

Bienvenidos to term tres in español!

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

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

I hope you all had wonderful winter holidays, keeping warm and enjoying lots of winter-time activities. **I have some special news to share** with you that I received just before going on holidays. María, the principal of our sister school 'Menéndez y Pelayo' sent me an email about their plans for working with us in their new year. (In Spain, the school year has just finished and they are all on summer holidays until 11 September, lucky them, I am somewhat jealous.) She didn't want to start her holidays without telling me as she was quite excited. The teachers at 'Menéndez y Pelayo' have prepared a unit of work for next year called 'A Koala in Valverde del Camino'. The unit involves their students presenting to us the flora, fauna, gastronomy, landscapes, customs... using a koala. How exciting! I can't wait to see what they come up with and have to show us.

Before I tell you a bit about this term, I also want to share some information about an exciting national language competition your children can enter and let you know about preparations for Term 4's Spanish Day.

SBS is running a national language competition 'What Learning a Language Means to you?' until Friday 1st of September 2017. SBS is wanting to hear from as many students as possible who are learning a language other than English (either at home or school). They want students to reflect on the cultural and linguistic diversity in Australian society. **How to enter.** To enter, students only need to upload a video of a maximum 30 seconds responding to the question 'What learning a language means to you?' in any language but English, and the more creative the better. Prizes include iPads and a chance to go to Sydney. I will be providing students with some ideas throughout the term as well. If you would like further information about the competition check out the website: <http://www.sbs.com.au/radio/article/2017/05/09/sbs-radios-national-languages-competition-2017>. I will be encouraging as many of my students as possible to enter because it such a great opportunity just to be involved and come up with something creative that will give students an enriching experience. If you have any questions or want to know more, please feel free to ask for me at the office or contact me via email: toscano.mejias.irene.t@edumail.vic.gov.au

Spanish Day is coming in Term 4. Get excited! This is just a quick call for help to ensure our Spanish Day is full of colour and vibrancy. We need your help to collect a few essential items. We're looking for: straight-ish sticks from the garden (approx. 20cm long and 0.5 to 1.5cm thick), balls of wool (any colour and any length) and red, orange or yellow pages or parts of pages from old magazines. There will be some boxes by the school's Spanish wall (in front of the staffroom) for you to leave any items. The more the better. Thanking you all in advance..

Now to this term in Spanish. Prep students will explore the topic of "Mi Clase de Español" (My Spanish Classroom). Activities will be based on the song 'Osito Gominola' (Gummy Bear) and the book 'Cocodrilo' (Crocodile). The book has great illustrations and explores simple Spanish vocabulary and colours. Students will also start leaning to identify the date, days of the week and the weather at the beginning of every Spanish class. Grades 1 and 2 will be exploring the topic of "Celebraciones" (Celebrations) by learning vocabulary and looking at how birthday parties and carnivals are celebrated in Spanish speaking countries.

Later in the term, the students will be making costumes for a Spanish carnival and learning colours and shapes and carnival songs along the way. Grades 3 and 4 will delve head first into the topic of “**Visito la comunidad de mi Sister School**” (I visit my Sister School’s community). These activities use examples from the community of Valverde del Camino in Spain (where our sister school is located) and will give the students the opportunity to explore their community learning vocabulary of places along the way. They will also be encouraged to point out differences and similarities to our community here in Sunshine and Melbourne. In particular, students will also be focusing on the different means of transport in the communities, considering how the transport plays a role in connecting people and building relevant simple repetitive sentence structures to assist with this. Later in the term, their combined work will help each grade 3 and 4 class to be able to design their very own model Spanish town.

Club Español, will of course be continuing with its great work this term. The club has students from grades 3 and 4 who use their lunchtime every Friday to further grow their Spanish language skills and help to promote the Spanish language and culture around the school and at school events. They have been involved with some great work in the past and this term will be no exception. One of our focuses will be on encouraging and assisting students to enter the SBS Language Competition mentioned above.

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

Preps:

- Interact with the teacher and other students in Spanish using greetings, farewells and mannerisms such as thank you.
- Respond to oral and imaginative texts such as stories, rhymes and songs through play-acting, illustrating or movement. The activities will be related to the song ‘Osito Gominola’ and the Spanish story: “Cocodrilo” by Antonio Rubio y Óscar Villán.
- Demonstrate comprehension of days of the week through actions such as labelling, drawing, or pointing.
- Demonstrate comprehension of the weather through actions such as labelling, drawing, singing or pointing.
- Demonstrate comprehension of some colours through the Spanish story: “Cocodrilo”: verde (green), azul (blue), amarillo (yellow), negro (black), morado (purple), naranja (orange), rojo (red).

Grades 1 & 2:

- Participate in shared reading of printed and digital texts about celebrations, this will include using pictures and contextual clues to predict the meaning of Spanish text.
- Use simple statements to express likes and dislikes, for example, ‘Me gusta el carnaval’ (I like the Carnival).
- Demonstrate comprehension of individual words (including colours, shapes and months) and phrases in simple spoken and written texts through actions such as labelling, drawing, miming or pointing.
- Respond to simple questions about a story or the topic, Celebrations.
- Recognise words in English that are borrowed from Spanish (e.g. piñata) or are similar but spelt differently (e.g. carnaval).

Grades 3 & 4:

- Describe their favourite way of travelling through a variety of different means of transport, for example 'A mi me gusta viajar en tren' (I like travelling by train).
- Read, view and listen to a range of written, oral and digital texts through guided activities, for example by responding to simple questions about different means of transport or places to go in a community.
- Label and identify different places within their community, for example 'Supermercado' (supermarket).
- Highlight and compare their community with a Spanish one (identifying similarities and differences).

I am very much looking forward to lots of fun Spanish lessons this term with your children and welcome you all to share and enjoy in the new Spanish they will be learning this term.

Saludos (Regards),

Señorita Irene