

Promoting Global Citizenship at Murrays Bay Intermediate School

Our community is ever changing, the melting pot is continually adapting and becoming true global citizens, in the true essence, is what we endeavour to develop with all of our students. The Global Citizens' Initiative suggests that being a global citizen is someone who identifies with being part of an emerging world community and whose actions contribute to building the community's values and practices.

At Murrays Bay Intermediate School, we have well established relationships in the Korean, Chinese and Japanese markets; as well as emerging markets of Taiwan and Hong Kong. We have a memorandum of understanding with two sister schools in Ningbo, China. This has transpired through Auckland City and Ningbo City initiative. Along with China, we have a sister school in Fukuoka, Japan that we visit each year and host bi annually.

Students share their knowledge regarding their culture and heritage with each other. A reciprocal win-win educationally sound relationship has transpired. Our students are excited about hosting students and gain a deeper understanding, from the simplicity of gaining knowledge regarding a typical Chinese school day, to the art of calligraphy and beyond to the deep history of a new culture. Real authentic learning occurs however, when students communicate in each others language and demonstrate respect and see implicit value in each other's culture and heritage.

We empower students by encouraging student agency, particularly in relation to supporting the pastoral care of International Students. We have International Student Leaders, Chinese and Korean, who support both Short Term and Long Term Students. The school provides first language support staff to ensure the welfare of students and English Language Programmes are taught at appropriate levels. Personalisation is paramount in supporting students academically. Due to the intensified focus on learning languages at school, students seem to be more aware of the impact they will make on a global stage.

The reality is that in the ever changing world within which our students live - they will travel, be employed in global companies and communicate daily with people from a variety of cultures. Therefore embracing global citizenship is vital for a successful future.

Janene Levett
Dean of International Students
Murrays Bay Intermediate School

Weaving during our Ningbo Sister School visit



International Leaders: Richard Jia, Evonne Teng and Jenny Hong





Welcoming a group of students from Hong Kong