



HAMILTON
International School

Igniting
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and pOtentiaI

NEWSLETTER

September 2020 | Back to School Issue



EXCITED TO BE BACK AT SCHOOL!

Hamilton is excited to welcome students back for the 2020 / 2021 Academic Year. Whether you opt for in-person classes for 5 days a week, blended learning or distance learning, we have exciting lessons planned and ready!

Hamilton is pleased to share that all teachers and staff tested negative for MoPH's COVID-19 test. In addition, we have put stringent safety measures in place to minimize the risk to our community. Lastly, we were recently visited by MoEHE for an inspection and Hamilton passed with flying colors. We are ready to welcome you back for Amazing Learning!



"There is always an upside to every situation.

Even though we experienced challenges due to the pandemic, there are so many opportunities."

-Terry Senior,
Founding Principal



MESSAGE FROM THE PRINCIPAL

Welcoming back our teachers, parents and students is exciting. It has been a long 6 months where families have had to alter their routines and remain within family bubbles. It certainly has been challenging, however, I truly believe that there is always an upside to every situation. Even though we have experienced challenges due to the pandemic, there are so many opportunities that have arisen as a result. We have spent quality time with our families, come together as a community and we were able to slow down and take stock of what is ultimately important. I would also like to stress that along with health and safety, the well being of our community is also a priority. We know things will be different when students come to school, but we will strive to continue to connect with each of our students. We understand

the importance of the relationships built between student and teacher.

Another topic that I am profoundly excited about is welcoming our incredible teachers. We are fully staffed with an amazingly talented team that will deliver high-quality, thoughtful and challenging lessons to all students joining us in-person or virtually. I always say that our facilities are fantastic, but our teachers are truly exceptional, and they make the learning journey amazing!

Continuing the learning journey in a safe environment is of the highest priority at Hamilton. We are committed to keeping your children safe while they continue to learn, grow, and imagine.



BACK TO SCHOOL



PRE-KG - GRADE 1

Review of sanitization procedures upon entry of classroom with reinforcement throughout the day, introduction to safe bubbles and multi-sensory play. Movement between classroom and shared play area in small group rotations.

GRADES 2 - 5

Students greeted new classmates, learned about safety measures and were introduced to their safe bubbles. Focus on "All About Me" unit, practiced times tables, and participated in activities with their classmates who dialed in remotely.

GRADES 6 - 8

Introduction to safe bubbles, personal goal setting and several activities with their classmates dialing in remotely. Students participated in a tower building competition, selecting a soundtrack to represent their life, and drawing.

AFTER SCHOOL ACTIVITIES

Students are excited to participate in Hamilton's diverse range of after school activities. Hamilton led extracurricular activities will begin the week of 20th September and more information on options and enrollment will be shared very soon.

Our ASAs with our partner companies Agon, BH Gymnastics, Cage Sports, Geek Express, H2O Swim Club, ICM (International Center of Music), Molecular Science and Premier Football League Academy, and Sofie McDonald Dance Company are accepting enrollments.

If you have questions or require assistance with our ASA program, please contact Odette Gais at ogais@this.qa





Words of Wisdom

Wynn and Victoria's parents expressed delight, pride and joy in their daughters' achievement.

Hamilton asked both winners if they had any advice to share with other students who are focused on academic excellence, they both provided excellent insight.

Wynn expressed thoughtful words of wisdom by sharing, "I would like to say to them 'If you can dream it, you can do it!' Why? You can do it means that you can make that thought a reality. To me, this quote is about dreaming great and beautiful things, and making them so powerful in your head that you simply must make them come to life."

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"If you can dream it, you can do it!"

Victoria enthusiastically shared her words of advice to students who are dedicated to academic excellence. She explained, "My key advice is just don't give up. We all make mistakes and we learn from them and that is what should push us forward. Everything in this life is an experience and if you really believe and put your mind into something and do your best, you will definitely succeed. Just have patience because there is a time for everything."

Both Wynn and Victoria are wise beyond their years.

SCHOLARSHIP AWARDS

The Hamilton International School has recently completed its first scholarship program for Middle Years, Grades 6 – 8. Hamilton received over 40 applications and the entries were truly exceptional. The competition was fierce and through written assessments and interviews conducted on site, two incredible students were recognized and awarded. Victoria Souza is the proud recipient of the Hamilton Scholarship Award and Ying (Wynn) Toh celebrates receiving the Academic Excellence Scholarship. Founding Principal, Terry Senior, presented the aspiring students with their scholarship and said, "I am impressed with the caliber of these two students and I am so excited to see the contribution that they will make to our school. I look forward to their future successes."

During the awards presentation, Middle Years Coordinator, Ms. Nia Merriman, shared "It is wonderful to have such academically promising, young minds continuing their learning journey at The Hamilton International School. The IMYC curriculum is a 'REAL' rigorous, engaging, ambitious learning program tailored to suit students like Victoria and Wynn. They will make an excellent addition to Hamilton!"

Congratulations to Wynn and Victoria for their achievement and dedication. We look forward to both talented students inspiring even more greatness at Hamilton.



SAFETY MEASURES

MOPH has outlined measures to keep schools safe in Qatar. Rest assured that at Hamilton, we take safety measures very seriously. Here are some of the precautionary measures that we have implemented to keep our community safe.

- Thermal cameras capturing all students', parents' and visitors' temperature upon entry to the primary school building.
- Temperature control station for the sports hall access.
- Different entrances and exits for various year groups as per the Welcome Pack procedures. For more information see our [video](#) illustrating entry and exit points.
- One-way systems throughout the school with stickers reminding us to keep a safe distance.
- Maximum of 15 students per classroom with a safe distance of 1.5 meters between each student in class.
- Hand sanitizer located in every classroom and all common areas.
- Use of safe bubbles to maintain safe distances and to avoid cross-contamination.
- Increased cleaning capacity throughout the school.

Recently Yezenia Navaro, Qatar based model, actress, humanitarian and mother, visited Hamilton to learn all about our safety protocols. Watch the [video](#) to learn what Yezenia had to say about Hamilton.



REFER A FRIEND

We recognize that parents and friends are the best ambassadors for our unique style of learning and community-minded environment. To support this for every friend that enrolls through referral, the referring family will receive a QAR 1,000 discount to use towards any school related cost. This credit can be applied to tuition, outside activity providers (ASAs), bus transport, uniform or school meal purchases. Contact the Admissions Team for T&Cs - admissions@this.qa.

Become a Hamilton Ambassador!