NORTH BEACH ELEMENTARY

INTERNATIONAL BACCALAUREATE SCHOOL

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"Educating the whole child"

INTERNATIONAL BACCALAUREATE PRIMARY YEARS PROGRAMME (PYP)

- The Primary Years Program focuses on the development of the whole child in the classroom and in the world outside.

  It offers a framework that meets children's needs:

  academic, social, physical, emotional and cultural.

Internationalism

The purpose is to establish a concept of an international community where individuals celebrate diversity and commonalities.

The challenge is to foster citizenship at the local level, national level and in a global sense.

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- Student Profiles --PYP schools develop students who are:
  - Inquirers
  - Thinkers
  - Communicators
  - Risk-takers
  - Knowledgeable
  - Principled
  - Caring
  - Open-minded
  - Well-balanced
  - Reflective

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We want students to feel, value and demonstrate:

- Cooperation
- Commitment
- Creativity
- Empathy
- Independence
- Respect
- Appreciation
- Confidence
- Curiosity
- Enthusiasm
- Integrity
- Tolerance

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At the heart of the PYP is a commitment to structured inquiry as a vehicle to learning.

Six transdisciplinary themes provide the framework for the distribution of knowledge.

Students explore subject areas through these themes which takes them beyond the subjects' boundaries.

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These six organized themes help teachers and students explore knowledge in the broadest sense of the word:

- Who we are
- Where we are in place and time
- How we express ourselves
- How the world works
- How we organize ourselves
- Sharing the planet

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What do we want children to understand?

Teachers and students use key questions that are concept-based to structure the units of inquiry.

- Form What is it like?
- Function How does it work?
- Change How is it changing?
- Connection How is it connected to other things?
- Causation Why is it like it is?
- Perspective What are the points of view?
- Reflection How do we know?
- Responsibility What is our responsibility?

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What do we want students to be able to do?

Five transdisciplinary skills acquired during the process of inquiry.

- Self-management skills
- Research skills
- Social skills
- Communication skills
- Thinking skills

How do we want students to act?

Students are encouraged to reflect, to make informed choices and to take action that will help their peers, school and the community.

Reflect Choose Act

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How will we know what we have learned?

Assessments are of two types:

- *Formative* assessment is interwoven with daily learning.
- *Summative* assessment happens at the end of the teaching and learning process and gives students the opportunity to demonstrate what they have learned.

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Family Participation

The Primary Years Program sees learning as a partnership between student, parent, and school.

You can help your child by:

- Maintaining regular contact with the school
- Sharing books
- Assisting your child with research projects
- Providing an appropriate setting and structured routine for completing homework
- Attending curriculum information sessions at school and parent/teacher conferences
- Asking questions if you don't understand