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Spanish at a Glance (Grades 6-8)

Mrs. Denise Pimpinella
Spanish Teacher

Spanish is taught in grades 6-8. Students in 6th grade receive instruction in Spanish once a week, while students in grades 7 and 8 receive instruction twice a week. Students are exposed to many facets of the Spanish language, including vocabulary, grammar, and culture. Students work on vocabulary acquisition from both teacher-led instruction and the utilization of video and audio clips of native speakers. Mastery of Spanish language grammar and vocabulary is demonstrated in assessments, projects, essays, and presentations.

Cultural experiences are a hallmark of the Spanish language program. Day of the Dead activities are also integrated into the Spanish curriculum and often taught cross-circularly with subjects like art. Students also have an opportunity to dine in an authentic Mexican restaurant and learn first-hand about the cuisine from the chef/owner. Additionally, Saint Mary Interparochial annually recreates the Posada tradition, the reenactment of Mary and Joseph's search for lodging, as part of our annual Christmas and advent preparations. Students also learn to pray the Hail Mary and Our Father in Spanish.

This program is in accord with the world languages guidelines of the Archdiocese of Philadelphia and is assessed on a 4, 3, 2, 1 scale. A 4 indicates excellent understanding of the language and has a percentage equivalent of 100-90%. A 3 indicates a fair to good understanding of language and has a percentage equivalent of 90-80%. A 2 indicates a basic understanding of the language and needs room for improvement. The percentage equivalent is an 80-70%. A 1 indicates an unsatisfactory/poor understanding of the language, and requires improvement. The percentage equivalent is at or below a 69%.

Vocabulary Themes taught over the three years may include:

- Greetings
- Numbers
- Classroom items
- Body parts
- Dates
- Weather conditions
- Activities
- Personality traits
- Classroom schedules
- Locations
- Foods
- Family

St. Mary Interparochial School challenges its diverse student body to grow morally, academically and socially into passionate, confident, and Christ-centered leaders of the 21st century.

St. Mary Interparochial School is an equal opportunity service provider and employer.