

RELATED ARTS

SPANISH

¡Hola todos! Things are going great in elementary Spanish. Most of us are finishing up learning names for parts of the body, and words for describing weather. Several classes will be starting our unit on the name

CHECK OUT THE VIDEOS SECTION OF MY WEBPAGE FOR MORE VIDEOS THAT WE USE IN CLASS! PRACTICE AT HOME HELPS TO REINFORCE THE VOCABULARY.

for animals! This has been a much anticipated topic for many students. In elementary, we will then be starting a unit on Mexican handicrafts, including “alejbres”

and “talaveras.” The middle schoolers are starting to learn how to say what they like and do not like.

Also, check out the videos section of my webpage for more videos that we use in class! Practice at home helps to reinforce the vocabulary. While you are on the webpage check on the link for Spanish phrases to use at home. It includes phrases like, “Brush your teeth” and “Do you want to read a story?” Learning these phrases together as a family is a great way to increase fluency! ¡Adiós!

IMPORTANT DATES

May 25 – Band Concert

June 6 – Chorus Concert

TECHNOLOGY

The overall technology program goals are to help students build a foundation of operational knowledge of the computer system's capabilities. Subsequently, with an eye to a higher level of mastery of these core skills students will expand their knowledge of the tools needed for later educational and professional opportunities in our constantly changing world.

Currently K – 3 students take technology instruction once a week where they are exposed to basic operational aspects. These include: turning on the machine and understanding when a computer system is “sleeping”. They also are introduced to simple application usage with MS-Word and internet access using multiple browsers. Fourth graders meet twice in the 6 day rotation and they focus on operating system understanding, internet research skills, utilizing MS-Word and MS-PowerPoint to a mastery level. The culminating effort is a research project where students must apply their prior learning and effect a technology related stand-up presentation. In grades 5 - 8, students focus in far greater detail as to the inner

workings of a computer system's hardware, operating system and various application products like MS-Office 2013. They practice more complex exercises in Word and PowerPoint in anticipation of a final technical research project where they are evaluated both on the content as well as the delivery of their content.

In support of the potential areas of focus in our high school choices, our technology extension program is evolving. This program should be viewed as a choice for students who are interested in a particular topic such as programming, robotics, video editing, graphic design, CAD etc. These classes only meet two out of the six day rotation and students should be prepared to work inside as well as outside class. The role of the instructor is more of coach and this offering should be seen as a student driven opportunity.

We welcome and encourage any dialogue and or parent participation in any of these or related areas of interest. We look forward to creating a dynamic and exciting experience for all who seek a challenge.

NEXT MONTH'S NEWSLETTER WILL FEATURE:

MIDDLE SCHOOL MUSIC

LIFE SKILLS