

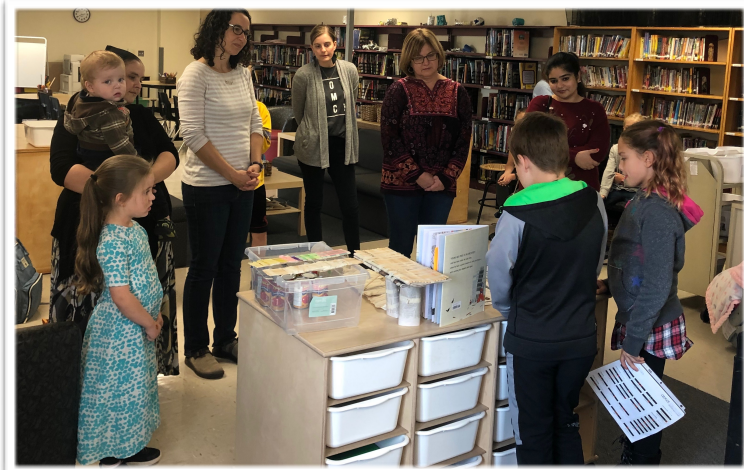
PYP PARENT CONNECT

International Baccalaureate | Primary Years Programme | Coffee, Tea and PYP

Primary Years Programme (PYP)

In June our school was notified that we became an International Baccalaureate Candidacy School for the Primary Years Programme. M.D. Bennie is pursuing authorization as an IB World School. IB World Schools share a common philosophy- a commitment to high-quality, challenging, international education- that we believe is important for our students. The Primary Years Programme is implemented in an inclusive manner, so that all students in Kindergarten through to Grade 6 in the school are engaged with the PYP. Grade 7 and 8 students will also participate in the foundational aspects of the programme - student voice, agency, action and inquiry. This September, we began to implement aspects of the PYP with the goal of being authorized as a World IB School by 2021.

*Only schools authorized by the IB Organization can offer any of its four academic programmes: the Primary Years Programme (PYP), the Middle Years Programme (MYP), the Diploma Programme (DP), or the Career-related Programme (CP). Candidate status gives no guarantee that authorization will be granted.



Coffee, Tea and PYP

As part of our IB PYP candidacy journey, we will periodically be hosting informal parent gatherings entitled 'Coffee Tea and PYP' with the goal being to share the learning opportunities that our classrooms have been engaging in thus far connected to IB, while enjoying a cup of coffee.

Our first one was held on Thursday, October 24th in our Library Discovery Centre at three times for parents to attend the one that was most convenient for them: 8:35am till 9:00am, 2:25pm till 2:50pm and 5:30pm till 5:55pm.

Thank you to the parents who were able to attend our initial gathering. For those parents who were unable to attend, please see page 2 to learn about what we touched upon. After attending parent shared, "My children share what they do in school...am thankful for the chance to hear the connection to IB too!"

Our next Coffee, Tea and PYP will be held on Thursday, November 21st at the same three times. Please look for a invitation that will come home next week with a tear off section for your RSVP.

IB Attributes Across the Grades

Each classroom is making meaning of the ten IB attributes through experiences that are relevant to them. *Provocations* have been books, community building opportunities, lived experiences and/or Makerspace creations.



Kindergarten read the book *Stuck* by Oliver Jeffers to create an interactive anchor chart for risk-taking.



Grade 1/2 reflected upon experiences they had in the classroom to create criteria for the attributes of risk-taking, caring, communicators and inquirers.

Learning from our Students

Students from Grade 3/4, 4 and 5 shared how their STEAM (Science, Technology, Engineering/Empathy and Mathematics) creations and robotics opportunities helped them reflect upon their IB attributes to identify successes and areas for growth. As the students were listening to each other share with our parents, a Grade 4 student exclaimed, "I was surprised when a Gr.3 taught me this - you would think we would teach them!"



Redesigning our Lobby and Library Discovery Centre

As Student Voice is paramount to IB, we invited each student to record their hopes/goals for this year and they placed them on our School Improvement Planning Bulletin Board.

Furthermore as diversity and inclusion are central to our newly created school mission and IB mission, we have posted our mission in the seven most prominent languages of our families here. We also have posted a map and students have been invited to pin where they are from as a way to embrace M.D. Bennie's diverse community.

Since a Makerspace with STEAM, robotics and technology are integral to our IB candidacy application, we have transformed our library into a Library Discovery Centre. After displays and photographs were placed around the room, a student reflected, "Now it truly is a Discovery Centre!"