



Roberts MYP News



November / December
2018

Welcome to the IB Middle Years Programme (MYP)

Dear IB MYP Community,

As we head into our winter break, I'd like to take this opportunity to again thank you for all the collaborative support for our programme. Each day we enjoy a community that embraces the value of education. This is just part of what makes Roberts so special. MYP1 and MYP2 took part in a variety of learning experiences around the local area; service work, art galleries and outdoor activities.

Roberts MYP news is a bi-monthly newsletter aiming to improve communication about the MYP programme at Roberts. We want to highlight what is happening inside the classrooms, and also open a window to see what the IB world is doing to make teaching and learning meaningful and relevant. We welcome your comments and ideas to make this Newsletter an useful tool among our community of learners.

On behalf of the Roberts MYP teachers, I wish all of you a safe and relaxing winter break.



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ATL

What is Approaches to Learning-ATL?

Art Gallery

Visit to the Vancouver Art Gallery

Caring Class

Community Service by IB students

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Learner Profile Focus

THINKER

AND

KNOWLEDGEABLE



Approaches to Learning at Lord Roberts

Approaches to learning is an important element of IB programme. This article aims to communicate how approaches to learning helps our students to improve their understanding of how they learn.

APPROACHES TO LEARNING

By teaching [Approaches to Learning skills](#) we are helping our students to learn how to learn. Students develop skills for research, critical and creative thinking, communication, collaboration and self-management.

These skills equip students to:

- reflect on their learning (metacognition)
- understand the differences in how we learn
- evaluate and provide evidence of their learning
- meet MYP objectives in each subject
- share responsibility for creating productive, cooperative and safe learning environments
- develop the confidence to try new strategies and explore new concepts and contexts for learning
- prepare for further study and responsible participation in local and global communities.



ATL skills are informed by, and support the development of, the attributes of the IB learner profile.

Highlights of MYP students' learning and sharing...



November kicked off with MYP students visiting Art gallery guided tour and workshop. Art gallery exhibition tours and workshops designed for elementary students to introduce tools to foster visual literacy in students.

WE Day Vancouver on November 22, 2018, hosted thousands of change-makers, world-renowned speakers, A-list performers at the Rogers Arena for an unparalleled event. Thanks to Mr. Turner, some of the Roberts MYP students had the opportunity to be part of this magical event.



Inspired by their experience of their WE day concert Div.2 and 4 teamed up to organize 'Caring for the People in Need' campaign. They decided to pool their donations and buy essentials to survive the cold winter. They shopped for the essentials under the supervision of their teachers. Teachers were amazed at the life lessons that the students received. There was an excitement of shopping on their own as well as nervousness of keeping to the budget. At the counter, standing proudly with their shopping decisions, they faced the shocking reality that money can only stretch so much! Tears of joy from the receivers humbled our preteens and made them feel like 'Santa' as they joyfully sang throughout the 90 minutes walk through their local community spreading holiday cheer!



We had many exciting activities in MYP as we near the end of 2018. Teachers came together to have a teacher versus MYP students Volleyball Match. Match was a tie to the disappointment of all the students!

Students participated in the Student Vote to learn about government and the electoral process, research the parties and platforms, discuss relevant issues and cast ballots for the official election candidates.

Lastly, MYP students are busy learning about the Indigenous art and creating beautiful shoulder bags under the guidance of our kind and generous volunteer Ray.

NOVEMBER/DECEMBER LEARNER PROFILE FOCUS

THINKER AND KNOWLEDGEABLE



THINKER

Thinkers use critical and creative thinking skills to analyze and take responsible action on complex problems. We exercise initiative in making reasoned, ethical decisions.

KNOWLEDGEABLE

Knowledgeable learners develop and use conceptual understanding, exploring knowledge across a range of disciplines. We engage with issues and ideas that have logical and global significance.

MAKING THE MYP CONNECTION AT SCHOOL

As **thinking** is a mental activity, it is often said to be “hidden”, especially from novice learners. When we ask students to “think more critically” sometimes they do not know what they have to do.

At Roberts, thinking is made explicit by various ways. So making ‘thinking’ explicit can refer to the actions that the teachers take to make the mental moves in the thinking more transparent to the learner, for example, outlining a plan for more skillful thinking through a set of questions. A rubric is developed that shows different standards or levels of proficiency of skillful thinking, with appropriate performance descriptors that distinguish between the levels. These activities open up the world of thinking for students, giving them opportunities to understand what thinking is, the variety of mental moves and strategies that comprise good thinking, as well as opportunities to practice it in different contexts.

At Roberts, **knowledgeable** learners show enthusiasm and curiosity and have a positive attitude towards learning new things. They eagerly ask questions in order to find answers and gain knowledge and understanding about the world around them.





MAKING THE MYP CONNECTION AT HOME:

- Encourage your child to read a variety of books on different topics to expand their thinking.
- Ask your child about what they are learning at school and engage them in conversations about it.
- Foster any idea that the child brings home and discuss to understand their perspectives and respect their views.
- Encourage your child to read books at home that correspond to topics being covered at school.
- Foster any area that your child expresses an interest in with books and activities, but also ensure to encourage them to explore other areas.
- Encourage your child to become familiar with current events and read the newspaper or watch the news.



IB inquiry question...?

How do we know how to make good decisions?



Successful decisions are largely a result of

- knowing well the available options,
- clarifying the various facts and values of each,
- selecting a preferred direction and
- using the available resources to go in that direction.