

Monday
11 January 2021
 School Office is open.

Tuesday
19 January 2021
 School opens for Term 1.
 Orientation week.

Lilima Montessori High Newsletter

Volume 4 Issue 3

Third Term 2020

What a year it has been....

This year education worldwide, faced one of the most difficult periods in history. Montessori education, fortunately, has the advantage of a philosophy based on individualised learning and on developing independent learners. When students are able to manage their time and work independently they are more flexible and adaptable. Our guides at Lilima work to inspire lifelong learners who are adaptable and prepared for any eventuality and this year has been an extraordinary time for us all. Reflecting on the year, we are convinced that everyone in our Lilima Community; students, guides, parents and others, did their best to achieve success. To be successful adults is a vital goal for our students and they will remember their Montessori edu-



Graduation from left: Anne Marie Sangare (MYP5) Cefhon Grey (MYP5) Letitia Dlamini (MYP5) Luvuyo Matolo (CP) Noah Abramovitz (MYP5) Siphiso Ncongwane (MYP5) Bandile Mkhonta (CP) Tyler Brown (CP) Peter Saunders (CP)



cational experience well into their adult life when they achieve this.

We were very proud of our first school leavers who graduated this year and who are entering adulthood and we are confident that they have acquired the necessary tools to be successful in the future.

To Bandile, Luvuyo, Tyler and Peter we wish you everything of the best for the future.

To the students who completed their MYP 5, Anne Marie, Cefhon, Letitia, Noah and Siphiso, congratulations and we look forward to welcoming you back next year into the careers programme.

Tyler's story

Throughout the careers programme at Lilima I was studying graphic design and during the first year I interned at Appollo printers. This year with the Covid lockdown the internship stopped so for a long time I was working online, sharing my skills doing digital design. It was all web based, working and designing at home, but I found that I really enjoyed interacting with people in the real world and missed this. I discovered a vacancy for a graphic designer at Palfridge in Matsapha and decided to apply. When I arrived for the interview, I spoke to some of the other applicants and learned that there were 60 of them! These were people who were already qualified and done with college. So I was really nervous waiting for my turn, think-

ing; "what am I doing here I am just a 17 year old kid and the rest of these people are adults. There is no way I am getting this job". I saw others were nervous too and as I sat there I thought to myself that it didn't matter. Regardless of what happens even if I don't get the job, I will have had the experience of an interview. I sat there breathing and calming myself down, looking at the guy next to me whose hands were shaking. Finally I get called, and in my haste forget to knock on the door ...the lady says "you don't even knock?". Oh man! She asked me what makes me different and emphasises that I have a disadvantage, I am the youngest, there are 60 people applying and I can't be there every day, what do I have

that the other don't? I told her that I am adaptable, I am learning new things every day, I can bring something new to the table because of my age, it would be a good opportunity for me and I can make a difference. I left thinking that I was unlikely to get that job, not really expecting anything and putting the whole thing down to experience. But they called me to go back and offered me a job, but not as a graphic designer. I was assigned to work on a whole new separate area with new machines and I have been working there since October. That is the story of how I got my first job!
 Tyler Brown is one of the three career programme students who graduated this year.



Lynn Pocock was our special guest at the graduation and presented the certificates.



The slips and slops of Lilima road—Letitia Dlamini

Running a race to the end always seemed long yet it felt so short. 4 years passed by like 4 months and before I knew it, I had reached and achieved my goal. Looking back I realize that I took advantage of everything I had, the chances and lessons I've learnt here I'm sure I wouldn't have received anywhere else. Standing in front of a large crowd and completing a whole presentation without trying to hide my face or swinging my body to distract the audience shows me how much growth I've gained. I have no one else

to thank but my beloved guides, not only have they guided me in educational purposes but they have also guided me to the right way to live life. I cannot believe I have grown in just 4 years, not just in terms of education but in terms of life and happiness. The school has given me a chance to find my path, even when I was a mess they did not judge. In fact, they lifted me up. I don't know what my future is, and I don't know how slippery the journey I'm about to take is but what I know is: I'm going to embrace every part of it. I've found love

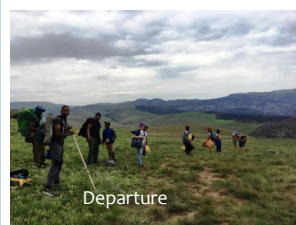
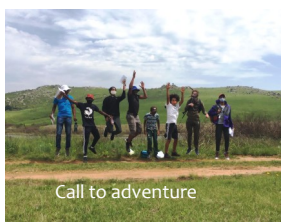
at last here and I know this will always be home. Whenever I feel lost I can always find my way back home.



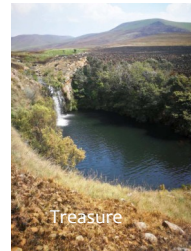
Maloloja—Heroic journey intersession

THE HERO'S JOURNEY

| | |
|---------------------|---------------|
| 1 CALL TO ADVENTURE | 2 ASSISTANCE |
| 3 TRIALS | 4 DEPARTURE |
| 5 APPROACH | 6 CRISIS |
| 7 RESULT | 8 TREASURE |
| 9 RETURN | 10 NEW LIFE |
| 11 STATUS QUO | 12 RESOLUTION |



When we went to Maloloja for the 3 day hike it was tiring and exhausting but I think it was because I wasn't fit enough. During the hike I didn't enjoy it so much but at the end I really felt good about doing it.



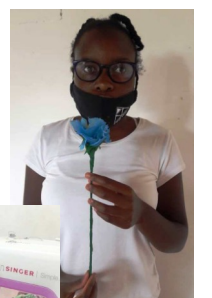
Shaan Wells

Intersession day 2 at HQ (Lilima)



Intersession for the students who were not able to attend the Hero's Journey at Maloloja included coming together at headquarters to participate in a marathon of team building activities.

Teams were tasked to play a version of "Heads Up" using a list of virtues, as well as, "who can flip the small carpet" that your team is standing on without stepping off, and other fun activities including origami paper projects.



Kiara went horse riding and learned to sew

MYP personal projects and professional skills presentations



In the last year of the Middle Years Programme, the MYP5 students engage in their Personal Projects. These are projects that can be chosen from any of the 8 subjects groups and can be presented in a wide variety of ways. They include at least 70 hours of work and a process

journal that documents their progress and which is included in the assessment. These projects are externally assessed by the IB and form an important part of the assessment of the students' achievement at the end of MYP 5. (which is the equivalent of Form 5 or IGCSE).

In the third term the students have to present their completed projects and this year Lilima hosted 5 MYP presentations. They were very varied, Siphiso Ncongwane created a documentary on his research into the music industry in Eswatini. Letitia Dlamini conducted a psychological

research survey investigating "bullying" and abuse and wrote a playscript. Noah Abramovitz completed a 6 week permaculture experiment comparing standard agriculture with permaculture. Cefhon Grey began a novel and Anne Marie wrote and performed her original songs.

In addition to the MYP5 presentations the Careers students gave presentations of their professional skills studies and showed how soft skills are essential for success in the future world of work, in whatever field that may be.



I am happy to be here at school,

I'm happy to see my friends

I'm grateful to be at school ♥

From the gratitude box

Visiting guest and school film productions



Our guest speaker this term was Mxolisi Magagula, a talented musician and composer. He spoke about his experience as a musician and gave the students plenty of useful tips on how to pursue and succeed in a career in the performing arts.

We are privileged to have such talented people here in Eswatini who are willing to share.

Due to the Covid restrictions the school was unable to perform the annual school theatre production for

the general public so it was decided that the students would be divided into 4 groups and each group would produce a short film. They were required to write the script, create storyboards, organise filming sets and locations and complete the filming and editing. These films were then successfully screened to the audience at the graduation.

The film youtube links are available on request.



Tribute to Shida Sinaei—Christine Matolo



2020 has required from each of us a certain amount of fortitude and strength, calm and patience, and grace and gratitude.

So as this year comes to an end we at Lilima want to take a moment to remember our Montessori trail blazer, Shida Sinaei.

In September, Shida passed away suddenly while hospitalized in South Africa. It was a shock to everyone of us especially as her cancer had been in remission for many years.

It is only when people pass on and leave us that we truly realize the extent of their impact on our lives.

Because of Shida's love for humanity, as well as her strength and determination, Montessori has grown and flourished in the Kingdom of Eswatini.

For this we are so very grateful.

She will be greatly missed by all of the Montessori community.

Rest In Peace dear friend.



Shida Nirou Sinaei

1956—2020

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Hand in hand we learn

The great conjunction:

In a rare celestial event, Jupiter and Saturn appeared very close to each other on 21 December, appearing like one bright star. The two planets have never been so close since 1623, and hence, the term "a great conjunction".

The planets will next come comparably close on March 15, 2080. On the 21st their physical distance was around 735 million km. In the run-up and follow up to the date, both planets appear to progressively come closer to each other, and then move apart, with every passing day. After all the world has experienced this year, it serves as a reminder that light does overcome darkness and hope dispels discouragement.

Wishing everyone

Happy Holidays and

Best wishes for 2021



A Big thank you to the Wells family and Zanele Hatton for the table tennis.