

Welcome to our second newsletter of 2017.

The second term saw the students embracing the Montessori programme and the new approaches to learning. Everyone is doing their part in the community, the lunches are prepared effortlessly and there is a sense of calm concentration as the students work.

Academic subjects also showed improvement especially in the quality of the presentations.

The student garden is flourishing and regularly provides vegetables and salad for the school lunch.

Thank you to :

Lynn, Mduduzi Tengetile, Ralph, Tina, Virginia, Seipati, Nqaba, Ettienne and Phiri.

Important dates for Term 3:

Astronomy evening
6 October - camp out.

Travelling classroom 5 (Intercession)
15 to 19 October Arts trip to Johannesburg

Mid term break
School closes 19th and re-opens on Tues 24th October

Market day 28th October

School performance "African soul"
Friday 1 December (matinee and evening show)
Venue: Swaziland Theatre Club

The performance is an original combination of dance, drama and music drawing on material from the African oral tradition of myths and fables.



Lilima Montessori High Newsletter

Volume 1 issue 2

September 2017

As we enter the third term of 2017 here are some reflections on inquiry learning and the second term themes. Lynn, Mduduzi and Tengetile

Inquiry based learning is more than asking a student what he or she wants to know. It is about triggering curiosity in the student. In inquiry based learning:

Students develop their own questions that they are hungry to answer;

They research the topic themselves.

They create and present what they have learnt while working together.

Students then reflect on the Process—what worked and what did not work.

They then present their ideas and findings.

In this process the teacher introduces the students to a powerful question or concept or idea that directs their research and lets them get on with it. This peer-based inquiry transfers the responsibility of learn-

ing to the student and makes them more involved in their own education.

In the second term we explored two more curriculum themes:

Howdy Partner: (*Globalisation and sustainability—global context*) In this theme the students investigated different styles of gov-

ernance used around the world. They settled on dictatorships resulting in the focus on the Second World War and some of the devastating impacts of rule by dictatorship. A wonderful History learning experience evolved, with interesting presentations in English, Science and Individuals and Societies.

E-Citizen: (*Fairness and development*) What does it mean to be a citizen? Initially we had to provide some inspiration to students, to help them see their role in changing the world. However towards the end of the theme the students were fully engaged and gave very profound presentations on how they saw themselves as good citizens of Swaziland and of the world.

This term we feel that the adolescent community has really strengthened and is working well together. This was reflected in a beautiful email from a student from the Democratic Republic of Congo who joined the school for two months.

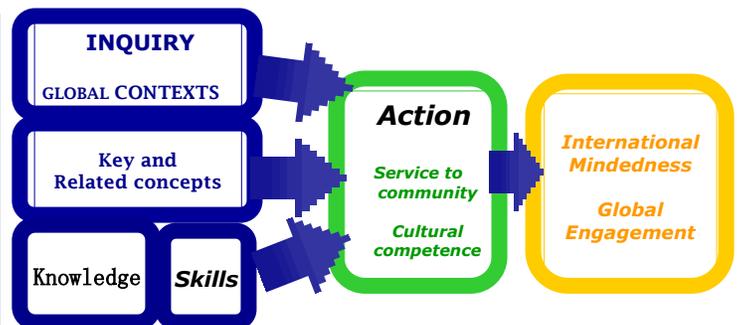


" I am really thankful for all you have done in these two months. I found a second family in you.

You taught me a lot about community and living in society" - Suzanne

"The great aim of education is not knowledge but action." – Herbert Spencer

Inquiry based learning is a form of active learning that starts by posing questions, problems or scenarios—rather than simply presenting established facts or portraying a smooth path to knowledge. It differs from **Traditional education** which is **defined** as the teacher-centered delivery of instruction to classes of students who are the receivers of information.



All these articles are written in the students own words....



The school trip to visit the Royal Swazi Sugar Corporation's sustainable irrigation system made it into the news and facebook!

Four legged lunch guest at the braai in Mlilwane on day one of the E citizen travelling classroom



Friendly mixed football match against Metropolitan High School - our first fixture!

Howdy Partner - how do we affect one another in communities and the world? Pelo and Ntsiki

We've learnt a lot about how just a few people in the community can affect a lot of others in the community. We have also learnt about the awful dictators that there are all around the world both historic and modern dictators. Dictators such as Adolf Hitler, Joseph Stalin and Francisco Franco used smart strategies like propaganda to manipulate the people in their community into doing something bad.

They built concentration camps to exterminate people specifically for racist and religious reasons. Innocent people such as these hardly ever made it out alive.

From this study of the various dictatorships and the observations we made for ourselves in our own country, we have seen, it is better to work together as a community than by yourselves.

Meditation space at Rosecraft



Visiting presentations

A visit from Blake McDermatt J.C., Tyler and Josh

We were privileged enough to have a game maker come to our school and teach us about scripting. His name was Blake. Not too far off the topic, he also felt a need to talk to us about the importance of passion. Blake explained to us that when he went to university to study economics, he felt that it was the right thing to do in the material sense, but it was something that didn't fulfil

him. He needed something to take his mind off the subject so hence the need for a hobby. This is when he started to toy around with the game industry. While making his first game, he discovered that he thoroughly enjoyed it. He dropped economics and basically started pursuing game making. He explained that doing something that felt right was much more important than doing something that paid well but that you didn't enjoy.

Biomimicry—Amy Jameson Cehfon, Sofia and Sets

A young woman called Amy came to the school to talk about Biomimicry. In other words man made things that are based on things from nature.

Things like cars and shoes are based on things from nature. An example of Biomimicry is the fastest train, its front shape is based on the beak of a kingfisher. Another example is a unique design of windows in a city that is based on the spider web. The birds can see the glass but it is invisible to the human eye. Mankind has been using ideas and designs from nature since the beginning of time. And we still are!

What is sustainability?

Majaha and Bonga

To be sustainable we need to reuse and recycle litter and garbage.

We should avoid creating plastic islands in the middle of the ocean.

Sustainability is keeping your own environment clean because litter can kill you.

We need to do something about the litter and garbage around us to stay healthy.



E Citizen—What does it mean to be a citizen of Swaziland and the world?- Tiphoo, Langa, Lloyd and Letitia



During this unit we learnt how to be good people and good citizens of the world. We learnt how to respect our elders and everyone around us. We also think that it is good to take care of our

environment. This unit was all about being a good person in the future.

Being a good citizen is also basically respecting rules and laws. These rules were set so people can live in peace and harmony in our country.

Country rules were set so that we can live a wonderful life.

Being good citizens means that we need to take care of our planet for example NO LITTERING.



Lilima Montessori "ambassador" training

Travelling classroom for Howdy partner

Ethan, Semvelo and Swakhile

We left Mbabane very early in the morning and took a 3 and half hour long drive to a care-centre in Siteki. When we got there we could see the happiness on their faces. We started to play with them. We gave them clothes, food and toys. We danced with them as well. We were glad that we visited those children.

Later that day we all had fun at Malandelas in Malkerns where we had lunch, played soccer and took pictures.

On the second day it was a bright day and we went to High Court. We were supposed to watch a murder case but instead we watched a civil case. What a wonderful morning. We learnt a lot and one of our classmates, Thabang, spoke so well about the school. That day we also visited the Houses of Parliament. Mr Simelane showed us where the members of parliament meet and discuss important matters. It was really interesting. Later that day we drove for almost 4 hours

because Rosecraft was high up in the mountains. Well the experience at Rosecraft taught us about risk taking! We were typical Montessori students and took the challenge with our heads held high. The dorms were more like sheds and Tengetile discovered two dead rats in her mattress! The boys had bats flapping around in their rooms. We had wonderful dancing, poetry and fire side adventures. The walks along the waterfalls and mountains were beautiful. This made up for all the negative things that happened. We came back stronger and more willing to take risks.

"We came back stronger and more willing to take risks"

Travelling classroom for E Citizen Richard and Thabang

The travelling classroom is a classroom on the road. We just recently went on an intersession which was at Simunye. It was really a lot of fun since the area has a great amount of sugar. We visited different areas of the sugar production. We were the first visitors to the Sugarcane Museum, we even went there before the Prime

Minster officially opened it! We learnt that Swaziland sells a big portion of sugar to the rest of the world. We visited a warehouse that makes fertilizer from sugar cane by products. We were lucky to appear in the Times after our visit to a drip irrigation cluster house at Royal Swaziland Sugar Corporation.

We camped at Sand River dam, did our community service and played a football match with Metropolitan as well as drumming at Tembelisha school. It was a busy time and there was also training for the Lilima Montessori ambassador for next year!



Camp fire in the morning at Sand River Dam.



"hand in hand we learn"

Lilima Montessori High

P O Box 8832
Mbabane H100
Swaziland
Phone: 7605 5189

email: lilimamontessori@gmail.com

www.kbraunweb.com/lilimamontessori/



From the school garden to the kitchen

Visual arts—student gallery - impressionism, cubism, collage, pop art

