

Disclosure

Our Schedule: Students attend school from 8:35a.m. - 3:20 p.m. on Monday-Thursday, and 8:35 a.m. - 1:05 p.m. on Friday. As part of the Spanish Immersion program, our students will switch classes throughout the day, in order to have equal learning time between each class. We are available anytime before or after school, but please make an appointment to ensure that we are not already scheduled with another parent.

Parent and Teacher Communication: Please don't hesitate to contact us if you have a concern or problem. If you feel a meeting with either of us is needed, please email or call to set up a meeting before or after school, and we will be pleased to meet with you at the nearest opportunity.

The successful Spanish Immersion process stresses the importance of the Spanish teacher ONLY speaking Spanish. As far as the children are concerned, Maestra Jensen does not speak any English. If you need to speak with Maestra Jensen, please contact one of us and we will be more than pleased to meet with you alone to maintain this language division.

During parent/teacher conferences, Maestra Jensen will only speak to the students in Spanish. This will give you the excellent opportunity to see how much your child knows as they interact. Mrs. Graham will handle any questions and goal setting in English.

Visiting School and volunteers: We encourage parents and adult family members to take an active role in your child's education. Please volunteer at school whenever you possibly can. For the safety of the children, staff, and visitors, everyone on campus MUST sign-in at the office upon their arrival. Thank you for your help!

Sending Money to School: Please make sure to put **ALL** money (lunch money, book order money, etc.) in an envelope labeled with your child's name, teacher's name, amount, and **REASON** for sending the money.

The Giving Tree Outside of our classrooms we have a tree with apples on it which have items listed for classroom donations. All donations are completely optional, and very much appreciated!

Birthdays: Birthdays are important in first grade. You may send a treat for your student's class if you wish, but it is not expected. All treats must be commercially wrapped. We currently have 32 students.

1st Grade Curriculum

Reading Spanish: At the beginning of the year we will be using STRELLITA. This is an Accelerated Beginning Spanish Reading is a supplemental program for bilingual classrooms that offers novel approach to Spanish readiness and beginning reading based on the principals of task analysis. It does NOT teach children how to speak Spanish, but rather it is an educational reading program in Spanish for Spanish-dominant speakers. By January/February we will be using CALLE de la Lectura.

Calle de la Lectura delivers a balance of authentic and trans-adapted literature, scientifically research-based instruction. The strategy of the program accelerates all learners toward greater proficiency with a sustained Unit focus on comprehension skills and strategies, concept and language development, and writing for a variety of formats and purposes.

Reading English: We use Imagine-It! Language Arts program. We will read many books in first grade. Our reading books have many sight words (instant recognition for words that cannot be “sounded out” phonetically) as well as vocabulary and phonics-generated text. We believe that first graders must be exposed to a balanced reading program. Thus, your student will practice sight words and phonics skills in order to comprehend and respond to literature.

Differentiated Guided Reading Groups: In a first grade classroom, our priority is to develop essential reading skills and to instill a lifelong love of reading. A major key to this success is the use of guided reading. Guided reading entails the use of reading selections specifically designed for the student/students being taught using small group instruction. Each group will be taught on their reading level and will focus on skills needed by the group.

Math: All math instruction will be conducted in Spanish. We use the math program Everyday Math and GO MOTH for 1st grade. We will also use a variety of manipulatives with each math unit. This entails using manipulatives such as counters, games, matching, and group hands-on activities, as well as verbal and visual communications.

Spelling: We will start spelling in first grade. The first list will have all the Kindergarten sight words that your children should know. The formal spelling list will not begin until the third unit of our Reading program *in October*. We will inform you when the students are ready to begin a weekly spelling list. The spelling list and test will consist of six to ten words. The words will be presented on Monday, practiced throughout the week, and tested on Friday.

Interconnections: We will follow the program outlined by Granite School District for Science and Social Studies. This will be taught in Spanish.

Homework: Math homework will be completed at school the first few months of school. By December you will get the 1st monthly packet of math and reading. Please send all homework on the due day. **English:** English homework will be sent home every day in the BLUE folder and should be returned the next day. Reading homework may be sent home daily or every other day (depending which reading group they are in) PLEASE return the BLUE folder to school every day.

Parent and Teacher Communication

Maestra Jensen icjensen@graniteschools.org. Phone: 385-646-4912 room 5

Please log in in to the following webpages for help with homework, reinforcing Spanish at home, and many other helpful resources. If you are going out of town and need homework, please log in to web pages you will find everything you need. The office or **Mrs. Banks** are the **only** ones that can **excuse long** vacations and absences.

<http://maestrajensen1stgrade.weebly.com>

<http://my.uen.org/myuen/200571>

<http://millcreek1stgrade.weebly.com/maestra-jensen>