

Noticias de la clase de Kinder

ISLA– International School Language Academy

What are we doing in the classroom?

DEAR PARENTS:

This past week we worked on learning to travel safely in the school buses. We read a book that taught us to be responsible when walking to the bus, finding a good place to sit and staying on the seat until the bus makes a complete stop and the driver says it is ok to stand up. On Friday the children were also able to watch a movie that indicated all the rules about riding the buses and how important it is to be safe. Please keep reinforcing at home the importance of listening carefully to the bus driver, while keeping the noise down and always staying on their seats. Some of the children said that they were not riding the buses so they were not sure if talking about it in class could be helpful to them. I clarified their questions by saying that we will be taking a field trip to a location close to the school and the whole Kindergar-

ten class would need to know what to do in the bus. The children seemed very satisfied with the answer and they listened very well to all the safety rules. We will be having a guest speaker who will go once again through the drills in the bus, with all the children.



I also wanted to share with you that the calendar is taking life of its own. The children know the days of the week, the months of the year, they are independent when counting the date and they also form inquiries about the type of weather we have. I never thought I could hear them arguing in Spanish so quickly! :). They avidly said: I think esta lluvioso (it's rainy), while some

other children would say: “No esta lluvioso, esta ventoso!” (it's not rainy, it's windy). The funny part is that in the end they all wished it was sunny day so we sang “Oh Sr. Sol” (Oh Mr Sun) and they still had more to say about the speed of the song: “mas rapido por favor!” (faster please!) or “mas lento” slower or “Otra vez!” (do it again!).

I am so proud of them. They continue to learn how to help each other, take turns, be good listeners when someone else is speaking, raise hands when they want to ask questions or share information and definitely to be “SOLIDARIO” (kind with others) which is our IB goal for this month. I am blessed to have an amazing group of children that truly care about each other and they are always willing to help in the classroom by recycling, cleaning the tables and leaving the materials in the right places.



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- *Please remember to sign up for parent-teacher conferences on October 12th and 14th.*
- *Picture day is Tuesday, October 6. The children can wear other clothes besides their uniforms.*
- *ISLA PTO meeting on October 27th.*
- *Classroom Halloween Fiesta for the Children, October 30th.*
- *November 3rd, picture re-takes*

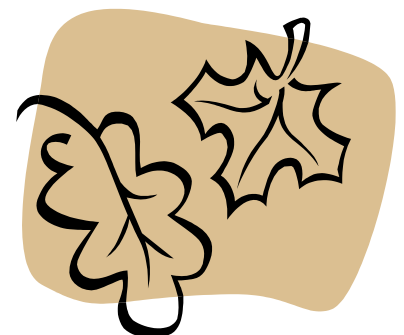
Curriculum-Language Arts

Our readings for this week was based on the “Yellow Bus” book. I was very pleased to hear the children echoing the sentences and using Spanish words to tell me what shapes and colors they could see.

We continued learning the “sonidos iniciales”. Please visit the following site to see a video in which you can follow a teacher working with the Tucker system after the children have already learned the sounds of each one of the letters : <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=4QbGdOJ3r2w>

There is also another website that you may want to visit : <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=iH0srcjRtg>. In this site you can see a teacher modeling each one of the letter sounds using the tucker system. Maria, the teacher modeling the sounds and sign language, also reads occasionally at the Hopkins Library. Please call your library to ask them if they offer any reading time in Spanish.

We are currently working on writing skills in our alphabet book, practicing each one of the consonants and vowels, please continue reading to the children at home each day.



Matemáticas y ciencias: We investigated volume : Más largo que, más corto que, más alto, más bajo (longer than, shorter than and taller than), practiced counting until 40 and began counting by 10's. We also learned to say “ igual” and “ diferente” (equal and different).

IB and social studies: We continue working on being “ Solidarios” with our friends and family.

Esperanzas y sueños/hopes and dreams

Last week we sent a estrella (star) and an Hoja (leaf) home. I am very happy we received many of them back.

This activity was for the creation of the children's hope or dream for the kindergarten year. Kindergarten hopes and dreams can be academic or they can focus on social skill building which is just as important. For example, a student might hope to become good friends with everyone in the classroom. Big hopes and dreams are definitely okay as well, some stu-

dents specifically want to be astronauts or draw beautiful works of art. Sit down and discuss what their job is at school as a student and then ask them what they hope or dream to accomplish. Guide or aid your student in writing their dream in **bold** on the leaf. We will be adding them to our classroom tree as they arrive. This is an important part of building our community, so we would like to share them in class by the end of next week. **Leaves/hojas are due this-Friday** . Please share their dream,

Perhaps, the children can practice at home with you before presenting it to the classroom.

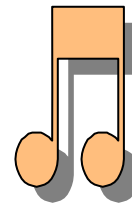


Change in our schedule

On Mondays we will continue having library time at 1:30 and music at 2:15 PM.

We will be having music again on Fridays instead of Thursdays at the same time, 2:15-2:45.

If anybody would like to volunteer helping in the classroom on Mondays at 2:00 PM would be greatly appreciated :)



Uniforms and warm clothes : Please make sure that your child is wearing the uniform daily. Jeans are not allowed in school except for picture days or special events.

It is also starting to get cold. Please make sure your child has a jacket and warm shoes to wear at school. Tennis shoes work the best!

Conferences: Please let me know if you have not received the sign up sheet for conferences. I would be happy to send it via e mail to you on Monday so your child can bring it back on Tuesday, October 6th. I will be available Monday all day and evening and Wednesday morning. If you have any problems coming during those times please e mail me and I will be happy to schedule a better time that accommodates us.

QUE TENGAN UNA EXCELENTE SEMANA! Have an excellent week! :)