



**Curiosity**

**Compassion**

**Courage**

**Contribution**

# Welcome New Families!



Welcome to Roberta MacAdams School! We are excited by the opportunity to share with you the exemplary work students, staff and parents are engaged in across our school and community in our beginning years together. Roberta MacAdams School is committed to nurturing each child's curiosity, interests and strengths and providing multiple pathways to success for every learner. The image of a child as strong, resourceful, capable and contributing inspires the teaching and learning experiences that take shape across our school.

We have a dedicated and caring staff, a motivating and progressive learning environment and a welcoming family atmosphere. Roberta MacAdams School is a great place to learn, live and grow together!



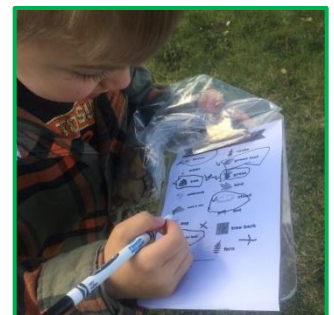
## Every Child, Every Day...



Our school philosophy embraces the beauty found in diversity and honours the unique learning preferences and talents each child brings to our world. At Roberta MacAdams School, your child will be inspired to question, explore, make new discoveries, contribute, grow and question again. Children are provided rich and varied opportunities to engage in inquiry through hands-on, real world investigation.

Authentic projects and cross-curricular programming enables students to make connections and engage meaningfully with new concepts while also developing the knowledge, skills and attitudes which are critical to their development as learners in an ever-changing world. The effective and purposeful use of technology as a tool for investigation and representation of learning, engages children in active exploration of concepts in the world around them.

At Roberta MacAdams School, we feel it is vital to grow curious, compassionate and contributing citizens who demonstrate environmental stewardship and engagement in social justice projects which provide service and leadership to our school, local and global communities.



## Beyond the Pond

The location of our school provides our children the unique opportunity to engage in outdoor play, exploration and investigation in our local ravine, Blackmud Creek. Our children in kindergarten participate in weekly excursions to the pond, forest and natural environment surrounding our school. Students across grades one to six also utilize these vital outdoor spaces



to investigate an endless number of concepts across the school year, such as: animal adaptations and homes, natural vegetation, seasonal changes, weather patterns, poetry and so much more.

Outdoor education and play is essential to the growth, development and overall well-being of children and holds tremendous promise for inspiring them to nurture the environment as well as their physical and mental health over a lifetime.

## Community Partnerships & Field Experiences

Building strong relationships with our local community and other agencies is important to helping our children connect with experts, role models and mentors in a variety of areas and fields of study. Student engagement with diverse adult mentors matters deeply to their ongoing success and development. The following organizations, community groups and volunteers have been vital to our student's experiential learning and success.



- Bennett Centre
- ATCO
- WeeREADS
- Edmonton Public Library
- Hands-on Science
- WISEST Conference – U of A
- City of Edmonton
- Alberta Legislature
- 1881 School House
- City Hall Inquiry School
- Devonian Gardens Inquiry School
- Fort Edmonton Inquiry School
- Zoo Immersion School
- Historical Society
- Muttart Conservatory
- Alberta Museum
- Winspear Centre
- Edmonton Food Bank
- Active Living School
- Terwillegar Community Recreation Centre

## Student Clubs and Activities

Roberta MacAdams School supports the development of the whole child and offers diverse opportunities to meet the specific passions and interests of our students. Below is a list of the school clubs and special activities that have emerged in our beginnings together and will continue to grow as each new year unfolds.



- AMA Patrollers
- Fun Lunch
- Art Club
- Basketball Club
- Ball Hockey Club
- Winter Carnival
- School Spirit Days
- Pancake Breakfast
- Dance & Gymnastics Club
- Student Leadership
- Library Club
- Buddy Activities
- Coding
- Choir
- Drama Club
- Gardening
- Merry MacAdams Night
- Chess Club

## Parents as Partners

Our parents are a vital part of our school community at Roberta MacAdams. The relationships we foster between home and school provide strength and lasting value for our children and our future. There are a number of ways that parents can become active and contributing members of our school community. As you can well imagine, the possibilities are endless!



- Assist with Clubs & Special School-wide Events
- Participate in Special Evening Events
- Provide Support in the Classroom
- Become a Guest Expert
- Prepare Scholastic Book Orders
- Act as a Classroom Representative
- Join Our School Council or Fundraising Association
- Become a Fun Lunch Coordinator
- Assist in the School Library
- Assist with Book Fairs
- Volunteer for Field Study Experiences



## Values to Live By

Building a supportive and enabling school culture where everyone feels a strong sense of belonging has been central to our collective work in this opening year at Roberta MacAdams. A safe and caring school has been meaningfully shaped by our children, families, staff and community. Our students have thoughtfully created classroom values and practices that guide their daily interactions and foster compassion and respect for others. Ensuring that every child's voice is heard and honoured fosters democratic classrooms that are child-centered, responsive and restorative.



Cross-grade and multi-age collaborative learning experiences and celebrations across the year have nurtured a strong sense of community and have enabled students to take on natural leadership roles through their interactions with others. The students at RMA are encouraged and supported to make considerate choices and to take responsibility for their actions. Our entire staff at Roberta MacAdams is deeply committed to maintaining the dignity of ***every child, every day***.



## Some Closing Thoughts

We are ever-mindful of the tremendous trust and faith parents place in the school and in those who care for their children. Please know that your children will always be at the heart of our “shared work” at Roberta MacAdams, and that your support, encouragement and contributions will make a difference to the strong and lasting relationships that are built.

After reviewing the information in this package, please feel free to ask questions, have a guided tour of the school, and talk with the staff and principal. If you would value the opportunity to hear some parent's perspectives, please contact the school and we will gladly assist you.

## Parent Feedback

*“Such a positive and friendly environment (from the principal to teachers and custodial staff) how could they fail to thrive and grow? I for one think my child is lucky to attend such an amazing school. Wish it were like that when I went to school!”*

~Melissa Whitbread, grade one parent

*"I would like to send out a huge thank you to Mrs. K.W and her staff! Thank you for showing our children (and us parents) authentic care! You are building a fantastic community and I for one feel blessed to be a part of it! Keep up the great work!"*

~ Lisa Smith Weigelt, grade 2 & 6 parent



"Children are miracles. Believing that every child is a miracle can transform the way we design for children's learning. When we invite a miracle into our lives, we prepare ourselves and the environment around us."

~Anita Rui Olds

