



Las noticias de la semana

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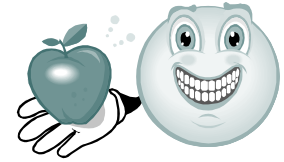
Los cumplidos

Last week we took some extra time during morning meeting and later on during mathematics to share a compliment/cumplido with the class about another student. Each student had the week to observe and then share something good they saw happen over the course of the week. After sharing their cumplido each student picked out a sticker to give to their person.

Many students said how their person of the week was solidario/caring and shared a game or a book with them. Other students started by saying that the child was a good friend and was very respectful.

We've practiced the IB attitudes of caring and appreciation through this activity. The class will make an effort to continue the compliments for a special friend each

week. This might be a great question to gain information from "forgetful" kindergarteners. Ask, "who is the person you will compliment this week?" on Mondays or Tuesdays. On Fridays or the last day of the week ask your kindergartener, "What compliment did you give?" They might only want to talk about the sticker but they should at least have a good feeling at the end of the week!



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El perfil de aprendizaje

ISLA is starting a new tradition of recognizing two students per classroom that have displayed the attributes of the learner profile that are in focus that month. Due to our visitor from Hamline our class was not able to join the rest of the school

for the recognition event. Fortunately, Sra. Speich, Sra. Terhaar and Sra. Rayo were able to hold a mini-event for us later in the day. Last month we focused on having integrity/integro and being open minded/de mentalidad abierta.

Charlie and Caleb received certificates for their actions during the past month. Next month: Inquirers/indagadores and informados e instruidos/knowledgable.

Upcoming Events:

- viernes 5 End of fabric unit
- lunes 8 Library book return
New unit of inquiry: Let's go to market
- martes 9 Late start

Past Events:

- lunes 1 Homework packet due



Centers, stations and groups all have the same meaning to me. Sorry about any confusion!

“Why do they need a pot with water for the fabric?” - student



El alfabetismo

This week we took a step back from the routine of always dividing into small groups every day. We tried one group that day. This allowed the students to be set up for successful working time during the centers/stations/groups. (I apologize that the name changes so often, they all have the same to meaning to me.) The class talked about how we

can do our best: to listen, to keep the chatter quiet and to ask questions when the task is not clear. After doing the experiment, its clear that things went better for the class. I was able to work with a small group for guided reading purposes with fewer interruptions. One group practiced the Sonidos chart with me while another group listened to the audio

book, *Llaman a la puerta* by Pat Hutchins. Another group spent their time working on writing the letter sound “ll” and “q.” The group working with Giovanna finally played their animal BINGO and the last group read their secret books to each other. We have new groups for March, so each student gets to share their work with another. They were quite proud.

Indagación

In order to follow up on our visit with John Barell to continue with inquiry and test out his teachings, the class worked on the following activity during literacy time:

The students were reminded to be curious as they watched

a short video clip about fabric and textiles. They were not supposed to understand everything, just to ask questions and continue with their curiosity. The selection was no educational award winner by any means, but brought into focus

how making and creating textiles is accomplished by one woman in Spain. If you'd like to view the clip at home, here is the link: <http://www.rtve.es/mediateca/videos/20091214/personajes-tejiendo-campo-con-ana-champeney/648923.shtml>

Escribir

Last week as a part of trying to catch the special person of the week doing something well, the students decided that they should make cards for their friend. Due to time limits some students re-

ceived their cards when we cleaned out our cubitos/cubbies this week. Writing the other person's name was very important and many went to the source for accurate information. Some students

even asked what their favorite things were to add to the card. That is great to see happening of its own accord as we do nice things for others!

Las matemáticas

Just the other day we the students were introduced to the dime during our math block. We took a line from Mr. Barell to be curious and ask questions about what we were seeing on the dime. I have to admit their questions got me side tracked from the math lesson as we delved into a

bit of social studies while we spoke about FDR and other presidents that appear on U.S. currency.

The students were also introduced last week to three dimensional shapes/ formas de tres dimensiones. La esfera is sphere, while el cubo is cube, la prisma rectangular is

the rectangular prism, el cono is a cone and el cilindro is cylinder. This lesson provides a foundation for later learning. We also added it as a new layer for our I Spy/Veo, Veo game.

The students worked on making a bar graph of their favorite toys last week as well.



Top four choices were legos, Transformers, Barbies and stuffed animals.

El final de la unidad

We have come to the end of yet another unit of inquiry. That's four down and two left. It seems like there is so much we have to do and explore, but then I need to remind myself that my expectations are really high. Whole careers/lifetimes are

made out of studying fabric or making textiles. Our final project was making a weaving of paper.

The students began the project today and hope to finish tomorrow. The really practiced some reflection today in order to seek out help from others

and to determine if they had finished and were satisfied with their accomplishment. Many asked to take them home today, telling me that they wanted to share and were proud of their creations. You'll see them at home by St. Patrick's Day.

"How much wood would it take to make that machine?"

- student

El visitante

"A fine group of students." These were the words left by a visitor who came from Hamline University to observe as a part of my coursework. I wanted to share that with the families as well, be-

cause I think it never hurts to get positive feedback about how you are doing your job as a family member and advocate of your student. They are really growing and learning well through their first

year of school at ISLA. I find myself setting higher expectations for the students and see the reward in how they are able to learn and demonstrate their learning better and better each day.



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Families sharing in the classroom:

We have had six family members come in to share their talents with the classroom. Some the have signed up from a list available during Curriculum Night in September and others that have just happened of their own accord.

The best times for parents to come in to share are from 9:45am until 10:15am after morning meeting and before specialist. The best day of the week is Friday. Some Fridays are already scheduled for Junior Achievement, but we can be flexible as needed.

We learned about carpentry , photography, American sign-language, quilting, the human skeleton and physical therapy. The class really appreciated your contributions!

Gracias a Sra. Terhaar for reading *Huevos verdes con jamón* for us in honor of Dr. Suess' birthday!

Las cositas extras



Sra. Rooney had a great quilt to show us with trees on it... I couldn't help think that it connects nicely with our other units of study this year.

Muchas gracias a Sra. Rooney! Thank you so very much Andrea Rooney for coming in and sharing about quilt making. The friendship star was a great pattern to share with the class! Using paper the students created their own quilt block, we can't wait to see what they'll look like all together!

Since the weather has been pretty great lately, I will be making sure

that students use the gear brought with them to school be used outside. If the gloves, hat, and scarf seem too much for your student in the bright sunny days we've had lately you can decide not to pack all of them.

An extra pair of socks is essential in the melting we've been experiencing... I try to remind them they'll need a wet-suit to play in the water,

while their winter gear is for snow. Unfortunately, the puddles are so very, very tempting for them.

I need help! Please contact the PTO Classroom moms (Melinda.boone@ge.com or danielle-carr@edinarealty.com about making field trip arrangements. Its been on my to-do list for too long, its time to ask for your help!