



## ISLAND PARK ELEMENTARY SCHOOL SPANISH CLASS

I am so excited to welcome your child to Spanish class! I look forward to a wonderful year full of language and culture exploration. Following is a list of information we will cover to make sure all students are safe and can learn to the best of their ability. For more information about the Spanish classroom, please visit my [website](#).

### ABOUT THE PROGRAM

The purpose of the Elementary World Language program is to provide students with a well-rounded global experience. This should prepare children for a multilingual environment with an appreciation, understanding, and empathy for other cultures, as well as stimulate curiosity in global learning and travel. The primary focus of the program is on communication. With this goal in mind, our program is designed to teach students communication skills in an immersion environment.

The Spanish program strives to create a positive, proactive, and nurturing environment where children are encouraged to enjoy and learn more about the Spanish language and the variety of Spanish speaking cultures. Through the use of comprehensible input, the students are provided with appropriate exposure to language using relevant topics. This presents them with opportunities to engage in the target language, and to practice speaking in a safe and respectful environment. I inform students that mistakes will be made and encourage them to not be afraid to do so.

### WHAT TO EXPECT

Being in the Spanish classroom may be overwhelming for many students at first. The lessons are taught almost completely in Spanish with time in English for students to ask questions at the end. We encourage the students to watch the teacher and their peers closely to follow along in class as they get used to the procedures. We are teaching communication, not translation. Your child may come home singing songs and speaking in Spanish but may not be able to translate them directly to English. It takes roughly 700 hours of language practice to become a fluent speaker. Your child will be attending Spanish class for 40 minutes every third day. Each minute counts when it comes to language learning but this means your child will not be speaking fluently by the end of this year. Words and phrases should be expected but not much more.



## **STUDENT RESPONSIBILITIES**

1. Enter and exit the Spanish room in a quiet and organized manner.
2. Be respectful to yourself and others.
3. Be kind.
4. Be responsible.
5. Participate positively and safely in all activities.

## **WHAT WE WILL LEARN**

This year we will cover the following units of study:

1. Deportes / Sports
2. En el supermercado / In the supermarket
3. Hagamos sopa / Let's make a soup
4. La casa / The house
5. La playa / The beach

## **GRADING**

Students will receive a grade for participation and effort this first trimester. This is what we look for when observing students in class:

### **Student initiative:**

- Does the student initiate interactions in Spanish?
- Is the student responsive when the teacher initiates an interaction?
- Does the student show a desire to learn?

### **Participation:**

- Does the student show respect to the teacher and other students by:
  - Having a positive attitude
  - Following directions
  - Encouraging others
  - Be prepared to learn
  - Participating vocally and/or physically

## **PARTICIPATION RUBRIC**

**C**=Consistently observed (student consistently and independently meets expectations)

**G**=Generally observed (student generally meets expectations)

**N**=Needs Prompting (student meets expectations with assistance and redirecting)

**R**=Rarely (student rarely meets expectations)

\*As the program continues to grow, students may be evaluated on other criteria.

¡Gracias!

Profesora Díaz-Parga

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Please sign, cut and have returned to your child's classroom teacher or Profesora Díaz-Parga



I have read Island Park's Spanish class expectations.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Parent signature(s)

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

\_\_\_\_\_  
Student signature

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

\_\_\_\_\_  
Student's class