



IB



ACADEMIC ACHIEVEMENT



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ARTS & PHYSICAL EDUCATION



PYP

IB Coordinator's Newsletter

Spring 2017

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Beyond Our Walls: Reaching Out to Classrooms Around the World

A main focus of the International Baccalaureate Primary Years Programme (PYP) is international-mindedness. Throughout each unit of inquiry, students learn about similarities and differences between the United States and various places and people around the world. Students begin to wonder and ask meaningful questions that relate to the global community. One way for students to gain a deep understanding is through a Mystery Skype classroom experience.

What is Mystery Skype? Mystery Skype is an opportunity for teachers from different places to connect their classrooms, and challenge students to discover the other class' location using various learning skills and inquiry. Learning skills include: asking probing questions, doing research, being observant, utilizing critical thinking and practicing communication skills.

Miss Bobroske's 2nd grade students are currently participating in a Mystery Skype with another classroom from somewhere in the world. The students began the process by developing questions to ask the other class in order to get answers that will guide them to figuring out the location. Then, Miss Bobroske's class practiced and recorded their introduction chat to send to the other class. Once the video was sent out via Skype, the class eagerly awaited a response. The reply from the other class answered Bradley's questions, and they asked their own. The video dialogue will continue until one location is discovered. The students "love" the mystery of trying to figure out the exact location, thinking about precise questions to ask and learning about students from another part of the world. This is an amazing opportunity for students to grasp a deeper understanding of people and places from around the world!



Where in the world are we??



Miss Bobroske's 2nd grade students!



How to Support At Home

- Please continue to talk to your child about the units he/she is learning about at school by saying, "Tell you more about your unit..." or asking, "What else did you do or learn today?"
- Ask your child open-ended questions...who, what, where, how, why??
- Look for connections to people, places and cultures around the world.