



### **Social Studies in the PYP**

Social studies learning is integrated into the programme of inquiry. Each year group studies 6 units of inquiry a year. These units are organized into the following themes (who we are, where we are in place and time, how we express ourselves, how the world works, how we organize ourselves, and sharing the planet). These transdisciplinary themes enable connections to be made between disciplines.

The younger students examine the world close to them, focusing on themselves, their friends and families and their environment. Then as the students mature, their inquiries broaden to include diverse communities. They learn to appreciate the reasons why people belong to groups, the roles they fulfill and the different ways that people interact within groups. The students develop an understanding of why particular places are important to people as well as how and why people's activities influence and are influenced by the places in their environment. They develop an understanding of time, recognizing important events in their own lives and how time and change affect people. In addition, students will have the opportunity to identify and reflect on the transdisciplinary themes, learning to make connections between the questions asked and the concepts that are driving the inquiry. The students will become aware of the relevance these concepts have to all of their learning.

### **Social studies perspective**

Social studies is an integrated area of inquiry. The unique perspective provided by following the strands outlined below contributes to our understanding of human activity.

### **History**

The study of what we think is important about the human past. Through it we develop an understanding of the past, its influences on the present and its implications for the future.

### **Geography**

The study of the relationship between people and their environment, both natural and built. Through it we develop a sense of place and an understanding of human interaction with the Earth's surface and resources

### **Society**

The study of people and their relationships in society. Through it we develop an understanding of the ways in which individuals, groups and society interact with each other and how their values shape our social systems. It incorporates the disciplines of anthropology, economics, ethics, politics, psychology and sociology.



**Year 5 present myths to their parents**