Spanish Newsletter Term 1



Bienvenidos to term uno in Español!

Year Levels: PREP, Grades 1 and 2, Grades 3 and 4.

Queridos padres, cuidadores y familias,

Dear parents, carers and families,

Welcome to all, new and continuing, I hope you all had wonderful summer holidays, and enjoyed many summer-time activities with your children. The Spanish program, which teaches about the Spanish world, language and culture, is taught to students from Prep to Year 4.

For those who are new, my name is Señorita Irene (Miss Irene), I am Spanish and I am from the province of Córdoba. I love travelling and I have always been interested by the depth of history of my language and culture, spanning not just Spain, but also most Latin American countries. There is currently a total of 21 countries that speak Spanish as their official first language (including Mexico). I have the wonderful privilege of sharing my love of all things Spanish with your children, teaching them language skills interlinked with cultural activities through our school's Spanish program.

This first term promises to be an exciting start to the year, not just for me, but the students as well. For Preps, the lessons will be focused on introducing them to Spanish and each other and ensuring that their introduction to Spanish is most enjoyable. For Grades 1 and 2, the lessons will be focused on language skills previously learnt and building upon these to strengthen their confidence in using a second language; they will be exploring the topic of travelling with the beautiful story of "Mr Chicken arriva a Roma", but in Spanish. And for Grades 3 and 4, the lessons will involve more contact with the world of Spanish, including sharing opportunities with our Spanish Sister School or other students learning Spanish. During the year, we will also celebrate a Spanish Day, a day for the whole school community to come together, have fun and enjoy learning about one of the many Spanish speaking countries in the world; last year Spanish Day theme was about Argentina and this year will be about Perú. Exciting!

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Students will have their own personal Spanish notebooks, where they will put all their work from class activities. The Spanish Wall (located next to Mr. Artavilla's office) will display highlights from class activities and fascinating facts about the Spanish language and culture. Also, continuing from last year, students will be using SEESAW in all the specialist areas to showcase all the amazing work that they do in Arts, Music and Performing Arts, PE and Spanish. Join in our Seesaw community and enjoy navigating throughout your child's online blog! If you do not know how to log on, please see me or any of the specialist teachers and we will help you to connect to your child's Seesaw portfolio.

Our schools' Club Español (Spanish Club) will of course be continuing its success built over the last few years at lunchtime every Friday. Members include some students from Grades 3 to 6 who have expressed interest in learning more Spanish and being more involved in the Spanish program at Sunshine Heights PS.

We will be continuing and growing our school's relationship with our sister school in Spain, 'Menéndez y Pelayo'. The school is in the town of Valverde del Camino in the province of Huelva, which sits on the coast of the Atlantic Ocean near Portugal. The sister school project is a great opportunity for students from both sides of the world to share in learning each other's languages and cultures.

The sorts of general activities students will be doing (all grades):

- Speaking and listening; asking and answering questions.
- Using hand gestures; indicating, pointing, touching, and using AUSLAN (Australian Sign Language) to support the learning and memorising of the Spanish language.
- Writing and filling in their Spanish notebooks.
- Participating in a variety of games aimed at encouraging the students to talk among themselves, have a go, and help them remember.
- Drama related activities including role-playing.
- Listening and singing Spanish songs.
- Craft activities; including drawing, cutting out pictures and being creative.
- Using Spanish apps on iPads and watching Spanish videos.
- And above all, having fun learning Spanish with a positive Growth Mindset.

What students can expect to learn this term (Essential Learnings by grade groupings):

Preps:

- Greet and farewell the teacher and their friends, based on the time of the day.
- Introduce themselves to build relationships.
- Participate in songs and chants such as, the greeting song.
- Recognise primary colours.
- Count up to 10.







- Respond to classroom instructions such as sentarse (sit down), hacer un circulo (make a circle), silencio, por favor (silence, please), hacer una fila (make a line), levantarse (stand up), or limpiar (clean up).
- Become familiar with the Spanish alphabet, noticing that there is an additional letter compared to English, ñ (nya).
- Recognise the skills we need as learners to learn a language (related to Growth Mindset).

Grades 1 & 2:

- Introduce self, greet and farewell the teacher and their friends based on the time of day.
- Contribute to class activities or projects that involve naming, illustrating and writing simple sentences, such as creating a class big book from the share reading of "Mr Chicken arriva a Roma" by Leigh Hobbs, but in Spanish.
- Participate in class routines such as stating the date and weather.
- Participate in songs and chants.
- Recognise countries that speak Spanish and participate in task involving sorting and attributes such as locating countries flags in a map and telling their colours.
- Respond to classroom instructions such as sentarse (sit down), hacer un círculo (make a circle), silencio, por favor (silence, please), hacer una fila (make a line), levantarse (stand up), or limpiar (clean up).
- Recognise the skills we need as learners to learn a language (related to Growth Mindset).

Grades 3 & 4:

- Greet and farewell the teacher and their friends, ask questions and answer them to talk and play in Spanish.
- Interact with teacher and friends to introduce themselves, say their age, where they are from and their favourite pastimes.
- Write a letter or a postcard to a Spanish PenPal.
- Ask for help in Spanish: ask for permission, request help and ask how to say and write something in Spanish.
- Recognise the skills we need as learners to learn a language (related to Growth Mindset).

I look forward to lots of fun in Spanish lessons with your children this term and I welcome you all to share in and enjoy the new Spanish being learnt. Updates and highlights from class will be posted on SEESAW. And as always, any ideas or suggestions from parents, guardians and families are welcome.

Saludos, (Regards)

Señorita Irene.









