

ON THE RIGHT FOOT



A WORD FROM OUR

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HEAD OF SCHOOL

The 2015-2016 school year is off to a wonderful start! The school's transformation from summer to now has been quite the metamorphosis—from empty, lifeless rooms, to colorful hubs of learning. It is exciting to see the classroom walls filled with new student work, new experiments being conducted (some not so successful egg drop contraptions), and new relationships being established. These relationships are at the heart of what makes our school successful. Our students are forging relationships that will help develop their character, and for many, these ties will last a lifetime. These relationships are also the core of a strong school community that is able to adapt to changes and new ways of thinking.

Along this vein, it is important for the relationship between school administration and the Berkley Board of Directors to be strong and viable. I am pleased to say that we have a shared vision and great rapport that will enable us to work collaboratively to plan for the continued growth and development of the school. The Board and I support three priorities for Berkeley International School:

BUILDING A STRONG ACADEMIC PROGRAM:

- Aligning our academic program from Pre-K to graduation
- Establishing curricular guides that will maintain a rigorous pace for covering class content

BUILDING HUMAN RESOURCE CAPITAL:

- Hiring and retaining talented teaching and support staff
- Providing professional development to increase pedagogical proficiency

BUILDING OUR FUTURE:

• Developing plans for short and long range growth

At the heart of each of these priorities are the students at Berkeley International School. Being cognizant of the children and their role in an ever-changing future is the challenge for teachers and school leaders. For today's students, tomorrow's learning and working environments will be very different than the world in which their teachers and parents grew up. No longer will a quality education be one that can be measured solely by a test score. A strong learning program will be charged with cultivating students' ability to think, to create, and to approach world issues and problems in an innovative way. As we re-think education at Berkeley International School, parents and teachers in the school community will need to engage in meaningful conversations about the direction of the school, and our ability to respond and change to new demands. I look forward to leading, listening, and contributing to this dialogue.

Best regards,

Lisa Johnson
Berkeley Head of School

MEETYOUR BERKELEY STAFF

ADMINISTRATION

KINDERGARTEN











ELEMENTARY

MS. LISA

Head of Schoo



















SECONDARY



















SPECIALISTS





































WALS:

Help Berkeley Student Council raise money for the Halloween Carnival



Coins count positively

Wed. Sep. 16 - Fri. Sep. 25

Each division has a jar to collect bills or coins.

- Coins count positively for the team's final value.
- Bills count negatively and their value is subtracted
 Put coins in the jar of the division you want win,
 and bills in the ones you want to see loosing.
 The division with the highest value will win an awesome prize.



Bills count negatively

In September, the Student Council organized the first fundraiser of the year - Baht Wars! For this fundraising activity, each division (kindergarten, elementary, middle school, and high school) was asked to donate some money by putting coins in their own bottles and banknotes in the other divisions' bottles. By inserting cash into a bottle, it reduced the value of the entire amount. For example, if there was 200 baht in coins in a bottle, and you placed a 1000 baht bill in it, the final value would be equivalent to -800 baht. The goal was to get the highest value, as the reward was a week free of homework for high school, a free period for middle school, and a pajama party for elementary and kindergarten. During this event, students were very enthusiastic and competitive, especially the younger ones. The Baht Wars came to a successful end, with the kindergarten as the winning division, and impressive overall earnings of 52,000 baht! We want to thank everyone for your support. We look forward to organizing even more amazing activities for Berkeley, starting with the Halloween Carnival on the 30th of October.

By Jennifer Gehrmann Student Council Secretary





[Caught You Doing The Right Thing!]

Berkeley students are a community of learners, but the word community really should be replaced with family. Students take care of each other every day and are kind, compassionate and supportive of one another. My goal is to catch students doing the right thing because it is the right thing to do and recognize them for it.

Our students perform great deeds every day that make a difference in the lives of the people around them! Many of their actions go undetected or unrecognized, so here is my opportunity to thank and honor our awesome students for truly being global citizens with compassion, love and spirit for others. It is my honor to recognize Gabriele Giuliano for amazing sportsmanship conduct during the last football game. Gabriele and a player from the opposing team got tangled up and fell. He was the first to extend his hand to help the other player up. Thank you for making your Berkeley family proud!





Let's Talk College...

school students. However, I always get the blank stare out from their peers. The college admissions process of confusion when words like SAT or ACT come out of can be overwhelming, but I promise to guide you every my mouth. The SAT (Scholastic Aptitude Test) is a college step of the way (as long as you are willing to work!). admissions test taken by 11th graders at the end of the year accepted around the world. The ACT (American College Test) is another college admissions test that is take place for each high school grade level and widely accepted by United States universities.

It's important to note that these two tests do not completely determine your acceptance into a college. Hard work and variation in course selection is extremely crucial as well. Universities are looking for well-rounded students and looking at an application in a holistic way. This means they are not only for students with strong academics, but also for those that have leadership skills

Starting in October, college classroom lessons will continue on throughout the year. This will help students better understand college terminology and begin diving deeper into their four-year plan at Berkeley International School.

time, I'm here to help academically and socially.





other artistic projects. Our theme about the animals has been quite color and a number!



Pre K K1





The first two months of this academic year have been exceptional and a lot of fun. Our first Theme we learnt was All About Me. We learnt new songs, parts of the body and made some beautiful picture frames and a wonderful family wall display. We also had fun catching up with old and making new friends. We then moved to our second theme, Under the Sea. The children have thoroughly enjoyed learning about the ocean and the animals that live there. We have used our sensory tables to enjoy playing ocean games. We have made some excellent crafts, turtles, jellyfish, starfish, crabs and squid using all sorts of materials. We made some great ocean masks we used for role play. We have learnt the sounds s, a, t, i, p, n. We have been learning songs, actions and sounds and lots of new words. We have also been playing lots of interactive

> will soon be on us, so please think about costumes for your child. Don't forget. Please keep up to date with our class website & our class facebook page.



Kindergarden 2



Kindergarden 3

Kindergarten 2 has been doing some amazing things this Quarterl Miss Sadie's elephant class has learned 20 of our 26 letters, and all of our magic vowels!

We practiced knowing what our letters are from the sound they make. To do this, we had a letter hunt!

The Elephant class did some amazing work with patterns this quarter! We can now identify a pattern, continue it and give it a name. We even made patterns out of ourselves!

To find out more, ask a K2 student about what they have learned this quarter!











3,2,1... Blast Off! Launching Our Writing Workshop in K3!









Many exciting things have been happening in K3 throughout Quarter 1, However, one of the most magical things that I have witnessed is my students becoming writers! Every day my Super Duper Writers and I meet for our writing workshop. Each day the children learn a new writing skill that they try and use when writing independently. Throughout quarter one the children focused on writing teaching books. Each child chose a topic they were experts on, and they planned their books page by page with the help of their writing partner before they would begin to write their teaching book. Their wonderful writing has certainly made me proud! I have enjoyed reading their books and learning all about France, great white sharks, weather, K3 students, families and of course Frozen! The K3 students have become brave writers who are not afraid to try and write tricky words by stretching each word they write to sound it out carefully. Now the K3 students are busy writing true stories about real events that

happen in their lives. If you get a chance come and see what wonderful writing the children in K3 can do because they all believe in themselves as writers.





Kinder THAI

In Kindergarten we learn Thai 4 times a week. We promote skills in listening, speaking, reading and writing basic Thai through different kinds of activities. Each week, we will focus on one Thai letter and also one Thai subject such as family, transport, animals, food, etc. We have stories or songs related to the focus letter and fun, creative crafts to help children link the letter name and sound to words beginning with the letter. We look closely at the letter formation, how to write the letter and try many ways to

experience writing it. We say the sound of the letter and think of words beginning with the letter. We work hard and enjoy learning Thai every session!







Elementary THAI

In the first quarter, elementary students focused on Thai folk tales, and arts and crafts.

For Thai folk tales, we learned about Ta In Ta Na, Dao Look Kai, U Thai Te Vee and Keaw Na Mar. Second graders knew all the stories and can tell the main point of each story.

For Thai art and crafts, we learned about the Thai pattern and made some Thai crafts which are the symbol of Thailand such as Cha Da, paper umbrella, Tung and Nang Ta Loong. Students have learned about Thai culture from each part

of Thailand and had fun making Thai craft by themselves.





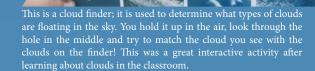




Grade one has been busy this quarter learning about a variety of topics! Our science theme for the past month has been weather - we are now all mini meteorologists! We have learned how to read a thermometer, how to identify clouds, how to measure the rain, and about some extreme weather patterns. We wrote fun layered storybooks about the clouds and which one we like the best. Our favorite cloud, or perhaps word, has been cumulonimbus and we love to use it as much as possible! The most exciting activity we have done has been measuring

Grade 1 Teacher

the rain, especially with these daily heavy downpours! Everyone anticipated going outside to read how much water filled our rain gauges. If you see any grade one mini meteorologist in the hallways don't hesitate to ask them about the weather!



IFE ING These first two months of school have been filled with curiosity and discovery.

In our second grade classrooms we have been hard at work building our skills in literacy, Math, Science and Social Studies. In Literacy we have been reviewing our phonics, grammar, spelling, and exercising our abilities as independent readers in our guided reading program. We read and studied the books of master writer Eric Carle (The Grouchy Ladybug, House for Hermit Crab, The Tiny Seed and The Very Hungry Caterpillar) and began writing our own narrative writings. In Math we practiced our competency of basic number concepts and place value. In Science we explored and observed different types of leaves and the plant life cycle and in Social Studies we learned how a timeline and storyboard can help us to understand the past. The beginning of the school year has been wonderful and we look forward to the adventures coming our way.



Grade one students working collaboratively to

their rain gauges in their perfect spots!! This was a tough job!



GRADE 3

From the first day of school Grade 3 started decorating the classroom with student generated Language Arts Anchor Charts. Anchor charts help to build a culture of literacy in the classroom by highlighting strategies modeled in a minilesson. The charts only contain the most important information

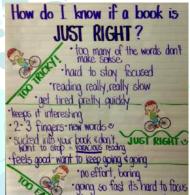
and act as a reminder throughout the day.



<u>nead to comeone</u> *Kindness *	
Students are:	Book Choices:
taking turns not interrupting staying in their comfy spot voice level 1-2 focusing on their reading helping their partners is being kind (No bucket	*books from home *library books *Just Right books *Portnership Books (book bin) *picture books *magazines *books from our book bins *Any Book!!







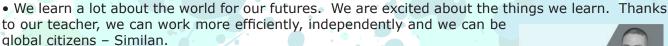
GRADE 4

It's been a busy start to the year in Grade Four. We've worked hard to get our classroom running efficiently and creatively, with the right mix of fun and focus.

We've covered quite a range of topics, from figurative writing techniques, comparing and contrasting different ecosystems and cultures, numbers into the hundred millions, through to mapping the world's different hemispheres, understanding the writing process and constructing bar and line graphs to display data.

But don't take my word for it. Let's hear from the fourth-graders about some of the goings-on in the mad, mad world of Room 1204.

- Grade Four feels like excitement, because we learn more things every day and I like learning stuff. If Grade Four is a color, it is blue, because our knowledge gets better every day – Norman.
- Mr. Quirke is the best teacher on the planet. Even aliens say Mr. Quirke is the best teacher ever Mark.
- In Grade Four, we write a lot and use our imaginations. In class, we think a lot and write for our reading logs. To survive Grade Four, you must think a lot! Valen.



• We are different, because everybody should have a different talent to work with. We are responsible, because everyone should take care of their stuff and themselves – Kai.

So there you have it. Grade Four - even the aliens know who we are!







MR. QUIRKE

Grade 4 Teacher

GRADE 5 - A Fun Bunch

We are off and running in Grade 5! This has been a tremendous semester for both me and our new 5B teacher Mr. Jake Varley. Together we cover Language Arts, Math,

Science, and Social Studies. Our students are getting an early taste of middle school as they transition from class to class, quite different from what they are used to in the regular elementary format.

With 27 students, our group of kids is the largest in the school! One of our favorite things to do so far this year has been to read and discuss the book "Wonder". It teaches to treat everyone fairly and equally, no matter how they look or who they are.





Book Fair Right Around the Corner

We are off to a great start in the library this year. Last week Bayard Magazines were sent home to students in Grades PK-6. These magazines include puzzles, comics, stories, and scientific facts. We had these magazines in the library last year and children enjoyed reading them. If students want to subscribe, they need to bring their money to school to pay or to pay online. Whether they subscribe or not, students need to bring the packets back to school to return to Bayard Publishing. This process was explained in letters that were sent home to parents with the packets. I have also been in touch with Scholastic Publishers. They will be visiting Berkeley to conduct a book fair from October 27-October 29. They have many interesting fiction and non-fiction books that will be available for students to purchase. Whenever Scholastic visits for a book fair, students are thrilled to find new books to read. lamlookingforwardtoanexcitingyear

with plenty of reading at Berkeley!



At the Dyslexia program, since students have trouble with reading, we try to move away from only using the textbook. We try using a hands on approach to teaching by making projects of the topics we are studying. The important thing you see in these pictures is cooperation and teamwork. We started off the year learning about early hominids and the Stone Age. One of the curriculum standards was that students become familiar with the archaeological discoveries made that teaches us about the prehistoric past. So we learned about the discovery of Lucy in Africa. Students assembled a life size replica of Lucy and compared it to a life size replica of a modern day Homo Sapien.

In grade 6 dyslexia science we are learning about the Earth's structure and plate tectonics. One of the topics is about continental drift, and the supercontinent Pangaea and how it split into two continents Gondwanaland and Laurasia. I found a website called block prints that can make a poster block puzzle out of a photo. Then I had the students work together in pairs to assemble each poster on the wall. In this way it slows the students down enough so that they pay attention to the details of what is being presented to them instead of it just being mentioned in passing in a textbook. A dyslexic

child's ability to write down thoughts and ideas will be quite different from the level of information the child can give verbally. For successful integration, our students must be able to demonstrate to the teacher that they know the information in each subject by giving verbal descriptions as well.





The Drama Department at Berkeley got off to a really great start this year. The drama department is busy with very enthusiastic and engaged kids.

Elementary students began the year by transforming themselves into their own individual superheroes. They made up a secret name and a power and then created drawings of what they would look like as the superhero. They then made masks to wear while presenting their superhero to classmates.

The middle school students were busy as well. They practiced improvisation skills and presented to their classmates. They also created scenes and dialogue along with learning skits.

This quarter the high school students were equally as busy as the elementary and middle school. The high school class wrote scripts, created props and backdrops for sock puppet theatre. They then took their performances to our wonderful Berkeley first grade classes who gave them lots of applause and rave reviews.

There is much more planned for next quarter, and we will be MS. TARA sure to tell you all about it!







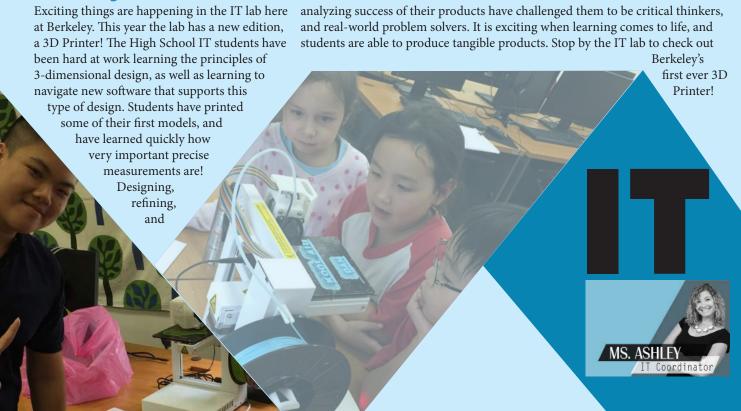


Primary

students have been learning about how artists and designers often use a step-by-step process to generate and improve ideas. After making a sketch of anything they chose, we analyzed their sketches as a group and discussed what parts of the image were working well and what things they could do to improve them. Then they drew the same picture again and applied the ideas from the discussion. After analyzing their second sketch on their own, they made a final drawing on drawing paper of the same subject. It is always so interesting to see the vast range of subjects and visual ideas! Some of the images were quite sophisticated and there were many that were really humorous.

Visual Art class Students
have been working hard
learning and applying the rules of
two point perspective in a drawing. It is
probably the most technically challenging
project we do, and the students have made
some really impressive work! We then made drawings
and paintings showing how colors of different value
(brightness) and saturation (grayness) can be used
to create the illusion of space in an image. This
technique is called aerial perspective or atmospheric
perspective. The students who are in the AM classes
have also been working on designing and creating a
lion head similar to those traditionally used in the
lion dance during Chinese New Year celebrations.

Berkeley's IT lab Gets a 3D Printer









GRADE GRADE



6th Grade Has shills

Hello from the class of 2022! This year's 6th grade class has begun with a bang. Reflecting on the first quarter we have already learned Among our memories, some of our favorites include our river formation experiment in science, our duel math/science experiment where we calculated the ingredients to create "strata," and our homeroom talks about student council. Currently we are working on creating "Ancient News" papers where we are working on are research skills, along with our creativity and writing skills. In addition to all of our academic work 6th grade has been active in sports and afterschool activities including; swimming, basketball, soccer, tennis, German Language, Thai Language and dance. Middle School is proving to be a big step up in our

academic world-BUT we are rising to the challenge!
Go LIONS!







Berkeley 7th Grade IS FUII OF Writers

The first quarter has been full of excitement and learning! In Language Arts, the 7th grade students have done a lot of writing already! Their "Who I Am" poems and "What's in the Bag" projects really helped the students to get to know one another, and gave the students a chance to share the things about their lives that they value. With the school wide writing assessment, and now, their own Realistic Fiction stories, tremendous growth, wonderful creativity, and impressive writing skills are already evident! We will be putting all of their short stories together into a class anthology. They range from silly and entertaining to emotional and inspiring. You are going to love reading the stories that these budding novelists have created!

Up next will be a reading unit in which we will be studying the graphic novel American Born Chinese. This is a story about Jin, a Chinese American boy who struggles to fit in. The kids will love reading this graphic novel, and will learn a lot from its message. They will even get a chance to create their own graphic novel!

As always, thanks for encouraging your students to read and write independently at home so they can continue to improve their English language skills. We are off to a great start, Berkeley 7th graders!



Changes in **G8**

The 2015-2016 school year has gotten off to a great start for the new eighth grade students here at Berkeley International School. This was despite having to adjust to a wide range of changes from last year. The students had to adopt a new class communication system in Google Classroom; adjust to a new, daily class schedule; and meet and build relationships with a number of new teachers. The class handled these and other issues well, though, and are now working efficiently towards achieving their yearly learning goals.

Looking forward to the second quarter of the year, eighth grade has a full slate

of special events to enjoy. The students are eagerly anticipating the Halloween Carnival and the middle-school lock in, both of which will occur within two weeks of their return from October break. In addition, the second quarter will have the students celebrating Loy Krathong, the King's Birthday, and Christmas. All of this is in addition to their already highly entertaining class

schedule. It promises to be a great conclusion to the first semester of the year.







G9 Geometry





The grade nine students have worked extremely hard in this first quarter. They have begun their study of geometric theorems and postulates and created presentations on how professionals apply these principles architecture, mapping, and sports. The class practiced Euclidean Geometry by using a compass and straightedge to create formal geometric constructions. Students have also formed a solid foundation of geometrics proofs and used inductive and deductive reasoning to prove the properties of parallel and perpendicular lines.

These topics are foundational and will be used throughout the year as we study more about the properties of triangles, quadrilaterals, and other two and three dimensional figures. Students continue to build upon their algebra skills while being introduced to many new trigonometry principles that will prepare them for higher level mathematics in the future. If you are interested to learn more, please ask a

grade nine s t u d e n t about what they are learning.



BASKETBALL SEASON @ BERKELEY





The Berkeley Lions started the year with over 70 students signing up to play on our basketball teams! The sports department anticipated having only five teams for this season. However, the elementary girls had a tremendous interest in playing so we created an U/11 girls team for the first time. GBAC games started at the beginning of September and all teams have showed an increased level of skill and fitness as well as showing exemplary sportsmanship at all our games. Tournaments for all levels will be in November and we are working hard

in practice to bring back lots of trophies to put in our growing trophy room.





NEW YEAR, NEW MUSIC @ BERKELEY

It has been another busy start to the year in the music department. The programme continues to grow and improve every year. We welcomed Mr. Chad to the team as the Kinder and ES specialist and we now have an even bigger High School elective course running as two separate classes. Even though we're only in the first quarter the students have already had their first public performances at the open day event. It was an impressive start and great showcase for

our talented students. In October we once again took a group of Middle School students to Patana to take part in the Bangkok Middle School String festival. It is a wonderful event and our students learn so much from working with all the other string coaches in Bangkok during intense rehearsals and collaborating with their peers from across the city. Well done to all the students who took part, Berkeley are very proud of you.





LEADERS OF THE PRIDE

EXECUTIVES



Ella G10 - President



Spencer G10 - Vice President



Jenny G11 - Secretary



Tarn G11 - Treasurer

CLASS REPS



Amanda - G6 Class Rep



Mayda - G7 Class Rep



Marlena - G8 Class Rep



Minnie - G9 Class Rep

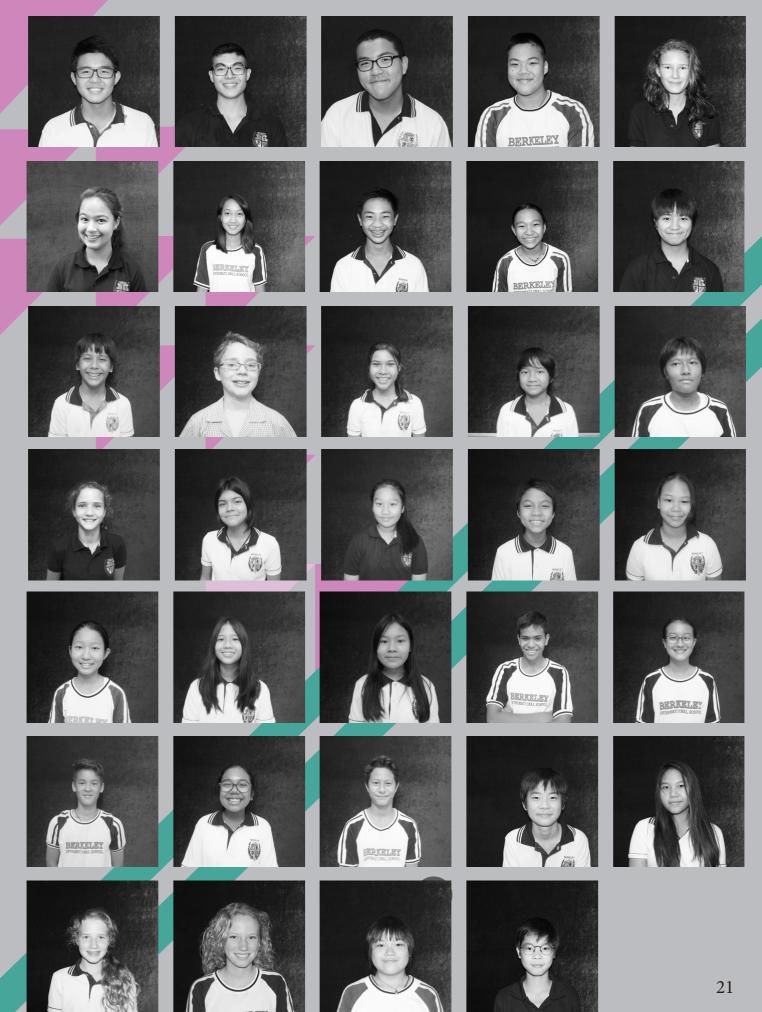


Missy - G10 Class Rep



Sami - G11 Class Rep

MEMBERS





Foreign Languages Mandarin Class

School days are flying by! The first two months of this academic year have been a lot of fun.

In elementary Mandarin class, after our first Monkey King Chinese book, we started the new year with the 2nd book Body theme. We learnt new Chinese words, enjoyed playing games and made some beautiful posters-that's how much fun we have been having.

The amount of middle and high school students reached a peak. From this year, all the middle school students take Mandarin once a week. They have been hard at work developing their skills in the language. We began this quarter by learning phonetics. High school C9 and

O students have been studying Phonetics, You and I and My Family. Every student can read and write Chinese characters in these topics, great work!



This year, the 10th and 11th grade students were taught about the stories that King Rama 6 wrote. In fact, they learnt about Madanabadha (the romance of a rose), which was about a male angel who fell in love with a female angel, but their relationship wasn't very good, and that is the start of the story. After the students had finished the story, they made a project about the story by making a photovideo presentation. The purpose of the project was to inspire the students to work together as a team and to have fun.







The Grade 10 Language Arts class has firmly established itself as storytellers this quarter. We started by first reading poetry and nonfiction from refugees and exiles. Students told real-life stories by writing narrative poems from differing refugee perspectives. We followed up this unit by delving into dystopian short stories, where students had to determine whether they'd rather live in Kurt Vonnegut's world of forced equality or Shirley Jackson's world of barbaric traditions. Rather than wallowing in sorrow and pessimism, they decided (well, truth be told, I did) to end the quarter with a moralistic tale of their own geared toward a younger audience. A boisterous class full of characters, Grade 10 students used the Storybird online platform (www.storybird.com) to create original stories

that they then read to various elementary classes. Stories ranging from an island full of malicious

girls to various quests to find a missing mother or a perfect gift helped to entertain our audiences. Stay tuned for the poetry and persuasion that 10th graders will be dabbling in over the next couple of months!



Grade II

Grade 11 students having a lot of fun in

have been learning and having a lot of fun in their first Spanish class. We started out the year by doing culture projects where each student learned about a different Spanish-speaking country and presented their findings to their classmates. This was a great way to put the significance of learning Spanish into context. Then we moved on to learning the alphabet and basic vocabulary about the home, people, places, food, and numbers. Students worked in small groups to develop lessons on vocabulary words to teach the rest of the class. During the last part of the quarter we started learning

present tense and students started putting together all of their knowledge to form phrases. We have

been playing a lot of vocabulary and translation games to continue reinforcing skills and compete in a class challenge. Each student is collecting points and the first person to reach 20 points will choose a dish that we will prepare as a class as a part of our next unit on culture. Hasta la proxima!





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Grade 1 & Grade 2

Mimi

Grade 3 & Grade 4

Marlena

Grade 5 & Library

Ice

Drama & Dyslexia

Non

IT & Art

Tyler

After School
Activities
Flora

Mother's Day

Rebekka

Grade 6 & Grade 7 **Dylan**

Grade 8 & Grade 9

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