



**JACKSON MAIN/ANNEX
IB PYP WORLD SCHOOL**

Parent Handbook

Quick Reference for how we teach in Jackson Main/Annex
An International Baccalaureate Primary Years Program



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What is International Baccalaureate Organization?

- It is a non-profit educational and non-governmental organization
- It was established in 1968 in Geneva, Switzerland
- It is governed by a 17- member council and is funded by fees from IB World Schools
- We are in one of the 3 programs that IBO offers. It is called



The Primary Years Program (PYP) for scholars 3-12 years old.



What does this mean to Jackson Main/Annex School?

- It means scholars are taught WHY they should know something and how it connects to other subjects and the world around them
- It means scholars can inquire about things that interests them
- It means challenging learning experiences for the scholars to gain knowledge of things happening around them and the world
- It encourages scholars to take actions after reflecting on their learning at school.





What are the Learner Profile Attributes?

- These are 10 qualities that prepare scholars to respect themselves, others, and the world around them
- It prepares scholars to contribute to a better world
- According to the IB PYP, an internationally minded person is someone who demonstrates the qualities in the **Learner Profile**.

<p><i>the IB</i></p>  <p>The IB Learner Profile</p>	<p><i>learner profile</i></p>	<p><i>caring</i></p>  <p>Someone who cares for and helps others</p>	<p><i>knowledgeable</i></p>  <p>They know about many things and remember what they learn</p>
<p><i>risk-taker</i></p>  <p>Someone who steps outside their comfort zone</p>	<p><i>inquirers</i></p>  <p>Someone who learns by asking many questions</p>	<p><i>thinkers</i></p>  <p>A thinker is someone takes the time to think about every question</p>	<p><i>communicators</i></p>  <p>Some who works well in groups and speaks in class a lot</p>
<p><i>principled</i></p>  <p>tells the truth shares and plays well with others</p>	<p><i>open-minded</i></p>  <p>open to thoughts and ideas of others</p>	<p><i>balanced</i></p>  <p>A person who can balance school sports and friends</p>	<p><i>reflective</i></p>  <p>Someone who looks back and learns from past mistakes</p>

? What will my child be learning at Jackson Main/Annex Elementary School?

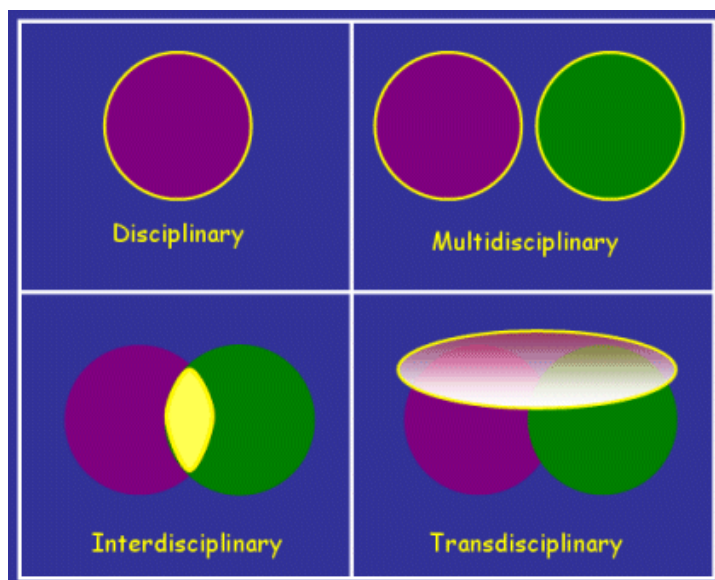
- Jackson Main's curriculum throughout the school meets the current Next Generation Learning Standards.
- The IB PYP shows us how we teach: through a structured inquiry using the Six Transdisciplinary Themes
- Teachers design lessons of inquiry for exploration and study
- Through this process scholars understand important ideas, acquire skills and knowledge, develop certain qualities, and learn to take socially responsible action.

? What does transdisciplinary mean?

- Transdisciplinary is the word IB uses to describe connections between all subjects and applied to the real world. For example: the idea of change is found in all subjects – teachers are asked to connect it to the real world.

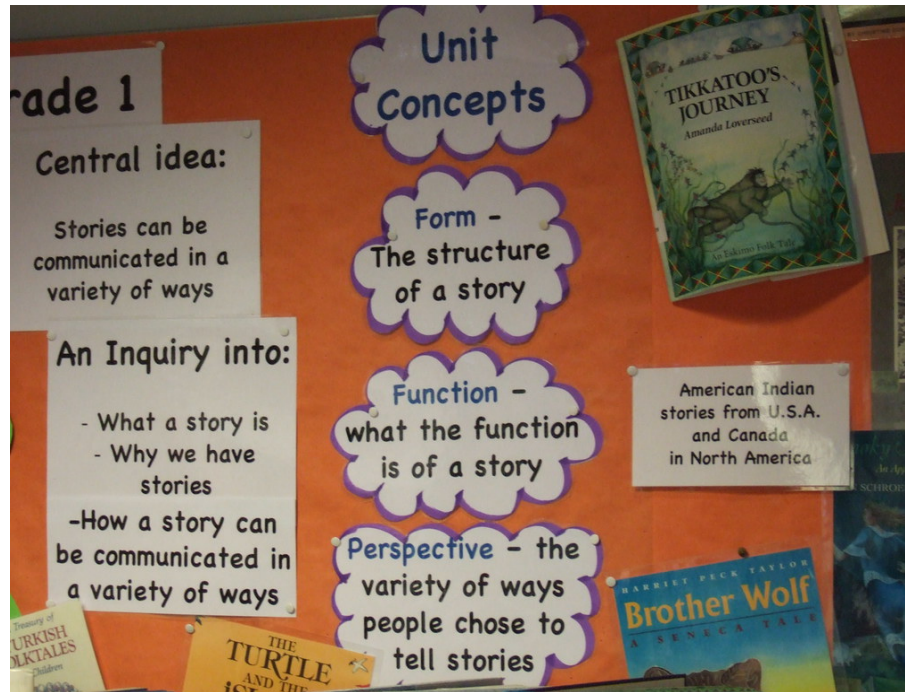
Trans + disciplinary

Above & beyond + Specific subject = transdisciplinary



? What is a Unit of Inquiry?

- There are six units of inquiry or themes that needs to be covered in a year
- A unit of inquiry lasts from 4-6 weeks
- For example: in the unit of inquiry “how the world works” scholars may inquire into the natural world and its laws and how it applies to people around us and around the world. All along, encouraging scholars to act where possible in their own small way.



? How does Jackson Main/Annex as an IB PYP World School implement the units of inquiry?

- The unit provides the structure for teachers to build scholars' knowledge.
- Scholars are taught to rely on a variety of resources to gather information from and gain new understandings. They are not taught using a textbook.
- From looking at the Program of Inquiry you can figure out what the scholars will be learning in the unit.
- The program of inquiry (POI) is on the school website by grade.

Program of inquiry displayed by grade level in the Jackson Main/Annex hallway.
Also, on the school website



How will Jackson Main/Annex assess our scholars?

The goal of assessments in JM/A is to check for understanding and how that understanding is applied in the real world.

- Written test, projects, presentations, and written reports
- NWEA (Northwestern Evaluation Association) MAP (measure of academic progress) is administered twice a year
- iReady Math and Reading computer tests
- IB PYP is “criterion referenced” assessment. Scholars are scored against a rubric which is a set of expectations and a score given for achieving those expectations
- Summative assessment is given at the end of each unit to check for understanding.
- NYS annual assessments for grades 3-6 in Reading and Math.



How can you help your child at home?

- Make sure you check to see what homework your child has
- Help your child manage time so they don’t get overwhelmed
- Help them with larger projects but DON’T do it for them. Conversations to help them think and come up with ideas is a great way to support your child.
- Have regular communication with your child’s teacher.
- Use resources on school website on the PYP page:
 1. **Support for parents**
 2. **Being an IB parent.** These resources have plenty of ways you can support your child including online books in different languages.



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