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Doha College works with EPR for onsite recycling centre

Doha College, one of the oldest international schools in Qatar and the first to have been granted the FEE (Foundation for Environmental Education) green flag status six years ago, has reached another eco-milestone.

Starting this month, Doha College students and staff are able to recycle paper, card, wood, metal, glass, plastics and batteries, thanks to their partnership with Elite Paper Recycling (EPR).

A subsidiary of Elite Waste Recycling, EPR can recycle all types of wastepaper, and provides waste and recycling collections, among many other environmental services.

EPR public relations director Mar-yam al-Sayed shared her delight at

this new development: "I would like to express our gratitude for the efforts of Doha College, especially the Eco-Schools team, in preserving the environment and instilling these values in students, making them ambassadors of the environment in our society."

"We are pleased to announce that Doha College is the first school with which we fully implemented recycling by installing a recycling station on the school campus," she said. "We are delighted to see young environmental heroes who are working to raise awareness among students and parents of the importance of doing this step."

"Doha College is making great efforts in this field, which is an excellent example for other schools to follow,

and this is in line with Qatar National Vision 2030, particularly with regards to 'environmental development,'" al-Sayed added.

During the 2021-22 academic year, Doha College put in practice a number of eco initiatives, including:

- A sustainability week from November 28 to December 2, 2021, with each day recognising a different environmental theme.

- A live workshop from the COP26 conference on climate change.

- The creation of a Meatless March Cookbook, in collaboration with the school's Diversity, Equality and Inclusion committee.

- The incorporation of a recycling theme on World Book Day, namely a book swap.



- A beach clean-up in collaboration with DEAP Qatar.

- Raising QR8,231 for WWF animals (specifically an elephant, a tiger and a giant panda), and QR8,231 for the #TEAMSEAS initiative to remove rubbish from the ocean.

- The turning off of lights to celebrate Earth Hour.

- Raising over QR10,000 on World Earth Day and taking part in a WWF and British Antarctic Survey public science project.

- Participating in the FIFA green card campaign, having been nominated by DEAP Qatar.

Since the opening of the recycling

centre, students and staff have been using it not just to recycle the waste created in school, but have also been bringing recyclables from home, with parents doing their bit in equal measure.

Principal Dr Steffen Sommer said on the occasion: "We are exceptionally proud that we live up to the sustainability award that we received in 2018, as the first institution in Qatar, and we're very proud that we already have two 'green' flags, and are now going through the motions of getting the third 'green' flag."

"Our planet is at risk, and education is essential for our young people

to fully understand that recycling is an integral part of sustainability, of keeping the planet safe and sustainable for future generations," he said.

"We hope that this notion, through the students, reverberates with parents and friends so that recycling, which may be seen as a hassle to start with, will soon become normality," he added.

"I am exceptionally proud of the relationship with EPR, and I am also proud that Doha College is one of the first schools that chose this way here in Qatar, and I hope that very many will follow very soon," Dr Sommer said.



Ooredoo introduces Aamali Ring-Back Tone for business

Ooredoo Qatar is introducing the Aamali Ring-Back Tone, which lets Aamali Mobile users set customised audio messages instead of a standard call-progress tone for customers contacting them.

Ooredoo business customers can use this feature to convey company announcements, advertisements, offers or promotions whenever their enterprise's mobile numbers are called.

They can set the same message for all company Aamali Mobile lines or choose different messages for each line.

They also have the option to change the audio message multiple times as per their business needs.

Ooredoo Qatar executive director (Business) Thani Ali al-Malki explained: "This service allows business customers

to set customised ring-back messages in place of standard call-progress tones, promoting their businesses or sharing important information."

"The new Aamali Ring-Back Tone feature further strengthens our Aamali Mobile 5G portfolio, the most complete business mobile portfolio in Qatar," he said.

The feature will be charged at QR5 per month for each Aamali mobile line using the service.

Business customers can leverage the Ooredoo Advantage, "making Ooredoo 'Best for Business', thanks to its breadth and depth of talent, best fixed and mobile networks, broadest portfolio of ICT (information and communications technology) services and solutions, and for being a trusted partner for 60 years", the company said in a statement.

HBKU college develops AI method to diagnose cardiovascular disease

The CSE aims its AI/deep learning techniques at enhancing precision medicine for cardiovascular diseases

Leveraging the latest techniques in artificial intelligence (AI), scientists at Hamad Bin Khalifa University (HBKU)'s College of Science and Engineering (CSE) have proposed a novel AI-enabled system that can be utilised to diagnose cardiovascular diseases (CVDs) based on retinal (innermost, thin, light sensitive layer of eye) images and bone health data.

This seminal method was developed in-house at the CSE and funded by Qatar Biobank (QBB).

The research findings were published in the Open Access *Sensors* journal, which is publicly available for the community, a press statement issued by the HBKU noted.

The CSE's proposed deep learning-based system diagnoses CVDs using combined information from two imaging techniques.

The first - retinal images - provides medical practitioners with a fast way to examine optic nerves and diagnose diseases such as hypertension, diabetic retinopathy, or arteriosclerosis.

The second is dual-energy X-ray absorptiometry (DXA) data on bone mineral density.

DXA is a form of non-invasive X-ray technology used to analyse bone health and bone loss.

DXA has been approved recently for use in CVD diagnosis by the US Food and Drug Administration (FDA).

The investigators leveraged deep

learning techniques to fuse the two sets of information (retinal imaging plus DXA data) to diagnose the onset of CVD in a sample group of Qatari adults.

Based on the experiment results, the proposed novel method demonstrates major potential advancement for the early detection of CVD in a fast, non-invasive and low-cost manner.

In Qatar, 69% of mortalities are caused by chronic diseases where 24% are caused by CVDs, according to the press statement.

The CSE research is in line with the Qatar National Health Strategy 2018-2022, which aims at reducing the mortality rate caused by diseases such as CVD by 15%.

One way of achieving this is by utilising precision or personalised health for its early detection and diagnosis.

Project lead principal investigator Dr Tanvir Alam, assistant professor in the Information and Computing Technology Division at the CSE, said: "At the heart of this study is the use of state-of-the-art AI techniques to prevent, diagnose, and treat cardiovascular disease."

"The results demonstrate how the use of AI in healthcare, especially deep learning-based models, is evolving and its exciting potential to be expanded in clinical settings," he said. "The study has been enriched by the joint efforts of our research collaborators, experiments by HBKU PhD student Hamada



Hamada al-Absi



Dr Mounir Hamdi



Dr Tanvir Alam

al-Absi, and co-operation with Qatar Biobank."

CSE founding dean Dr Mounir Hamdi commented on the study outcomes: "This kind of seminal, innovative research conducted at the CSE will enable precision medicine solutions for Qatari society and elevate Qatar's leadership in the field of AI and personalised healthcare."

For more information on the work of the CSE, visit cse.hbku.edu.qa

Egyptian media highlights importance of Amir's visit

Egyptian newspapers have underlined the importance of the visit over the weekend by His Highness the Amir Sheikh Tamim bin Hamad al-Thani to Cairo at the invitation of Egyptian President Abdel Fattah el-Sisi.

Al-Ahram newspaper highlighted al-Sisi's assertion that His Highness the Amir's visit consolidated the path of developing bilateral relations in all fields, within the framework of the interests of the two countries and peoples.

The newspaper said in its editorial that His Highness the Amir's visit and his meeting with the president is of great importance in terms of timing and outcomes, and reflects the development of relations between the two countries in various fields.

The newspaper stressed that the development of Egyptian-Qatari relations is in the interest of both countries and enhances stability in the Arab region, especially in light of efforts to contain the effects of the war in Ukraine and the repercussions of the coronavirus (Covid-19) pandemic.

The next phase is expected to witness

enhanced co-operation between the two countries, especially in the energy and agricultural sectors, in addition to encouraging the increase of Qatari investments in Egypt and the development of trade exchange between the two countries, it added.

Al Gomhuria newspaper highlighted the two leaders' keenness on joint co-ordination and on achieving Arab solidarity to deal with the region's crises, pointing out that there is consensus in the importance of reviving the peace process and a just and comprehensive solution to the Palestinian cause.

The newspaper underlined His Highness the Amir's visit and his meeting with President al-Sisi, saying that the summit held at Al Ittihadiya Palace in Cairo came within the framework of strengthening Egyptian-Qatari relations, Arab reunification, and the promotion of joint Arab action.

The Egyptian-Qatari summit, the newspaper said, is an important step on the path of integration and joint Arab action to achieve the interests of the nation and the aspirations of people. - QNA

Katara announces new series of summer art workshops for July

Katara - the Cultural Village has announced the launch of summer workshops targeting children aged 8-13 for the coming month.

The two workshops are intended to focus on a myriad of artistic fields, prepared by artist Jamila al-Ansari at Katara Art Studios Building 19.

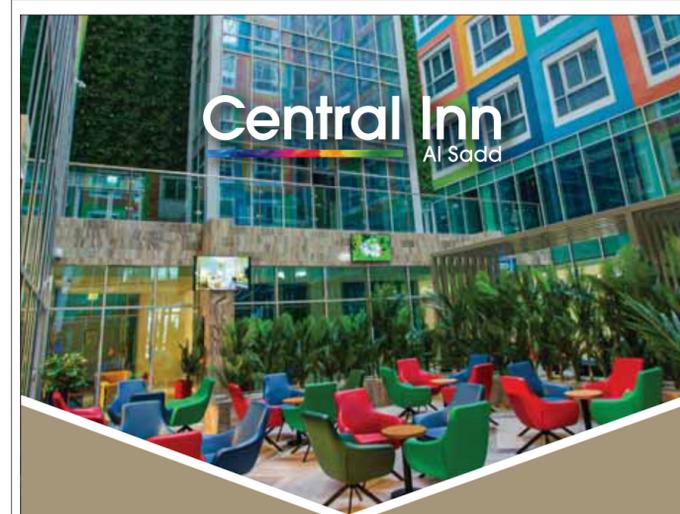
The first workshop, *Making Watercolour Fish*, will be held on July 1, and the second, *Summer Flowers*, is set to be held on July 3 from 5pm to 6:30pm.

A workshop on *The Basics of Landscape Painting* by artist Hanifa Abdel Qader will be held from July 5-7 at Katara Art Studios Building 19 from 5pm-7pm, for the 8-13 age group.

With these workshops, Katara seeks to nurture the artistic and manual skills of children, discover artistic talents from an early age, and provide the necessary care to ensure their progress.

This month Katara had launched a host of summer workshops, including a workshop on designing a stamp and postcard, and a workshop to teach the art of puppet making, which includes teaching how to make hand and thread puppets.

There were also workshops on the art of dramatic games and kinetic expression, verbal and facial expressions, and one on Arabic calligraphy, as well as workshops launched by the Al Thuraya Dome, which was extended for a month, with two workshops per week. - QNA



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