Queridos padres, tutores y familias
Dear parents, guardians and families,

**Spanish is in the air at Sunshine Heights Primary School!** I hope your children are enjoying the Spanish learning experience as much as I am enjoying teaching it at the school. I still have a long journey ahead to integrate the Spanish language and Spanish-speaking culture into the school community, but the main thing is, it has already been started. There is no longer any place at the school where I can’t walk by without a child popping up and yelling out to me, ‘hola’ or ‘adiós’.

The Spanish topics we will cover for term 1 are: about yourself, greetings and farewells, and about the school. Students will develop an understanding of the Spanish language and some of the countries where the language is spoken. We will also be working in developing intercultural values, like respect and tolerance for other cultures.

As this is the first term of Spanish at the school, what children across all grades can expect to learn for this term will be:
- How to introduce themselves, greet and farewell others.
- The alphabet, identifying some of the different sounds of letters.
- Labelling classroom objects and some areas of the school.
- The numbers from 1 to 10 and how to say their age.
- An understanding of the benefits of learning another language and the importance of respecting other cultures.

From the very first class, students have already begun hearing and learning words and basic sentences. I am using many repetitive patterns to introduce the new language structure to make it easier and more fun for the children to learn. All material activities in the classroom will be put in your child’s personal Spanish notebook. These notebooks will allow your children to be able to show and remember all the magnificent work they do throughout the year.

The sorts of activities the children will be doing and learning will be through:
- Hand gestures; indicating, pointing, touching.
- Dramatisation; role-playing, imitating characters.
- Singing; singing along to Spanish songs.
- Craft activities; drawing and cutting out pictures.
- Games; Spanish games, intercultural awareness games.
- Speaking and listening; asking and answering questions.
- Identifying; visual flashcards, Spanish videos, labelling school objects.
- Dancing; Spanish songs and customs.

I am looking forward to seeing a lot more of your children talking in Spanish and having fun learning the language and about the different culture. I welcome you all to share and enjoy in this new experience at Sunshine Heights Primary School.

Saludos,
Regards,

Señorita Irene.