¡Hola Terraset Families!

September 2015

Last year, every student at Terraset ES received Spanish language instruction through the FLES program (Foreign Language in Elementary School). This year, I will continue to offer weekly classes of Spanish to your child but through a revised curriculum with a new name: Spanish LTC - Language through Content.

What is Language through Content?
The Language through Content (LTC) program is an approach to language learning that allows students to develop basic communicative skills in a language while reinforcing and enriching concepts from the general Program of Studies. Beginning this year, the LTC program will place an emphasis on Science concepts and include Science, Technology, Engineering, Arts, and Mathematics (STEAM) skills. STEAM is based on student driven inquiry and problem solving investigations. Combining such skills with language learning will provide a unique way for students to acquire the Spanish language while preparing them with the 21st century skills needed to become successful global citizens.

Our students who participate in an LTC program will have the opportunity to continue learning Spanish or another world language at the middle school and high school levels.

Goals of the Language through Content Program:
The primary goals and expectations of the Language through Content (LTC) in Fairfax County Public Schools are to:

• Support the academic content area of Science
• Develop increased cognitive skills
• Promote global awareness and cross-cultural understanding
• Develop increased functional proficiency in all aspects of the language with each year of study
• Meet district, state, and national world languages standards
• Promote divergent thinking and ingenious thought
• Develop critical and creative thinking skills to overcome obstacles
• Develop an understanding of interdisciplinary connectedness of content areas

*There are 54 FCPS schools with LTC programs. Thirty-six schools offer Spanish. There are also Arabic, Chinese, French, German, Italian and Japanese programs.

If you have any questions during the year, please contact me. Looking forward to a TERRastic year!

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Terraset ES