

# Noticias de Español

Dear Families,

Welcome to the Spanish Class at Beye School! My name is Señora Colmenero and this is my third year at Beye. The children are already working very hard reviewing old and learning new words, songs and stories. First, we discussed some rules important for Beye and Spanish Class. New students got to meet Nico, old students were happy to see him again and everyone wanted to pet him: our very own stuffed bull, which will be of great help during our time together!

It was a pleasure meeting some of you during Curriculum Night. That evening some families expressed the desire of having a list of words/phrases they could reinforce with their children. You will find these in a box called "Suggestions".

If you have any questions, do not hesitate to contact me. Email works best, I check it several times a day and I am pretty fast responding to messages:

[mcolmenero@op97.org](mailto:mcolmenero@op97.org)

I also have a blog and I strongly encourage you and your child to check it out as often as possible: <http://ecolmenero.blogspot.com/>

September 15-October 15 we celebrate Hispanic Heritage Month, during which the children learn about the accomplishments of people of Hispanic origin. In addition to that, here is a summary of what the children have been learning:

## Kindergarten

The children learned to sing a "hello song" at the beginning of class and a "goodbye song". We learned the numbers 1-10 and are in the process of learning till 20.

We need the numbers when we say the date (*Hoy es viernes, 25 de septiembre de 2009*). They are also learning about shapes and colors. They loved the book "*Oso pardo*" and "*Buenas noches, luna*" although some wanted to go to sleep!

⇒ Suggestions:

- Practice numbers 1-10: *uno, dos, tres, cuatro, cinco, seis, siete, ocho, nueve diez.*
- Colors: *rojo, amarillo, verde, café, morado, rojo, azul, negro, blanco, anaranjado, gris.*
- Shapes: *círculo, cuadrado, triángulo, rectángulo, ovalo, rombo y hexágono.*

## First Grade

The children reviewed the "hello song" at the beginning of class and the "goodbye song" at the end. We reviewed the numbers 1-20, which we need to say the date (*Hoy es viernes, 25 de septiembre de 2009*). They also reviewed shapes and colors and enjoyed the book "*Oso pardo*" and "*Buenas noches, luna*". They learned a song to practice greetings.

### → Suggestions:

- Same as in Kindergarten.
- Numbers 11-20: *once, doce, trece, catorce, quince, dieciséis, diecisiete, dieciocho, diecinueve y veinte.*
- Ask to child how to sing: "*Buenos días, buenos días, ¿cómo está? ¿cómo está? Muy bien gracias, muy bien gracias ¿y usted? ¿y usted?*"

## Second Grade

The children already knew their hello and goodbye songs, almost all of them remembered them from last year! We continue reinforcing the concepts and vocabulary to tell the date and we started reviewing numbers (with some very beloved games like Bingo, Swat the fly and more traditional writing on whiteboards when I say a number). The children learned the vowels in Spanish. They were surprised that there are also 5 vowels A-E-I-O-U that you pronounce in a different way, especially E and I (that sound like the English e). Come up to the Spanish room to see the results of our latest survey about *mascotas* (pets). The winner of the 2009 *mascota favorita* is... *¡el perro!*. In second place... *la serpiente*, so parents beware!

In honor of Hispanic Heritage Month we learned about Chile. Yes, the long, thin country at the bottom of South America. Ask your children what are *Humitas* (a dessert), the capital (Santiago) and about the national symbol, the *cóndor* (the bird).

### → Suggestions:

- Same as 1<sup>st</sup> grade.
- *Mascotas: serpiente* (snake), *perro* (dog), *gato* (cat), *conejo* (rabbit), *hámster* and *pez* (fish).

## Third Grade

We are learning about our little community: the Spanish classroom, new

vocabulary regarding things and supplies and how to ask for things they might need in Spanish. We also went on a scavenger hunt around the school to name the rooms and some other places they find every day, like *el banjo* or *la oficina*. The children are designing their Spanish class using an example and the vocabulary that they have learned, since they have to label what they draw (including Señora Colmenero!)

⇒ **Suggestions:**

- Classroom objects: *mesa, silla, escritorio, lápiz, papel, bolígrafo, computadora, sacapuntas, reloj, libros, tijeras, pegamento, ventana, luz, pizarra, borrador, mapa y proyector.*
- School places: *oficina, auditorio, baño, escaleras, fuente, biblioteca, salón de computadoras, salón común, salón de los maestros, salón de arte, salón de música y gimnasio.*

### Fourth and Fifth Grade

We are reviewing important expressions in Spanish, which the children taped to their folders so that they are always available to them. They designed posters to introduce themselves to the class and each other in Spanish by saying (and writing) their names and age, where they live (Oak Park is fine), and name 3 things they like and 3 things they do not like. Some are already on display outside the office! We are also reviewing number to 100.

4<sup>th</sup> grade got to work on numbers in the computer lab by logging in and visiting my blog.

5<sup>th</sup> grade is completing a special project for Hispanic Heritage Month. Please, assist your child if he/she asks for your help. For more information on that project visit my blog. The project is due the first day of class after October 18.

5<sup>th</sup> grade also learned about Chile. I was very pleased about how much background knowledge they already had.

⇒ **Suggestions:**

- Numbers to 100: 10 *diez*, 20 *veinte*, 30 *treinta*, 40 *cuarenta*, 50 *cincuenta*, 60 *sesenta*, 70 *setenta*, 80 *ochenta*, 90 *noventa* and 100 *cien*.
- About Chile: *see second grade.*
- *Me llamo X. Tengo 10 años. Vivo en Oak Park. Me gusta A, B y C. No me gusta X, Y y Z.*

¡Hasta pronto!