

# Spanish Update

## Seven Hills Classical Academy, November 20, 2009

### Kindergarten:

Since our last newsletter update we have been having a lot of fun in Spanish class! The children learned a song entitled “Frey Felipe” and a story to accompany it about a boy who always falls asleep in Spanish class! One child gets to lie down and be Fray Felipe while the other children shake bells, “toca la campana” to try and wake him up. The children adore this song!

We most recently have been working on our colors! The children already knew many of them. Most of them have mastered red (rojo), green (verde), and blue (azul). Along with these we have been working on yellow (amarillo), brown (café), pink (rosado) and black (negro). The students love finding these colors around the room!

The last thing we are practicing are commands in Spanish. We practice marching (marchen), running (corren), jumping (salten), turning in a circle (den una vuelta), clapping (aplausos) and sitting (sientense). The teacher calls out these commands and then yells “alto” signaling them to stop or freeze. Sometimes the students even get to play the role of teacher.

Overall the kindergarten students are doing an awesome job in Spanish! Challenge your child at home to practice some words with you! Maybe even ask them some of the phrases our friend Kermit has taught them!

### First and Second Graders:

In the past month the first and second graders have spent a lot of time practicing new words in Spanish as well as working a lot on pronunciation. We began by working on the days of the week, and even learned a fun song to remember them! In addition, we have also spent a lot of time working on counting in Spanish. They spent the most time working on numbers 1-10, but many of them know even more!

The week before Halloween we spent our class time learning about El Día de los Muertos (Day of the Dead), the traditional Mexican holiday. We did a couple of art projects with the kids and they learned all about this fun, interesting holiday!

Some of our first and second graders have also been learning the classroom objects so they can practice them even when we are not in Spanish class.

Desk-escritorio	calendar-calendario	teacher-el professor
Book-el libro	flag-la bandera	paper-el papel
Watch-el reloj		

The rest of the first and second graders have been learning the parts of the body and face and have spent a lot of their time practicing with new songs and games, such as Simon dice (Simon says) in Spanish!

Face-la cara	la cabeza-head	los ojos-eyes
Nose-la nariz	mouth-la boca	eras-las orejas
Hair-el pelo	teeth-los dientes	body-el cuerpo
Arms-los brazos	hands-los manos	legs-las piernas
Feet-los pies		

To help remember these parts of the body the first and second graders have learned a new song, “Mi Cuerpo Hace Música”. This song gives the kids a chance to move around and dance and sing and sometimes lead the class, while practicing Spanish. The first and second graders have been learning so much in Spanish and having so much fun at the same time!

### **Third and Fourth Graders:**

The students in third and fourth grade are continuing to have a very successful year in Spanish class! Some classes have been working on the weather unit.

The students have learned how to look outside and say what the weather is like. Also they have had the chance to use their creativity in weather charades, or what we call “¿Qué tiempo hace?” (What is the weather like?). Feel free to quiz your student and ask them what the weather is like while driving in the car. You may hear responses such as...

\*Hace frío (It is cold)

\*Hace calor (It is hot)

\*Hace fresco (It is brisk)

\*Está nevando (It is snowing)

\*Está lloviendo (It is raining)

\*Hay tormenta (It is storming)

\*Hay relámpagos (There is lightning)

Other classes have been focusing on the use of numbers. The students have had the opportunity to practice their math skills in Spanish! We have also been focusing on the spelling of these numbers to insure both written and oral practice of the language.

Days of the week and months of the year have also been reviewed in many third and fourth grade classes.

Lunes-Monday

Martes- Tuesday

Miércoles-Wednesday

Jueves-Thursday

Viernes- Friday

Sábado-Saturday

Domingo-Sunday

The students have been practicing how to respond to “¿Que día es hoy?”

(What day is it today?), “¿Qué día fue ayer?” (What day was it yesterday?) as well as “¿Qué día será mañana?” (What day will it be tomorrow?). They have done a fantastic job understanding these questions! Some classes have encouraged the review of how to say the date in Spanish as well!

Lastly, some classes have been focusing on the verb “tener” and its many uses.

Tener-to have (years of age) or any object. This is the conjugation in the present tense:

Yo tengo-I have

Tú tienes-You have

El/Ella tiene-He/She has

Nosotros tenemos-We have

Ellos/Ellas/Uds. tienen-They/All of you have

### **Expressions:**

\*Tener hambre/sed- To be hungry or thirsty

\*Tener frío/calor- To be cold/hot

\*Tener sueño- To be tired

\*Tener dolor de + body part- To have an ache or pain

\*Tener años- To be # years old.

As the year settles in it has been great for the Spanish teachers to get to know the students a little better and continue the fun learning in the classroom! We look forward to the rest of the year!

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