



MYSCHOOL NEWSLETTER

The official newsletter of MySchool, an IB World School



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A Message from MySchool Principal



Given the dramatic acceleration of the use of Information Technology the world is witnessing to overcome the challenges caused by the spread of the Covid-19 virus, we at MySchool are continuing the journey we already started in 2012 directed by a clear objective to integrate technology into teaching and learning and to build a student community that is characterized by a growth mindset that allows the pupils to reach the essence of the learner profile attributes of being a critical thinker and a knowledgeable pupil. Indeed, MySchool community is committed to academic honesty ethics to ensure that the advanced technology is effectively and appropriately used within the curriculum framework. From this standpoint, we are striving towards achieving the goals of the teaching and learning approaches adopted by MySchool with the implementation of good tech-based educational practices which consequently affect the various ways students deal with the different types of activities throughout all the stages of the process starting from the reception and processing of the information all the way to the recording and documenting of the learning.

MYSCHOOL AND UNPRECEDENTED CHALLENGES

With the outbreak of the COVID-19, the world has witnessed challenges in all daily life practices, including education. MySchool International has also been facing these challenges since March 2020. by looking for innovative approaches in support of education and training continuity.

In line with our vision and mission, which is always focusing on students, MySchool staff endeavored to ensure that the learners would not be affected by the school's closure. That is why all teachers attended many professional development workshops on distance education mechanisms and strategies. Indeed, we proudly succeeded in the previous abnormal academic year.

The start of the new school year, 2020-2021, presented a new challenge and a determination to succeed. Since the 13th of September, 2020, everyone has been in full swing to keep up with the merit of success. For instance, MySchool admins strived to create balanced class schedules that include the main subjects and other activities. In addition, the teachers left no stone unturned to offer an interesting, varied educational program that supports students' emotions while learning remotely. No one can deny that it has never been an easy task due to the current conditions, but, MySchool's collaborative team has never given up. Furthermore, the unprecedented situation made them more determined and focused on achieving their goals. They were willing to take the risk, no matter the cost because they strongly believe that "Where There is a Will, There is a Way."



21ST CENTURY LEARNING

When the new Academic year began on 13 September 2020 at MySchool, what was customary of the traditional first day of school was not seen. The school grounds were empty, and there was no buzz of Children and Parents streaming in. There were no smiling (sometimes anxious) faces captured in "1st Day of School" photo frames. No friends were reuniting with cheer after a long summer break. What was known to be "normal" was nowhere to be found. Nevertheless, the new Academic Year began with the "New Normal" apt for the beginning of the 21st Century within the 4th Industrial Revolution. The MySchool learning community gathered virtually as brick-and-mortar classrooms transitioned into virtual classrooms. Teachers evolved into Bitmoji technical whizzes as they sought the best and most creative means to turn concrete apparatus into interactive manipulatives, and tests into quizzes. Parents stepped into their children's shoes as they restarted their schooling journey, learned how to "turn in," log in, and joined with enthusiasm in Google Meet sessions with wonder and song. The children were thrilled to go on Virtual Tours and submit their work from the top of a tree. They developed communication skills as they learnt how to listen to each other and mic on and off. They displayed inherent creativity in their agency of using their environment and skills to reflect their understanding of the concepts learnt. Despite initial challenges to get everyone connected, the transition period saw the up-skilling of our Staff, Students, and their Families. When His Late Majesty, Sultan Qaboos bin Said Al Said envisioned a knowledge-based society for Oman, he stated, "We will teach our children, even if it is under a tree." When the Covid-19 virus prevented our children from attending schools, the strong learning ethos embodied by His Majesty's vision within Schools and Families enabled learning not to be hampered by the virus. We acknowledge the wonderful efforts of all involved to ensure that learning continued and would like to express our sincere gratitude for your support.



MYSCHOOL OMAN OPENS KINDERGARTEN SUCCESSFULLY

MySchool Oman opened its Kindergarten on 27th of December for this academic year, and it was a happy, yet challenging start of the year for the learners, school administration, and teaching staff. As a PYP school, we worked collaboratively and cooperatively to make the Kindergarten classrooms well prepared.

Mrs. Samia Al Bulushi, the School Principal, gave her full support to the Kindergarten department to comply with the Ministry of Education and Ministry of Health's requirements in holding classes for our young learners. Each student has his/ her own table, chair, an educational box where they can keep their materials, and they are at a distance from each other, so social distancing is observed. They are advised to bring their own food, hand sanitizer, extra clothes and were instructed to observe proper handling of things and stay in their designated places to stay safe and well protected. Teachers were highly instructed to use masks, face shields, hand sanitizers, and avoid physical contact with children in the class.



The students were amazing during the first day and had enjoyed the school atmosphere. Their faces were filled with joy from the new experiences they had in school. Learning by doing is what kindergarten students love to do, and they enjoyed the activities prepared by us. Kindergarten's learning atmosphere was established in a PYP learning environment where pupils explore, discover, and learn things through play. By doing activities with a sense of ownership, they post it on the wall with joy and pride after they finish certain tasks.

Parents had given their positive actions, response, and full trust in the school. We are committed to attending to our responsibilities to give them our best to develop their learning skills and keep them healthy and safe. As a PYP community, we are trying our best to do our duties to pursue the vision and mission of MySchool in the Early Years Department. More of Almighty God's guidance and blessings be upon us all to help us withstand challenging time.



ACHIEVEMENTS

Although our students were studying from the comfort of their homes, they were working hard, and they kept the culture of learning alive. Our little heroes were constantly making their facilitators proud of their achievements and accomplishments.

- They completed 500 missions on Literacy Planet within a month.
- They produced many creative works during the units of inquiry which display their learning, uniqueness, and resilience.
- Our lower primary students could get into the track with e-learning through their own devices (iPads) amazingly.
- In a very busy week, we successfully provided our support about the online learning platforms to parents when the students were not allowed to enter the school campus.
- Our parents paved the way with their constant support from home.

I can & I will



CERTIFICATE OF ACHIEVEMENT

Your school has completed

250 literacy missions!

SHANE DAVIS
Founder of LiteracyPlanet



Show your achievement and tag us! #Share your school's achievement with @LiteracyPlanet



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IB MYP CANDIDATE SCHOOL

MySchool's plan to implement the Middle Years Program (MYP) was put into action in the academic year 2018-2019. A key objective was to start the candidacy phase and get the International Baccalaureate accreditation as soon as possible. In fact, the MYP is a teaching programme for pupils in Grades 6 to 10 and that builds on our Primary Years Programme (PYP) implemented at MySchool since 2015 to students in KG 1 to Grade 5 and empowers our IB aligned practices to prepare our learners for the IB Diploma Programme (Grades 11/12), a program we consider to implement soon to ensure the continuity of the same teaching and learning approach to our students.

The MYP is a challenging framework that motivates learners to formulate practical connections between their studies and the real world. The MYP is a five-year program. Students who complete the MYP are well-prepared to take the IB Diploma Programme (DP) or Career-related Programme (CP) courses.

Why do we offer IB MYP at MySchool?

Research shows that students participating in the MYP:

- Build strong confidence in managing their learning.
- Improve awareness of global challenges and a responsibility to act as an accountable citizen.
- Learning by performing and doing and connecting the knowledge they gain in class to the real world.
- Have tremendous success in the IB DP examinations.

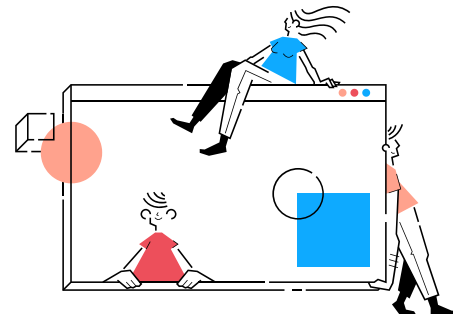
We are pleased to confirm that we have successfully conducted the virtual consultation visit on the 18th & 19th of October, 2020, and that the results came out satisfying. We are currently working with the IB towards the authorization process and have set a target of becoming authorized in the 2021/2022 academic year.

To know more about the MYP program, visit the IBO website www.ibo.org or MySchool website, www.myschool.edu.om

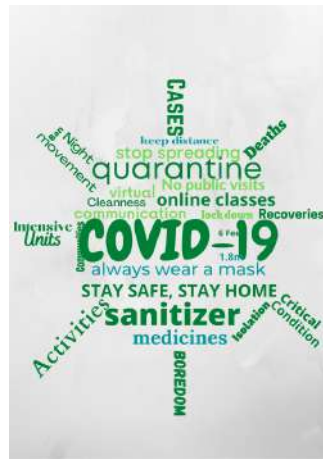


WHAT IS THE IB DESIGN SUBJECT?

DESIGN IN MYP



Design, and the resultant development of new technologies, has given rise to profound changes in society: transforming how we access and process information; how we adapt to our environment; how we communicate with others; how we can solve problems; and how we work and live.



SAMPLES OF MYP STUDENTS' DIGITAL OUTPUT

MYP Design is such an important subject as it combines fundamental design skills and technical skills to prepare our learners to be successful in modern technology. This combination allows students to develop critical thinking skills, problem-solving techniques, organization, and planning skills, and pay attention to the details. Design at MySchool challenges the students to explore the solutions to solve the relevant real-world problems, MySchool community, and society. The Design subject projects will ease the learners' mindset to go through the Design Thinking process and design the product for a specific or targeted audience. Through the Design subject, MySchool allows the students to explore the broader world of Designers that can cover multiple fields like Engineering, Architecture, Fashion Designing, Robotics, Digital designing, and Product Designing. So we equip our learners with a design thinking mindset through a variety of fundamental skills to increase their impact on real-world clients. We hope we are preparing our learners to become vibrant contributors to the future Sultanate of Oman and the world.

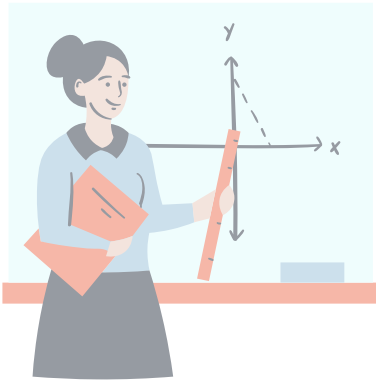
MYP Design is compulsory for all students in the Middle years from MYP1 to MYP5 and covers three areas: Graphic design, Multimedia, and Programming.

WHAT IS NEW IN THE MIDDLE YEARS PROGRAM? PERSONAL PROJECTS

The MYP personal project is a student-centered and age-appropriate practical exploration in which students consolidate their learning throughout the program. The personal project formally assesses students' ATL skills for self-management, research, communication, critical and creative thinking, and collaboration. It results in a process journal, an article, and a student-made showcase.



TEACHING MATHEMATICS DURING THE PANDEMIC



WHAT ABOUT SHAPES WITH NINE SIDES OR MORE?

So far, we know the names of polygons with sides numbering from three (triangle) to eight (octagon). Some shapes have interesting and impressive names like myriagon (a 10000-sided shape), megagon (a million-sided shape) and octakis chiliagon (an 8000-sided shape).

Find the names for shapes with:

- 9 sides - nonagon
- 10 sides - decagon
- 11 sides - hendecagon
- 12 sides - dodecagon
- 14 sides - tetradecagon
- 18 sides - octadecagon
- 20 sides - icosagon
- 50 sides - pentacontagon
- 90 sides - enneacontagon
- 100 sides - hectogon
- 1000 sides - chiliagon
- 10^{100} -
- 27 sides - heptacosagon
- 96 sides - enneacontahexagon
- an infinite number of sides - infinite Polygon / Boundless

Links to: Languages

Where do the names for these shapes come from? Why do you think that is? Are there different names for the same shapes? Why do you think that might be?

graphs

graphs They're 2 types of graphs

- bar graphs
- line graphs
- pie charts

1 bar chart is a graph in a map or graph that uses vertical bars with rectangular or square bases to represent the values of things. The height of the bars represents the values that they represent.

A line graph shows how one thing changes over time. It is used to show the relationship between two variables. The horizontal axis represents time and the vertical axis represents the value of the variable.

A pie chart is a circle divided into sectors. Each sector represents a proportion of the whole. The size of the sector is proportional to the quantity it represents.

Here is a graph showing the sales of used cars at the Salamander Autos.

Use the line graph to answer the following questions about the data.

- How many cars were sold during May? 20
- How many cars were sold in the first 5 months of the year? 22
- How many more cars were sold in July than May? 4
- Which month had 26 car sales? August
- Answer true, false or can't tell to each of the statements below:

a) The beginning and end of the year had the lowest number of car sales.	+
b) Car sales increased steadily from March to August.	+
c) August had twice as many sales as December.	+
d) Salamander Autos made the most money in August and September.	+
e) Car sales decreased from August to December.	+

A triangle has zero diagonals. Diagonals must be created across vertices in a polygon, but the vertices must not be adjacent or the same vertex. A triangle has only adjacent vertices.

2 Diagonals

5 Diagonals

9 Diagonals

20 Diagonals

14 Diagonals

polygons	Number of Sides (n)	Number of Diagonals (d)
triangle	3	0
quadrilateral	4	2
pentagon	5	5
hexagon	6	9

Due to the pandemic, education has been shifted to the online paradigm. Schools closed down, and mathematics teachers were facing the challenge of developing alternative educational practices, distance learning through digital technology. We moved onto the online platform Google Classroom and used online writing boards like Google Jamboard, ShowMe, and Explain Everything.

Technology expands students' opportunities to engage in learning mathematics by providing multiple pathways and methods. Teaching strategies provide differentiation and personalized learning approaches, visualization, and dynamic manipulation of mathematical concepts, and alternative teacher-student feedback and communication techniques.

DIGITAL ART AND ITS DEVELOPMENT IN MYSCHOOL



Nibras Al Baluchi



Maarya Al Mughairi ,G7

MySchool students were talented and skillful in producing digital artworks by using multiple applications on the iPad. Their works included various artistic styles that are abstract, realistic, and impressionistic in a modern and innovative way, keeping pace with the developments and changes of the era.



Sir an Al Baluchi,G7



Nibras Al Blushi,G7



Hassan Aman,G7



Fatima Al Jaaidi G7



Azzam Alraisi G7



MAARYA TALMUX, AL SAÏD, G7



Maarya Almuqhairi, G7



مريم البلوشية (١)



Sara Al Sarmi G7



Nibras Al Blalushi ,G7

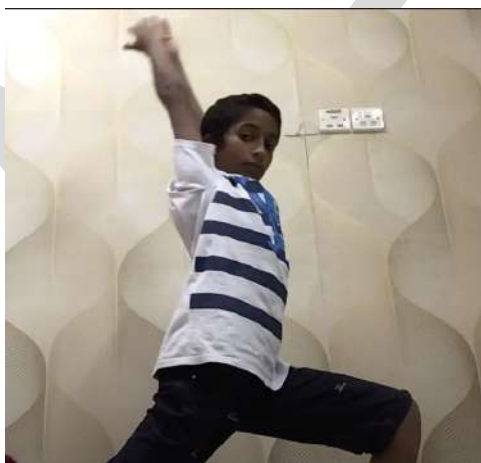


Nibras AlBalushi G7

PHYSICAL EDUCATION AND DISTANCE EDUCATION



We are still facing challenges during the outbreak of the Coronavirus. Still, our students have excelled during the sports PE in presenting them in a distinct manner that indicates the extent to which they understand the benefit of exercising for their health and wellbeing. Students share their workout recordings. The educational platforms indicate how good our students are in connecting their subject-based knowledge with advanced technology.



Students' commitment to exercise at a distance

SCIENCE TEACHING AND LEARNING DURING THE PANDEMIC

Amid this pandemic situation, MySchool started the academic year on the 13th of September, 2020. We faced some issues at the beginning of the first term - like science laboratory work could not be accessed from home, less interaction, technical issues, etc.

However, MySchool Science facilitators used various teaching Tech-based tools, such as virtual labs, simulations, science video clips, and other e-learning resources and applications (jam board, explain everything, edu creations, and padlets. Mentimeter, phet, O-lab)

Recently, the MOE allowed senior students to use the laboratories with an emphasis on precautions and health measures (wearing face masks, physical distancing, sanitization of all the used materials and tools.)

Being open-minded IB teachers, we managed to accomplish our goals. Indeed, our students enjoyed learning and were interested in gaining knowledge beyond their respective academic courses.



“
In MySchool labs, we follow the Lab-Specific guidelines and Precautions to avoid Covid-19
”

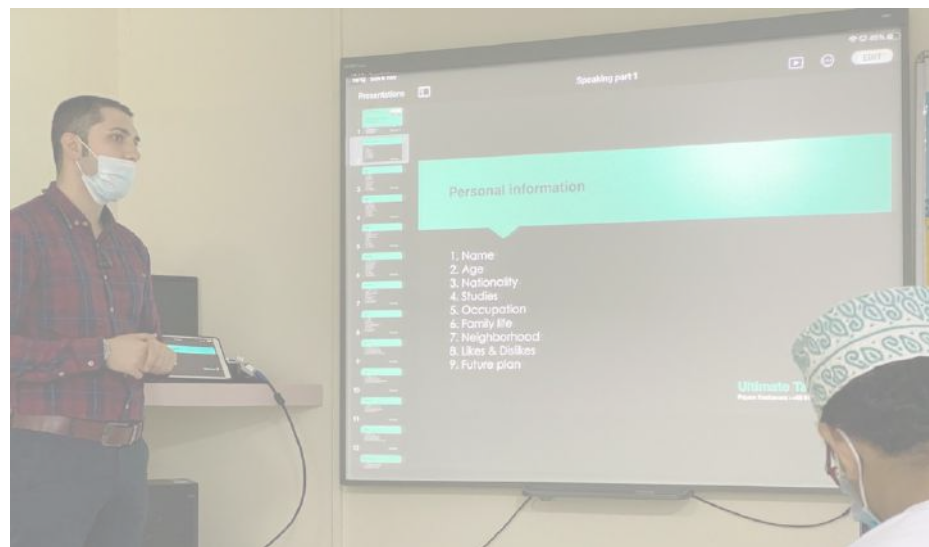
IELTS PREPARATION COURSE MYSCHOOL PROVIDES OPPORTUNITIES FOR THE IELTS APPLICANTS

INTRO

The International English Language Testing System (IELTS) measures the language proficiency of people who want to study or work where English is used as a language of communication. It uses a nine-band scale to identify proficiency levels, from non-user (band score 1) through to expert (band score 9). For the students who want to level up their degrees abroad, it is considered a major prerequisite for college attendance.

Our Mission

The goal of the course is to provide students with an updated understanding of the IELTS exam and prepare them for the mock exam at the end of each course. The second objective is to diagnose and fix the weak areas in students' English language knowledge and to improve the pace of reading and speaking.



Procedure

We offer our learners a wide range of data and lessons in different stages. Students attend the graded IELTS classes based on the standard placement test at the beginning of the course. They go through a continuous learning, practicing, and feedback cycle to deepen their knowledge and master all of the modules.

Feedback

Learners are supposed to instill IELTS exam modules in themselves and level with the international students who sit the same exam globally. They will improve their fluency and accuracy and they can face any type of questions well.



STUDENTS' WORK CORNER

MySchool eleventh graders excelled in highlighting the characteristics and areas of Islamic art, using the techniques of shadow and light and the harmony of colored spaces to create paintings inspired by the realist art.



STUDENT: AHMED AL ZEDJALI



STUDENT: FATMA AL RAISI



STUDENT: WARDA AL JAIDI

HOW TO SUCCEED IN THE ONLINE CLASSES



- Establish a productive learning environment
- Set a schedule for completing and reviewing assignments
- Seek virtual interactions with your peers
- Find ways to stay motivated.
- Think critically about how that assignment could be useful in helping you in the future.
- Problem-solve on your own
- Focus on your self-care

An Interview with Grade 12 Students



Mohammed Faris Al Khanjri

How do you evaluate success?

Achieve my personal goals

What do you think you might study in College?

Civil engineering

How do you handle stress and pressure during the exam period?

Determine break times between study sessions and studying in a quiet place

What advice would you give to other students?

Get the tasks done regularly and prepare the lesson before the actual session to reduce stress

Tell us about an accomplishment that has made you feel especially proud

I was able to increase my study hours at home and organize my time more

If you had one wish, what would it be?

Getting admission to the university that I aspire to enter

Who do you want to dedicate your success/achievement to?

To myself and my family



Ibrahim Hanif Dad Al Bulushi

How do you evaluate success?

Achieve my personal goals

What do you think you might study in College?

Business and finance management

How do you handle stress and pressure during the exam period?

Take outdoor tours to relieve stress

What advice would you give to other students?

Study well to ensure a successful career after college

Tell us about an accomplishment that has made you feel especially proud

I got high marks in all subjects

If you had one wish, what would it be?

Achieve a high and satisfactory ratio

Who do you want to dedicate your success/achievement to?

To myself, my family and community



Ahmed Mohammed Al Digheshi

How do you evaluate success?

Achieve my personal goals

What do you think you might study in College?

Pilot

How do you handle stress and pressure during the exam period?

Organize and allocate time for studying and rest

What advice would you give to other students?

Follow the instructions, rules, and regulations approved in the school

Tell us about an accomplishment that has made you feel especially proud

I was able to stay at home during the quarantine period to protect myself and my family from the risk of infection with Covid-19 virus

If you had one wish, what would it be?

Get high marks in all subjects tests

Who do you want to dedicate your success/achievement to?

To my country and family.

Extra-Curricular Activities Program

Being an IB World School, MySchool strives to arrange various activities and celebrate national and international events throughout the school year, as we believe in their vital and influential role in developing and refining students' talents and in enhancing the spirit of pride of the homeland and its ethical values.

Despite the Corona pandemic and the challenges that prevented our actions from being implemented in the usual way, the MySchool activities department did not hesitate to adapt smart and flexible solutions that were announced through the different tech-based means and ways.

Students showed their interaction and participated by sending their creative work (photos, videos, models, and handicrafts) via e-mail.

Likewise, for the Arabic Language Day, students celebrated in their classes by doing activities that help to develop their pride of their mother tongue and the importance of preserving it.

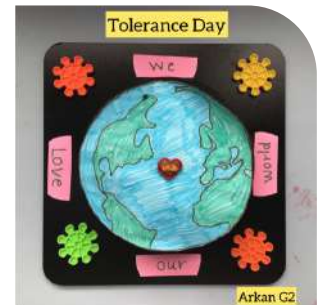
MySchool activities are an integral part of the educational process, aiming to build a balanced international mentality that is able to face different challenges with flexible and smart solutions.



International Day of Peace



World Food Day



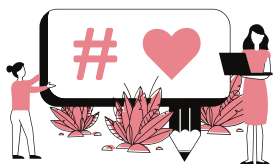
International Day of Tolerance



Arabic Language Day

Social Media

Aligning with the IB standards and MySchool belief in the importance of documenting and evidencing all teaching and learning we, the MySchool Media Team, work hard to promote our students work through all social media networks from pictures to videos and stories to help build their self-confidence and to encourage them to share their ideas, knowledge, and perspectives with the community and to reflect on their learning journey and the progress they made throughout their academic years at MySchool. Being part of tomorrow's generation our students seek to put their energy and drive into Oman's bright future. Thus, our social media team is really encouraging them to be more creative, innovative, and talented.



The Fiftieth National Day at MySchool

The celebration of the National Day every year marks an essential event for everyone who loves this land. Indeed, this year the 50th renaissance celebration values have been extended to include the values of gratitude to the late leader's deeds and life that paved the path for the nation. Aiming for the good of Oman and its people, we look forward for the bright present and future under the leadership of His Majesty Sultan Haitham Bin Tariq, may God support him, who was chosen by His Majesty Sultan Qaboos , may God have mercy on him, to be his successor. On this honorable occasion, MySchool presented a National Day program while taking into consideration the precautionary measures to prevent the spread of the Covid-19, through activities that instill values of loyalty, citizenship, and love for the leader and the homeland in the hearts of the MySchool students.



Professional Development

Professional development is the term that refers to seminars and the teaching training sessions that the educators participate in to enhance their knowledge and develop their capabilities to achieve professional progress, raise competence, and solve the problems that enable them to improve the educational process. The Professional development events have many benefits for schools that include the following:

- Teachers' vibrant discussions about teaching methods, educational aims and educational technology; and applying those approaches and methods.
- Knowledge of new assessment methods, strategies, and modern methods in oral and written tests.
- Teacher development in all aspects: academically, professionally, and culturally.

MySchool has provided support to teachers in all disciplines to provide the best for students. The teacher plays the role of the facilitator of the educational process allowing for advancing teaching and learning, taking advantage of the various workshops and training programs that MySchool provides for its teachers as part of the school's professional development plan. Here are the sessions that we already conducted:

1. A series of workshops were presented by the principal of MySchool, Mrs. Samia Al Belushi.
 - a. Assessment criteria for the Arabic language from KG to Grade 12.
 - b. The Leadership.
 - c. The Child Literature.
2. A Series of workshops related to the Middle Years Programme was presented by Mrs. Iris Eltinay, the MYP coordinator.
 - a. Unit planning, in line with the requirements and policy of the International Baccalaureate
 - b. Interdisciplinary learning workshop.
 - c. The Standards and Practices of IB education.
 - d. Evaluation of the IB MYP Planning unit evaluation.
3. Developing a transdisciplinary Unit of Inquiry workshop and a series of Enhanced PYP related training sessions, presented by Mrs. Emna Al Baji, the academic director of MySchool.
4. Launching the Middle Years Program workshop presented by Mr. Mohamed Maghribi, a certified trainer from the International Baccalaureate Organization.
5. A series of workshops presented by Mrs. Pari Bagheri, the Primary Years Program Coordinator, to plan for the IB PYP self-study for the 1st Programme Evaluation.



6. Two workshops were presented by our 1st grade English facilitator, Ms. Shakera Wadee. One workshop was focusing on our community members' wellness, and another one was entitled "Learn, Love and Laugh," focusing on allocating positive traits to children and how differentiated teaching can be effective.

7. A workshop presented by Ms. Esraa Nabil, the high-school Social Studies and the individuals and societies facilitator in the Middle Years Program, on creative solutions for distance learning through modern technological education programs.

8. A workshop presented by Ms. Sanaa Hamdallah, PYP & MYP Arts facilitator, about the Service as Action.

The team worked to align the International Baccalaureate program with the school policies. All school staff, including administrators and teachers, work cooperatively, plan, and follow a single approach whose primary goal is teaching and learning.

Through the teachers' professional development, MySchool facilitators made great progress in their practices throughout the distance learning and the pandemic.

In fact, the school has provided them with different educational platforms to bypass these challenging times successfully.

