



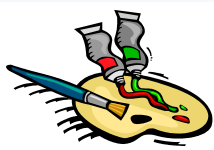
# Second Grade News

August 12, 2013

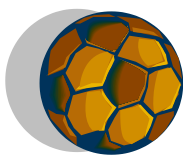
*Mr. Antonio*

Email: [amejia@qiss.org.cn](mailto:amejia@qiss.org.cn)

## Meet Our Specialists



Art: Ms. Nadine Bouliane



PE: Mr. Mike Dorchak



Music: Ms. Victoria Kholodkova



ELL: Ms. Ruth Duque



Chinese: Ms. April Fan

Chinese: Ms. Joy Liu

Chinese: Ms. Kelly Du

## Welcome To QISS!

My name is Antonio Mejia and I will be the second grade teacher this year. This is my first year with QISS, and my first time in Qingdao. Last year I taught in Jackson, Mississippi, USA, and before that I taught English in South Korea for two years. Ms. Carrie will be the instructional assistant in our classroom. We are thrilled to start a brand new year at QISS and look forward to getting to know you and your child!

In this class, we understand that each child is unique and will develop at his/her own rate. We will take care to nourish the individual needs and interests of each child and promote an education that realizes the full potential of every girl and boy. We will have a safe and welcoming learning environment where everyone will show respect by following the classroom rules.

### Curriculum

This year will be divided into four units; within these units we will be doing different themes. Our first unit is entitled "Unique Me." Our goal during this unit is for children to learn and explore our physical, mental, and social traits, and how they define us as unique individuals. During our first week of school we will primarily aim to establish routines, set classroom rules and most importantly get to know each other.

### Social Studies

We identify ourselves with our culture and social environment. It is also important to identify yourself as an unique individual, and make choices that suits yourself the best especially in group situations.

### Science

Human beings are different from other animals and plants yet we have same body systems that help us function, grow, and reproduce in the same predictable life cycles.

Parents will receive the Curriculum Guides during Open House



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***Dates to Remember:***

**Aug. 12** - First Day of School

**Aug. 26** - 1<sup>st</sup> ASAP Begins

**Aug. 28** - LS Open House Night



## Hat Policy

Starting this year, hats are required for all outdoor activities during the summer, fall and spring terms. Students and staff without hats are required to remain within the sheltered areas at recess and lunchtime and are not permitted on the field or in the open play areas.



## Homework

Students will have 20 minutes of reading homework and 20 minutes of additional homework every day. Students are encouraged to read their library books in addition to the assigned reading homework.

## Snack

QISS is promoting healthy eating, so please send healthy snacks and/or lunch such as fruit, vegetables, yoghurt, and cheese. Chips, chocolate bars, and sweet cookies are not encouraged. Children should bring their own water bottle as well to stay hydrated throughout the day.

## Communication

It is extremely important that you and your child feel comfortable and confident in the classroom. Most of our communication will take place in the students' Homework Diary, which each student should take home on a daily basis. Please write back any questions, concerns, or advice that you may have regarding your child and their school experience. Please feel free to e-mail me if that works better for you.

## Cell Phones

Your child does not need to bring a cell phone to school. If he/she needs to contact you, they may do so via the school office numbers: 532-6889-8888 and 532-8890-9802. You can also leave a message for your child with the office if you need to contact him/her. If your child needs to carry a cell phone, please notify the classroom teacher. Let your child know the phone needs to be off and not used during school hours. If a student is found using a cell phone without teacher permission, it will be taken away and returned at the end of the day. The school is not responsible for lost or stolen phones.

## Electronic Devices

No electronic devices are allowed in the lower school, including Ipods/MP3 players, PSP's, DS or gaming devices unless they have teacher permission. If a student is found using an electronic device without permission, it will be taken away and returned at the end of the day. The school will not be responsible for lost or stolen devices.