



Spanish

Curriculum Overview

The entire Spanish program taught at Saint Rose of Lima is the first level of Spanish study and is designed to introduce students to both the Spanish language and culture. Using the five goal areas of the World-Readiness Standards for Learning Languages (Communication, Culture, Connections, Comparisons, and Community), along with the standards under each goal area, the aim of the program is to introduce students to the four elements of language study: listening, speaking, reading, and writing. Students at every level will also demonstrate growth in cultural competency and understanding of the world.

PREKINDERGARTEN TO GRADE 2 OVERVIEW

Prekindergarten through Grade 2 will visit the Spanish classroom once per week. During these times, students will be engaged through song, games, projects and puppets. My primary focus is to familiarize students with the Spanish language and to help them understand various cultural differences and similarities. Basic vocabulary will be introduced including greetings, colors, weather, describing words, feelings, likes, family, animals, and common classroom phrases. By the end of 2nd grade, students will be able to recite the Glory Be in Spanish. As beginning language learners, students are primarily focused on listening, and comprehension with some attention to word recognition, writing, and conversing in Spanish. As with a typical language acquisition process, voluntary production of the language is not likely to emerge until later.

GRADE 3 TO GRADE 5 OVERVIEW

Grade 3 to Grade 5 students have Spanish class once per week. Many of the units of study from the younger years are revisited throughout the year with an added emphasis on production and collaboration. Topics are learned more in-depth, expanding on students' vocabulary. For example, in 2nd grade, students learn numbers 1 to 20, but in 5th grade students learn numbers 1 to 100. Some additional units include time, subject pronouns, question words, and an introduction to conjugations. Students create a strong vocabulary foundation that prepares them well for Middle School Spanish.

MIDDLE SCHOOL (GRADE 6 TO GRADE 8) OVERVIEW

Upon entering 6th grade, there is a greater responsibility and accountability of students learning Spanish at Saint Rose of Lima. Middle School students have Spanish twice per week. While the program continues to be engaging by utilizing games, song, and skits, there is an added homework and test component to the class. Throughout the Middle School years, students will learn to speak in the present tense, understand how to write sentences, and ask and answer questions. They will be competent in conjugating all types of verbs in the present tense including, AR, ER, IR, stem-changing, and irregular verbs. More importantly, they will be able to communicate with greater ease in Spanish, from the grammar and communication skills they have mastered. By the end of 8th grade, students will be able to answer various writing prompts in paragraph form, interact with one another in Spanish, and comprehend a short chapter book in Spanish. A general understanding of the geography of Spanish-speaking countries and the varied cultures that speak Spanish is acquired throughout the curriculum. With successful completion of the Middle School Spanish program, many students will be ready to enroll in a Spanish II class at the high school level.