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Important dates for 2019

**School opens**  
Wednesday 16 January  
2019

**Travelling classroom 1**  
25 to 28 February

**Mid term break**  
28 February to 5 March

**Travelling classroom 2**  
8—12 April  
School closes for the first  
term 12 April

**Term 2 opens**  
Tuesday 7 May



# Lilima Montessori High Newsletter

Volume 2 Issue 3

December 2018

## Some student reflections on inquiry learning.

Welcome to our final newsletter of the year which marks the completion of another successful year of our school.

Some of the highlights of the themes that were explored this year included:

**HOME PAGE** (how did we get here? Where are we?) each student was destined to find their inner self in this unit of inquiry.

**INNOVATORS AND HEROES** (Ingenuity and innovation) This unit was about extraordinary inventions and inspiring people. We also looked at leaders in our community and people that we would admire and look up to. We had to do presentations on heroes or community leaders that we had identified and we invited them to a meal that we prepared.



### ME INCORPORATED (who am I?)

Here we looked at Swazi culture and the impact of society on who we are and who we become.

**MONEY, MONEY, MONEY** (change in culture and society) Here we looked at economies and populations and consumerism and inflation and the circulation of money.

From these examples we can illus-

trate how the Middle Years Program works through inquiry learning. Most of the eight subject groups are included in the theme -for example so what we do in maths links with what we do in English and in say History. The main difference of this type of learning from traditional schools, from a students point of view, is that we are supposed to be working independently.

Maria Montessori said: ' Never help a child with a task at which he feels he can succeed'.

Inquiry learning involves these steps: First we discuss the topic in a group then we break down into smaller groups and we research what particular area we want to investigate. Then we have options with assignments to present the information that we have researched. This can be a power point presentation or an article or making a video or even a audio podcast.

Script adapted by the students

Buy your tickets next week.

Adults: E10  
Children under 12 years: E5

Tickets will be allocated once payment has been made.

Phone: 7605189

Arrive early to get the best seats.

**LILIMA MONTESSORI HIGH SCHOOL**  
1925/2075  
**BEAUTY AND THE BEAST**

Friday, 30 November 2018  
Makwane Theatre club  
Matlwaneng Show: 8:00  
Evening show: 6:00  
Tickets on sale next week.  
Children under 12: E5  
Adults: E10



The final part of the year was spent in a very intense four weeks when we put the ideas for the production together. We made all the props and sets and learned the script that we wrote at the start of the term.

This play included input from all the arts, including drama, music and dance which are all compulsory arts subject in the MYP.

We wrote the script in different

sections with about 4 students in each group and then put it together. The story was chosen for its messages: 'be kind and unselfish and do not judge a book by its cover'.

Every student put their best effort into the production. There were many hours of practice, sweat and tears and laughter. Our full rehearsal was exhausting but fruitful and we were better prepared than

last year.

We were very happy with our final performances at the Theatre club and hope the audience enjoyed them as much as we did.



# Intercessions– travelling classrooms



Bushman rock art near Mbabane



We saw dinosaurs and the oldest skulls of mankind at the origins museum at Witwatersrand University in Johannesburg



Theatre production on our Johannesburg trip and a visit to a film studio.



Intercessions are when we go out of school and see what we have been studying during our unit. It gives us a chance to socialise and form new relationships with different people.

It strengthens friendships and we connect with nature as we usually stay in a Nature Reserve. We get to explore parts of Swaziland that we may not have seen before and learn about the history.

These intercessions are unique to Montessori schools and we get to see more people and real life situations.

The intercessions also help us to understand what we have been learning and see it in context.

We studied grasses, flowers, animals and ecosystems and visited a bushman rock art site. We learned about reptiles and about what types of snakes that we have in Swaziland and the venomous and non venomous snakes. We also got a chance to handle snakes which was really cool.

During intercessions we also have a free day to travel as a school and we get to do team-building and cooking for the

whole group.

The students do the cooking and there was a time when we had to plan the shopping for the meals for the whole day. We have learned how to budget through the intercessions. This was part of Money money money where we looked at economics.

For our Arts trip we went to Johannesburg and as well as watching live theatre and visiting a film studio we went to the origins museum at Wits and saw dinosaurs and the oldest skulls known to mankind.



Intercession images



## Community service— by Tish

During the year we collect food and old clothes to distribute to the needy children at the Maphiveni care centre in the lowveld.

We get to play with the kids and spend the whole day with them.

I really like doing this because it shows how we can help others and not be selfish.

Its also a good personal experience as it exposes us to new and different circumstances and to those who are less fortunate than we are.

It makes us appreciate what we have and we get to support those kids and show them that they are not alone in their situation.



## Academic subjects

There are a lot of academics at this school. For each of our 8 subjects everyone finds something specific to their interest and long term goals. This is because we are all working at our own level and at different levels to the others in the class. This means that we can explore different topics which are all part of the overall theme.

For example in Mathematics we explored the golden ratio and patterns and how they are linked through all matter. This is something that most other schools would not



study but we got to experience it.

All the students applied the golden mean to their areas of interest in context including the arts, design, engineering, dance and drama.

This also helped the students focus on their area of career choice.

In English we explored different ways expressing ourselves, we did a podcast, we had a performance forum and began Café Lilima, we also did Ted ED talks, Socratic seminars and debates. Gamers

game is another thing we did, writing stories for games.

All in all we all experienced something new academically this year.



## Art and Design projects

In Art we explored different artistic media we got to make collages and we looked at san rock art. We did micrography where you use text as an art form.

We designed money and branding for ourselves. In visual Art and design we have learned to create branding images.

In design the most fun we had was

making garden furniture from scratch using bamboo. We worked in teams of 4 and had to cut the bamboo to size and shape and build it to fit our designs. There were several rubrics that dictated the design including height, size, functionality, stability strength etc.

All the props and costumes for the performance were also designed and made by us from scratch, i.e building and painting the sets and props. in the third term.



## Lego league—Luvuyo

The first lego league is a world wide competition in which participants make their own robots that then have to face tasks set out for them on a board.

Each year there is a theme, for example animal allies (2016) and in 2017 hydrodynamics. This year was space.

When I entered the first lego league it was exiting because it was the first time I got to work with robots and

the robots were easy to build because I was used to building lego structures with lego bricks.

There is a lot that you can learn from this competition. The basics of coding, a robot with drag and drop, similar to scratch (another coding programme that teach the basics of coding).

In the beginning of the competition you are given a problem that you are

supposed to find a solution to and our team had a lot fun thinking of the solution.

This was a great learning experience because now when I am faced with problems I find them easier to solve. This also helped me to learned basics and coding and I also learned how important a team is.



In this lego league competition we embrace each others competencies.



# Lilima Montessori High

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Cefhon - the snake handler



Reflections in nature



Tish taking the yoga class



Snake handling in Simunye



Lilima café—poetry at eDish



Searching for rock art



Painting the set



Breakfast at Mlawula



Mask making for the performance



More snake handling

## Reflections on the year

Letitia—I think I have grown into a different person this year, I did things that I would not have been able to do elsewhere, I have developed as an adult in a different way. I am able to learn both academics and the arts and can explore my inner self and challenge myself to try new things. We have all found friends but also made bonds that we will have for the rest of our lives.

Muks –This school has taught me lessons worth a million. My thinking and methods have changed becoming more diverse and sticking to who I am. The inquiry based learning is the best ever to go through. It motivates me to always finish what I have started. Working together apart from our differences has really broadened me and showed me the value of partnerships.

Luvuyo—I like this school’s abstract thinking, its more welcoming than most schools and I really feel like I experienced a lot and most cases I have learned a lot. I have enjoyed the artwork that we did, my art has developed a lot more with the help of the students and the guides. So not only can you learn from teachers here but also from the students.



Tyler and JC graphic T shirt design



Pelo’s family tree