February 21, 2019

Dear Ponderosa Families,

Can you believe it's almost spring? It's been a busy winter and we are winding down for the school year. Here is what we have accomplished so far in Spanish. All students from ECE to 5th grades have been learning about greetings, for example: ¡Buenos días ¿Cómo estás?, muy bien gracias ¿y tú? ¿Cómo estás?, ¿Cómo te llamas?, me llamo…… and more advance conversations with the 3rd, 4th, and 5th grades.

Preschoolers and kindergartens have been busy learning about families, school jobs, numbers, colors and shapes.

First graders are learning about numbers, days of the week, months of the year, colors, calendars, date, birthdays, numbers, along with addition and subtraction problems.

Second graders have done a very nice job learning about describing parts of plants and what plants needs to grow, and different kinds of foods. Basic words like, what my favorite meal is, and why I like this meal or why I don’t like this meal, and if it is healthy or not.

Third graders have done an excellent job learning about planets of the solar system, describing the planets according to size, color, temperature, if planets have moons or rings, their distance from the sun and basic words like: tiene, no tiene, cerca, lejos, grande, mediano, pequeño, lunas, and anillos.
Fourth graders are learning about likes and dislikes, different activities like running, walking, reading, writing, dancing, swimming, listening to music, etc., and their favorites things to do and favorites foods, and basic words: Me gusta, no me gusta. They make excellent conversation with other students about themselves, sharing their names, age, day of birth, residence, things they like and things they do not like. They are learning too, about geometric shapes and patterns.

Fifth graders are learning names of different foods, balanced meals, interpretation of infographics about meals, food groups, and writing about themselves and favorites things they like to do.

We just completed the Districts tests for second, third, fourth and fifth grades. The results are actually in Infinite Campus.

Now I am not simply saying muy bien or gracias to the students doing the right thing. I am giving more detailed feedback. It has really upped the positivity in my room, my students are much more likely to be on task, and we are all staying in the target language. I just compliment and thank my students doing the right thing by describing what they are doing. Example: “Hayden está sentado, calladito y ojos en la maestra listo para aprender” That way I can refer to these expectations later without switching to English.

Please check the website to see the vocabulary that we are using in each level. We are adding to our Spanish website.

During the conferences I will be open for any question about the Spanish classes. Please do not hesitate to contact me if you have any questions about Spanish at Ponderosa. Thank you, in advance, for your support.

Yours Sincerely,
Olivia Lester

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