

Introducing our Sister School

‘Marcelino Menéndez y Pelayo’

Information about our sister school:

- It is named after Marcelino Menéndez y Pelayo. Marcelino was a Spanish scholar, historian and literary critic. Even though his main interest was the history of ideas, and Hispanic philology in general, he also greatly promoted poetry, translation and philosophy.
- It is located in the town of Valverde del Camino in the province of Huelva. The town has around 12,000 people and is famous for its production of vaquero-style leather boots, specifically of the campero style, known by the Botas De Valverde del Camino trademark. Huelva lies in the very South West corner of Spain and borders Portugal. It is one of eight provinces within the region of Andalusia (where Senorita Irene is from!)
- The school has its own website, facebook page and twitter account and I encourage you to check them out:
 - Website: <http://www.menendezypelayo.es>
 - Facebook: <http://www.facebook.com/menendezypelayo>
 - Twitter: <http://www.twitter.com/menendezypelayo>
- They even have their very own video in English: https://youtu.be/tt_EJRz6dZc

Sister school program goals:

- To develop cultural knowledge and intercultural understanding.
- To support the teaching of Spanish language in Sunshine Heights PS. and English language in CEIP. Menéndez y Pelayo and to continue to teach the languages in their respective schools.
- To develop ties of friendship through regular communication. Provide students and staff with opportunities to interact with people from other cultures.
- To develop students into citizens who are globally engaged, comfortable with diversity and with the skills to operate effectively across cultures with different worldviews and belief systems.

Potential future Sister school activities:

- Organise a Sister School ceremony in both schools to celebrate the partnership
- Design a common blog
- Exchange of student work, email, letters, parcels, photos, student newspapers, etc to promote mutual understanding.
- Regular communication between Sister School administrators, using online networks like Skype or Whatsapp.
- Exchange of teaching resources, course materials and teaching strategies between schools.
- Consider future visits overseas for teachers involved in the Sister School project to better understanding of the language, culture and education system in both countries.
- Choose a song for both schools, which will be sung and recorded by both schools.
- Exchange folklore between both countries, such as typical dances.
- Create annual projects about a common topic. For example, “We travel around the world”.
- Study and compare information between both countries: gastronomy, meteorology, environment, etc.