

Eighth Grade Spanish

Overview for Parents

Teacher: Maria Clara de Greiff

Content Goals

During this academic year, eighth grade students will learn foundational grammatical structures from simple to complex sentences. In addition, students will be introduced to new vocabulary words during each unit. As a way to promote active and engaged learning, they will be asked to use all vocabulary and grammar they learn in both oral and written communications. The content units have been selected according to their practicality and their presence in daily interactions in Spanish-speaking countries. Furthermore, the curriculum has been designed based on a sequence that will allow the students to both apply their knowledge to real world situations and to gain a solid foundation for the future steps in their academic career.

Culture will play an important role in the different activities students will participate in both during class time and as homework. Students will learn about different cultural aspects of several Spanish-speaking countries. In order to personalize the learning process, these aspects will be defined, to some extent, by the interests of the students. In addition, a meaningful and practical daily routine will allow the students to integrate new structures and to be more productive when working individually and as a group. Besides the introduction of new grammar and vocabulary topics, students will work on different projects throughout the academic year. These will be based on research, music, art and media. Finally, a comfortable learning environment will be created so that students feel motivated to speak Spanish during each class.

Expectations for Students

Spanish classes meet for fifty minutes three times a week. Spanish is going to be spoken during most of the time in class, except when giving important (not daily) instructions or talking about complex topics. Students are expected to try speaking Spanish before using English to communicate. In addition, organization, responsibility, respect, interest, involvement and positive attitude will be key aspects for both a successful learning process and enjoyment of the different activities of the class.

Homework Requirements

Homework assignments will be chosen from the following categories: projects, reading, worksheets, translation, writing, practicing spelling, and studying/reviewing the topics learned during class time. These will be assigned according to the characteristics of each unit. The time students will have to spend doing the homework will vary with the nature of each assignment and unit. All assigned homework will be graded based on quality and effort.

Contacting the Teacher

Please feel free to contact me at any time if you have questions or concerns at:
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