

# 2021 ROBERTS MYP UPDATE

An update for the Roberts MYP community



## Dear Roberts MYP community

*Happy New School Year, Roberts!*

*Thank you for taking the time to read this first edition of the 2021-2022 IB Middle Years Programme (IB MYP) newsletter. I hope that you find this newsletter informative! This bimonthly newsletter aims to improve the understanding of the IB Middle Years Programme and supports continued implementation of IB program at Roberts.*

*Elsie Roy, Lord Roberts and King George Secondary are part of the Downtown Family of Schools. Students in the 6th and 7th grade are in IB's Middle Years Programme. They are required to engage in inquiry-based learning in 8 subject areas: Language and Literature, Mathematics, Sciences, Individuals and Societies, Language Acquisition, Physical and Health Education, Design, and Arts. If you would like to know more about Roberts IB MYP Programme, please visit our school website. We prioritize instructional goals so that students receive the best IB education that is possible within the constraints created by the COVID-19 pandemic.*

IB students are the innovators,



thinkers and leaders of tomorrow  
With a focus on culture and



community, IB students enhance their understanding



of the world  
IB program refines student problem solving skills



## IB GLOBAL NEWS

Over the past year, the International Baccalaureate (IB) has been collaborating with the Jacobs Foundation (JF), the Australian Council for Educational Research (ACER) and the Oxford University Centre for Educational Assessment (OUCEA) to undertake research into creativity and curiosity across all IB programmes.

07 October 2021

Creativity and curiosity skills are aligned with the IB learner profile attributes such as inquirers, thinkers and communicators. Many educators are talking about the importance of ensuring that all students gain 21st century skills, including the development of creativity and curiosity, during their schooling. In practice, however, educators have expressed uncertainty about how to incorporate these into the curriculum. Overcoming this requires that: 1) skills are defined in a way that is relevant in educational settings, 2) teachers have clear guidance and tools on how to encourage these skills, and 3) schools have a way of recording student achievement in them.

*New research finds that IB students appear to hold an advantage when it comes to critical thinking*

29 October 2020

Evidence from the University of Oxford finds International Baccalaureate (IB) students exhibit significantly stronger critical thinking skills than non-IB peers. In today's rapidly changing world, schools seek ways to teach students skills needed for success beyond the classroom. Previous studies indicate that critical thinking skills are key determinants of individual and collective success, which is why these skills are sought after by students, parents, schools and universities. More than 560 students from eight schools in Australia, England and Norway participated in this study that examines the impact on the students' critical thinking abilities.(OUCEA).



# Learner Profiles for September and October

*The aim of all IB programmes is to develop internationally minded people who, recognizing their common humanity and shared guardianship of the planet, help to create a better and more peaceful world. The 10 learner profile attributes are **Inquirers, Knowledgeable, Thinkers, Communicators, Principled, Open-Minded, Caring, Risk-takers, Balanced, and Reflective.***

The Learner Profile Attribute for the month of September was **Caring**. Students are caring when they show empathy, compassion and respect. They have a commitment to service, and act to make a positive difference in the lives of others and in the world around them.



The Learner Profile Attribute for the month of October is **Inquirer**. Students nurture their curiosity, developing skills for inquiry and research. They know how to learn independently and with others. Students learn with enthusiasm and sustain their love of learning throughout life.

*As an Inquirer, I ask a variety of questions. I show persistence, I don't give up easily when seeking answers. I have a genuine appreciation for learning for its own sake. I use all senses fully. I conduct research independently.*

## **Making the MYP Connection at School**

At Roberts, students learn and practice the many ways we care and inquire. Specific standards for caring and respectful behaviour and guidelines for unacceptable language and conduct are established. Students are encouraged to

think about why certain words and actions can be hurtful. Students are

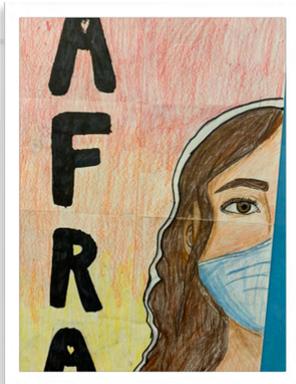
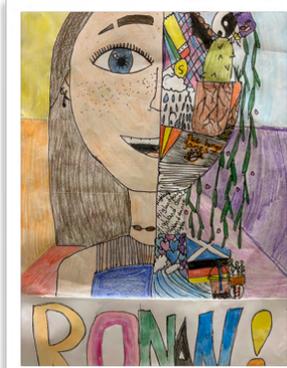


enlisted to establish the standards and to hold each other accountable.

Through inquiry, Roberts works to ignite passion, inspire relevance, and develop ownership in their students. Using



student inquiries and questions as guidance, teachers develop lessons that engage and excite, teaching their students to be active thinkers rather than passive learners.



## Making the MYP

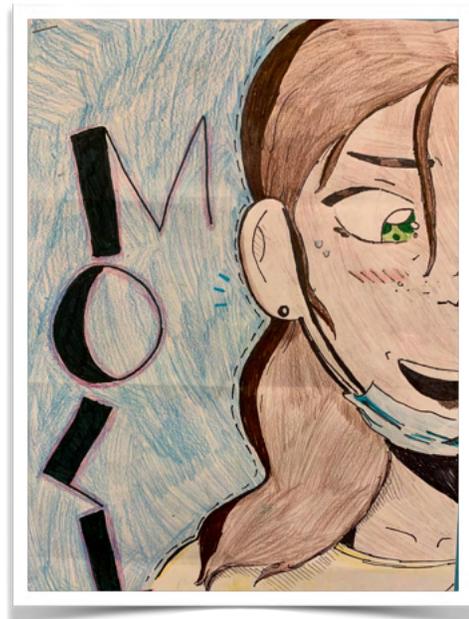
### Connection at Home

So how can you successfully encourage your child to be caring and be curious about the world around them?

- ▶ Encourage your child to stay in touch with relatives and friends who live in other locations by writing letters, using the phone or sending emails.
- ▶ Ask about what your child is learning in class.
- ▶ Support and encourage interest and curiosity by following up with activities at home.



- ▶ Encourage and practice good communication skills such as starting conversations and debates about current events.
- ▶ Help your kids develop research skills online and from text.
- ▶ Enjoy building projects together in the home.



### Coming Soon ...

Grouse Mountains Field Trip... Yes! Our MYP students will be going to the Grouse Mountains soon. Planning is in progress more details to come home soon.

