Appointment on Campus

If you have a scheduled appointment for an "in the building meeting" with Dr. Garner or Ms. Siejen, please make sure to complete the electronic visitor form on our entrance door.

The visitor form is a QR code that can be scanned by your phone. The QR code takes you to an electronic form so you can input your information. If you are new to using a QR code, [click here for a tutorial on scanning a QR code](#). I will also place a link to the form in this QR article. [Click here to access the form without the QR code](#).

Thank you for supporting our contact tracing system.

## School Calendar

### School Calendar 2020-2021

#### **First Term**

First Day	27 August (Thursday)
Last Day:	18 December (Friday)
Holidays:	19 – 26 October (Monday - Monday) Autumn Break 26 – 27 November (Thursday - Friday) Staff Professional Development 21 December – 08 January (3 Week) Winter Break
Quintile 1:	27 August – 15 October
Quintile 2:	16 October – 16 December
Quintile 3:	17 December – 26 February

Number of school days: 74

#### **Second Term**

First Day:	11 January (Monday)
Last Day:	26 March (Friday)
Holidays:	12 February (Friday) Staff Professional Development 15 February (Monday) Rosenmontag (online learning day)
Quintile 4:	01 March – 27 April

Number of school days: 54

#### **Third Term**

First Day:	29 March (Monday)
Last Day:	24 June (Thursday)
Holidays:	02 – 09 April (Friday – Friday) Spring Break 13 – 14 May (Thursday – Friday) Ascension 24 – 25 May (Monday – Tuesday) Whit Monday 03 – 04 June (Thursday - Friday) Corpus Christi
Quintile 5:	28 April – 24 June

Number of school days: 52

Total Number of School Days: 180  
The school week is Monday through Friday.

## Stay in Contact

Thank you for selecting QSI International School of Münster and trusting us with your child's education. If you have a question on the curriculum being taught, the curriculum can be viewed at <http://curriculum.qsi.org/>. Should you have a question or concern regarding the content or selected assessments, please reach out to the teacher or the school Director. If you need to contact me, my contact information is below.

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**E-mail:** brian-garner@qsi.org



*1 - Dr. Brian Garner - Director*

We proudly subscribe to the following educational services





