



SCH Form B - Sch LetterHead (B-W) Template (ver 06-01-001).doc  
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To : Fellow Shuqunites & Parents / Guardians

To Serve with  
Quality

### Academic Excellence – How to do well academically?

School is out and every one should be getting their results for the Common Test 1 (CT1). I want all Shuqunites to see CT1 as a good checkpoint and not the be-all-and-end-all of learning. *School is more than just academic tests and examinations. School is about learning how to live responsibly as a member of the human race (学做人).* I want each student of Shuqun to see his / her success in CT1 in two dimensions –

- how much **effort** have you put in to learn what your teachers have been trying to teach;
- how much **improvement** have you made from your last assessment (i.e. SA2 in 2008)

*It is no use crying over spilled milk.* It is more important for each of us to have done our best in every learning effort. To know if you have done your best, ask yourself whether you have committed every spelling and multiplication table to memory. Have you spent two hours every day to complete your homework and review through the things that you have learnt in class? Have you diligently written down notes that will help you study for the topics that your teachers have covered? Have you planned your daily study schedule so that you are disciplined in your studies? Did you ask your teachers to explain areas where you did not understand for each topic? You can give yourself a pat on the back if you have done everything I mentioned above. You have done your best.

*Practice makes perfect.* If you have been showing perseverance and working hard, you should see some improvement in your results compared to your last examination. As long as the results are better than last year, I believe you can also give yourself a pat on the back. Your effort in hard work will determine how much improvement you are going to make for the next examination.

*You must work smart.* Hard work alone is not enough for today's examination. A book mugger can only learn and master everything in a given textbook. However, the examinations will test for things beyond the textbooks. If school is about preparing the young for real life, every student must be able to apply their knowledge gained from class in real world problems or challenges. To do well in examinations, you must do more than working hard. *You must see a connection between what you are taught in class with the real world.* For example, the Math learnt in class should help you to decide how much you must save every day to buy your favourite gift or even prepare for a university education. The spelling and vocabulary exercises must help you to be able to read The Straits Times. We will remember better what we have learnt in class if we can apply the knowledge to our lives or to real situations.

Finally, "**Your Attitude determines Your Altitude**". Many of you may forget your results in CT1 by the time you go to secondary school. However, you may remember all the lessons of hard work and perseverance in preparing for these tests and examinations. Your thirst for knowledge will be wired in your brain and behaviour. You may also remember working cooperatively with others to learn and motivating one another to achieve. So CT1 is more than just an academic test. The real test in CT1 is your attitude. Whatever your results, I want you to excel in attitude.

I wish you a meaningful holiday. Come back ready to show me the true Shuqun attitude – always serving with quality toward excellence.

Together-in-excellence

Mr Tsu Chin Sun Gary, Principal