



INTERNATIONAL BACCALAUREATE

Royal High School

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Start of the School Year

The 2014-15 school year has begun and Royal has started its inaugural year as an official International Baccalaureate school. We are off to a solid start with 15 diploma candidates and 29 other students taking individual courses. In our first year, we will be testing students in IB Visual Arts and Physics and have already registered students for these exams. However, some students have already begun to work on their internal assessments for several classes.

Dracula Field Trip for IB English

Moorpark College and department chair of the theater arts department, John Loprieno, offered an incredible opportunity for our students to see a free showing of their fall production of *Dracula*. The free showing was offered to various teachers in our district and was also open to current Moorpark College students. In studying human psychology and dysfunction in literature and its authors, the students in Mrs. Lev's IB English class were able to make direct connections between the characters in the play and what they were currently learning in the classroom. The students had an enjoyable afternoon and were even able to see the success of former Royal graduates who were involved in the play.

"I loved that we got to see literature come to life and even though we weren't in the classroom, we were still learning."

-Jenna Ohler



The IB English class at Moorpark College's production of *Dracula* on October 22, 2014

Potential Class Offerings for 2015-16

We are looking forward to adding two more teachers to our IB teaching team. Currently, Mr. Dan Shuster is being trained through the IB to teach an IB computer Science class in the next school year. Mrs. Lisa Pate is also working on her training so that we can have an IB Band class in the fall, which will work with her wind ensemble class. This will open up many opportunities for our current students to explore their interests and to add to the already eight course offerings that we have now.



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Please RSVP to Mrs. Lev to reserve a spot for pizza, ice skating or both!

IB students receive a discounted rate of \$9 with skate rental

**Need to relieve
some IB stress?
Join us for ice
skating at Simi
Valley Iceoplex!**

**December
2, 2014
7:30-9:30**



Join us for pizza before ice skating at Topper's Pizza on Erringer at 6:15 p.m.

Scooter's Jungle Supports IB Students

Scooter's Jungle in Simi Valley graciously sponsored our first IB stress relief night on October 21, 2014. They provided their facilities, pizza and dessert all for free; but most importantly, it was a much needed night off from the rigorous IB curriculum. Students enjoyed "feeling relaxed with their friends" and "pretty much everything" about the experience. We plan on offering an IB bonding event at least once a semester. The Simi Valley Iceoplex is helping by offering a discounted rate for our next bonding event on December 2, 2014.



Aside from the team slide races and intense air hockey games, our IB students couldn't stay away from learning. Some of our students used their physics skills to calculate the speed of the slides at Scooter's Jungle. I'm sure Mr. Willging would have been very proud!

Counselor Corner

Royal has assigned a specific counselor to the IB diploma candidates who will be in charge of helping and supporting these students through this process. Mrs. Katrina DuVal has been actively meeting with our IB diploma candidates and will continue to do so over the course of the school year. They went over transcripts, grade points and general questions and concerns. Mrs. DuVal also introduced to them the Ronald Reagan CSI project, establishing how it served as a perfect opportunity to work towards their CAS requirements. The deadline was extended so they could take part in this great opportunity.

Exams

Exams costs were due in ASB on October 31st. Make sure you have made your payments in ASB and returned your receipt and paperwork to Mrs. Lev.

The physics external exams will take place on Friday, May 8th and Monday, May 11th, 2015



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WHAT ARE THEY LEARNING?

IB Physics, as an illustration of conservation of energy, we analyzed two videos, a tablecloth trick with unintended consequences run by two German speaking boys, and a test of a concrete barrier against a head-on collision from a high speed truck.

In **IB History**, we are mostly just working on the causes of the Civil War, which makes IB students working hand in hand with AP right now.

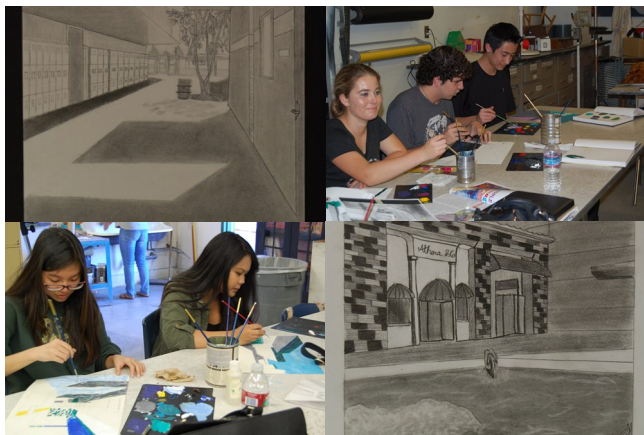
IB French is working with the theme Science and Technology. We've been discussing types of technology, famous French scientists (like Couteau, Braille, and Pasteur), the necessity of types of technology, and the ethics of it all. We'll wrap up with creating a silly invention to do a mundane task, then sell it as we move into the Publicity and Marketing unit.

In **IB Mathematics**, to motivate representations of data and their distribution, we are looking at baseball homerun careers as both a way of applying these concepts to a variety of circumstances and to inspire topics for our internal assessments. (J.D. Nelson, diploma candidate, suggested that comparisons could be made between MLB and the equivalent in Japan.)

Advisory class has turned about to be a great opportunity to vent and discuss some of the issues we need to to understand better and problems we need to solve. We have had visits from Mrs. Duval, our IB counselor, Mr. Wilging, our IB physics teacher, Mrs. Porter, the CAS advisor, Kari Lev, the IB coordinator and IB English teacher, and me, Jean Svoboda, the new Extended Essay Supervisor and TOK teacher. We have discussed issues relating to weighted classes, the extended essay, the CAS project, and to the IB grading approach to written response assessments.

In **IB Literature**, we have been exploring human psychology and dysfunction within American Literature and American authors. After finishing *Catcher in the Rye*, the students will be completing their first IB internal assessment, which will require them to given an individual oral presentation (IOP) on a subject related to the semester topic.

IB Spanish investigated ways other countries honor /celebrate their deceased families and friends. They learned about the cultural meaning of certain words like "dead" and that Octavio Paz said to a New Yorker that the word "dead" burns the lips, whereas to a Hispanic they caress it and embrace it.



IB Visual Art students are exploring identity and culture with photographs and constructions. They have learned about the art of Joseph Cornell and are currently planning a shadow box representing themselves and their interests, as homework. In class they are being taught some drawing skills and are finishing perspective drawings and paintings of the school buildings.

IB Visual Art

Pictured top left: RHS picture by Kelley Lam

Bottom Right: Mall picture by Sierra Schraml

Top Right: Sierra Schraml, Jacob Solzberg, and Ryan Feigenbaum in class

Bottom left: Kelley Lam and Kimberly Ilejay hard at work



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Featured IB Candidates

<u>Jenny Quezada</u>	<u>JC Nelson</u>
<p>Favorite subject: French</p> <p>What do you like to do when you aren't studying?: I like to relax and take my mind off school.</p> <p>Favorite IB class: Art because I enjoy being able to create and develop art skills</p> <p>CAS project work: I have set up the "dot system" in local Hispanic stores to let customers know which foods are okay to consume if they have diabetes or high blood pressure</p> <p>Favorite thing about the program thus far: It lets the students express themselves</p>	<p>Favorite subject: Math</p> <p>Favorite food: Quesadillas</p> <p>Extracurricular activities: Marching band, Science Club, Band cabinet</p> <p>Favorite IB class: IB History because the class is pretty fun</p> <p>What would you like to see happen in the diploma program next year?: I would like to see and IB Music class</p>

Each newsletter the IB teachers will be recognizing student standouts from the IB classes whom are deserving of recognition. The following students are being recognized for first quarter:

CAS- Jennifer Quezada is volunteering at the Westminster Free Clinic. She is working on a project to find food markets that will help the clinic provide healthier options for people with diabetes and/or high blood pressure.

English- Zoey Dew and her thoughtful perspective brings a much needed balance to IB Literature this year. Her writing skills are exactly what is needed to be successful on IB assessments.

History- Jenna Ohler's dedication to her studies and her incredible work habits are clear in IB History this quarter. She has a true desire to be successful. **Robert Ota** has also given a great performance in IB History HL, showing he is skilled in many subjects.

Math & Spanish- Kelley Lam demonstrates an enthusiastic approach to problem solving with enlightening presentations of her solutions and creative applications of concepts used in IB Math SL. In Spanish, Kelley did her last speaking report without any notes!

Physics- Robert Ota and Dylan House form a tandem top IB Physics team, extending problems beyond the original question, keeping calculations honest and true, as well as performing well on all assessments.

French- Jacob Solzberg is this quarter's star IB French student. He REALLY makes an effort to only speak in French in class!

Student Standouts for 1st Quarter