

Las noticias de la semana

VOLUME 5, ISSUE 2

21 DE ENERO 2010

Inside this issue:

Las matemáticas	2
Los uniformes	2
La música	2
El alfabetismo	3
La tarea extra (otra vez!)	3
Escribir	3

Las hojas nuevas

We have begun revising the hojas of the students' hopes and dreams. It has seemed appropriate for students to set another goal in the new year.

I have been encouraging them to think about being equilibrado/balanced in connection with their goals from the fall.

Many students have thought about different professions, since no dream can be wrong.

So far we have been working on these last week and this week.

I plan to take time to meet with students individually in order to address some of this as it

concerns them personally.

The goal would be to have the tree full of hojas nuevas y viejas/new and old leaves by the time families come in for conferences.

We'll see how far they get... one minute it's a zoo keeper and the next

minute they would like to become a Star Wars character. So more guidance is needed for some than for others. That's just the nature of the kindergarten game.

If you student is communicative with you about school (many probably are not) ask them about their



New goals for a new year

plans for their nueva hoja/new leaf.

Flashers

The students always amaze me with their creativity. In the past couple of weeks there were a few days when the new game to play was "flash your neighbor" who was fright-

ened and alarmed by a superman logo, spiderman or even on one occasion a blank t-shirt underneath the isla uniform. (See the later section about the uniform for

more information about sanctioned isla wear.) I was surprised they knew that kind of thing and yet, I knew it was probably inevitable too. Hope this brings a smile your way.

Upcoming Events:

- lunes 25 Library books returned and new ones finally checked out!
- martes 26 PTO Meeting 7pm



Las matemáticas

During small group stations last week the students worked on measuring with their feet. They were shown how to trace their foot on a piece of tag board, cut it out and use it to measure various objects. They recorded their observations in their math notebooks. These are special to the students because each one has their very own and something new. It can be easy to please kindergartners some days. :) We are

working towards developing the concept of standardized measurement. Another station was a standard foot shape that consisted of 12 inches/pulgadas. They used these “feet” in shape and size to measure the circular rug.

We learned a song to count by 5s in Spanish on a different day and for

the station we are in the process of making a visual to go with it using cut outs of the students’ hands on a large poster to represent the numbers.

At the end of last week the class worked to prepare for the lesson of making tally marks/marcas de conteo.



You'll see tally marks again in the homework packet!

Los uniformes

“We don’t want a visit from the uniform police in our classroom!”

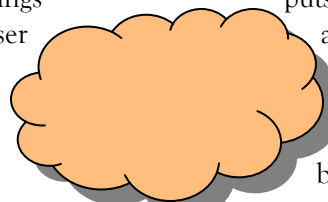
Recently I have noticed students wearing clothing that has proven distracting at times in the classroom. Please remind your child to be /have “integro/integrity” to follow the uniform policy. Any clothing that proves

distracting or does not comply will be asked to be removed and put in the mochila. Layers are great since our room can be warm but when we are not in the room, it can be chilly. Remember that clothing items should be

solid colors. Check the school calendar (happens to be for this month) for more details about the uniforms and dress guidelines at ISLA.

Música

The students are working on rhythmic drawings, which brings them closer towards the concept of written music. Its a creative musi-



These were the cloud-like drawings sent home last week!

cal activity in which the student organizes and puts the music in order according to the rhythm, hones their ability to use both sides of their body and brain in conjunction and develops aware-

ness of the relationship between musical symbols and their significance. Its a magnificent activity because it comprises the whole being: body, mind, and emotion.

El alfabetismo

Most students had the opportunity last week to use the listening station. The book was just for fun, a donation from the Barnes and Noble book fair, *Chato y los amigos panchangueros/Chato and the party animals* by Gary Soto and Susan Guevara.

Another station last week worked on making new leaves as explained earlier. Giovanna worked to finish the book about MLK Jr, titled *Martin Luther*

King, hijo/Martin Luther King, Jr. by David A. Adler.

Last week another station was to work with the sonidos flashcards that are held together with rings.

Using the magnetic letters other students practiced putting together sounds into words and others making up games with the letters during their

time there instead. Somehow certain letters can be formed into spaceships, I can't really see it myself but it makes them search for particular letters and helps them in identifying and recognizing them. We'll strive for more defined expectations next time around.



La tarea extra

Each student will have a piece of 12" by 12" piece of paper on which they can collage different things that would help them to visualize peace or happiness while they have a break. Start collecting images in magazines. You

can try taking pictures of things that give them a feeling of being calm or appreciating beauty and/or hunting through your own pictures. We will begin this project the first week in February.

Thank you to the student

and family who did turn in their things (you know who you are). Students who are not prepared will spend time using magazines in class and will not be able to start putting their project together with everyone else.

"Additional homework due the first week in February!"

Escribir

Last week many of the students worked on the letter sounds for foco/light blub for the letter f pronounced "effe" in Spanish. If you need an activity for your student to do



Foco has various meanings depending on the context.

for a few moments, ask them to practice on a scratch piece of paper.

They also practiced using their writing skills while developing new hojas/leaves for additional hopes and dreams.

