



### Principal's Message

Following on from a successful first day, we're very pleased that our first month has been equally as good. We've been getting some great feedback from parents about how much their children love coming to our school, and how wonderful the teachers are – this feedback is testament to the quality of education on offer at Hamilton, and it's great this is already so evident in such a short time.

Our After-School Activities have also commenced, where children not part of our Hamilton community can also take advantage of our world-class facilities and leading sports providers.

Thank you to the entire Hamilton community for making our first month so successful!

Terry Senior

### Looking for Learning

As an ISP school, Hamilton is ensuring that students have amazing learning journeys, and this starts in the classroom. The leadership and staff have started conducting regular 'Looking for Learning' focused lesson observations to ensure the focus of each lesson is student learning. These observations involve discussing with the students what they are learning, how they are learning the material and how has each students' knowledge, skills and understanding grown in that lesson. Hamilton's goal is for 80% of students to be actively learning, 80% of the lesson time. Our focus of professional development has been improving student achievement in the lessons. It has been exciting and rewarding this month to be able to discuss learning with the students.

### The Hamilton Support Hub

In association with the Ontario Center for Special Education we have developed the Hamilton Support Hub to provide support for our students with special needs. The support provided covers speech therapy, physiotherapy, music therapy, occupational therapy, psychologists, and the provision of specialist teacher aides. The Hamilton Support Hub is an important part of our community and it is great to see the successes they are having in a caring supportive environment. All students have a comprehensive Individual Education Plan (IEP) to specifically support them with their goals. They are also involved in swimming, PE, music and classroom integration as appropriate to their IEP, which is so important for their confidence and well-being.

### TEACHER PROFILE:

**My name is Zara Otho and I'm a Grade 3 teacher at Hamilton.**

I'm originally from Pakistan but I have grown up around the world as my father was a diplomat, so I've studied at international schools all over, as well as in the Middle East. I moved to Qatar due to my attachment to this region and its focus on education. I have worked with international schools for the past six years and was given leadership positions including head of year and English coordinator.

I joined The Hamilton International School as it seemed like too good of an opportunity to pass and I was right. It's a fantastic school with state-of-the-art facilities and resources, where teachers are valued and encouraged to be creative and voice their opinions. The management treats the teachers with respect and has provided an environment where working is enjoyable, professional development is given importance and there is room for growth.

It's so exciting being one of the founding staff members at Hamilton, and I'm excited about what I can help my students learn and achieve this year.



### ADMISSIONS APPOINTMENTS

Our Admissions team is available **every afternoon** by appointment between 3:00pm and 5:00pm; **Tuesday evening until 7:00pm**; and **first Saturday of each month from 11:00am to 2:00pm**. Alternative times may also be arranged during the school day. Please contact our Admissions team to arrange your appointment.

### ACADEMIC HIGHLIGHT OF THE MONTH

Our robust assessments have taken place for all students in the school, ensuring lessons and activities are pitched for the needs of the individual, whilst allowing us to track and measure progress of each student across key subject areas. An objective for us is to ensure students work in their 'struggle zone'; a zone where they are challenged and stretched, yet not demotivated or discouraged.

Student Leadership is now prominent in school, with our School Prefects and Student Council supporting decision making in school. Our learning environments are showcasing the amazing learning that is taking place and complements our world-class facilities.

### EVENTS:

#### Hamilton's First Athletics Day

We took part in our first competitive athletics day off-campus! We are very proud of our students' efforts and team spirit and pleased to hear the positive feedback from other schools about how good our children's behaviour was.

#### ASA Community Fair

We held our After-School Activities Community Fair on the 14th of September which saw all our external providers come in to use our amazing facilities. ASAs are open to our students and children from our external community. These activities include volleyball, netball, basketball, football, badminton, tennis, swimming, dance, taekwondo and gymnastics.



#### Beln Sports

A team from Beln Sports came to Hamilton last week to shoot footage for a promotional video about the sports being offered at the school, and the school's wonderful sports facilities.

### PARENT FEEDBACK

The feedback we've been getting from our parents is wonderful and we're very proud to share one of their quotes.

**"My daughter absolutely loves coming to school and has never talked so much about what she is learning! The extra help this week made an enormous difference to Sienna's confidence, so thank you. My husband and I look forward to watching her blossom over the next 12 months."**

*Katrina Chaplin, parent of a child in Grade 4*

### School Location

Mesaimeer Area, near the Religious Complex, Doha, Qatar

