



Human Capital EDUCATION

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COMMUNICATION LETTER# 16

QP INTERNATIONAL SCHOOLS

Our vision is for our students to be high achieving, healthy and happy individuals, well prepared to take their place as global citizens and leaders of the future

I visited Mesaieed International Secondary School earlier this week and listened to the presentation by representatives from the University of Istanbul, who had been invited to speak with students considering higher education options. This reminded me that so many of our students (and their parents) will be pondering on what are the best options for further study on leaving school.

I will share some headline data from last year's Y12/13 cohort who left QP schools to embark on university courses. I was interested to note the diverse nature of destinations eg, of the 80 students who left our schools last year 18% are studying in Qatar, 13% in The Netherlands, 11% in the USA and 11% in Canada. In total students are studying in 19 countries across the world at more than 75 different universities. As you can imagine there are many different courses being studied but the most popular are Engineering and Technology courses with 31% of students choosing this study option.

In compiling this data I have met with staff in schools and discussed how we can improve our support for students about to embark on further study, to support this planning it would be good to hear from parents and students as to the type of information you would find supportive. If you have recently undergone this process as a parent or are in the midst of decision making please feel free to get in touch with your suggestions.

Staying with Mesaieed, I feel it important to recognise the school and community support as evidenced by today's International Day celebration. To see all the students, many in national costume was a sight to behold and reminded me what a diverse school community we serve. I believe it is vital that our young people have the opportunity to recognise and celebrate diversity in order to prepare them to take their place as global citizens of the future. It is so important that students are proud of who they are and where they come from and are not afraid to learn about and embrace different cultures. I only apologise for turning up in a black suit amidst all the colour, I need to do better next year!

Some of you will have noticed that in my 10 January communication I mentioned Qatar were looking good in the Asia Cup. I think it's safe to say we were all a bit surprised that they emerged as Champions of Asia but what an achievement. I particularly liked the photo I saw of the successful coach with the team when they were all aged about nine years old. It shows how a group of young people who are nurtured to believe in themselves and in their abilities can go on to do great things.

Talking of sport, was really encouraging to see so many of our Dukhan students competing in the Qatar Primary Schools athletics competition this week. I watched the 800m and saw how students really pushed themselves to get to the finish line, some very promising athletic talent was on view as well as determination and pride in their school, well done to all our athletes.

Finally, next week will be the half-term break so I wish you all a relaxing and enjoyable time with your families.

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