

Parents and Guardians,

Welcome to FLES (Foreign Language in Elementary School). I am the FLES teacher, and I am very happy to be teaching your children Spanish, a fun, useful, and lively language.

Spanish at Van Voorhis is a comfortable stage for language acquisition with a minimum of 80% Spanish language. I'm using the "natural approach" in which repetition, stories, songs and games are an integral part of the program. After all, kids speak the language they play with. Culture is taught in a meaningful way, creating a low anxiety environment.

The mission at the K-3 elementary foreign language program is to enable students to develop a proficiency in a foreign language, while gaining knowledge and appreciation of other cultures. Our kids are learning how to acquire languages, and how to be risk takers in the language learning process. This is something those who begin foreign language later in life often find difficult.

You, the parents/guardians, can help your child learn Spanish in several ways. Encourage and praise your child's attempts to speak Spanish. Also, invite your child to teach what he/she is learning in the new language. Finally, you may notice a list of commonly used vocabulary words, and links to fun and interactive Spanish games on this webpage. Encourage your child to visit, explore, and play...and to do it often!

Van Voorhis students are very talented and amazing with a lot of enthusiasm toward Spanish. It is a privilege to teach our most precious assets—the children of US Service Men and Women. Please feel free to visit our classroom #4 at anytime, or contact me with any questions or comments!

Gracias y hasta pronto---