

## SPANISH NEWSLETTER WEEK 8

October 13<sup>th</sup>, 2017

**Buen dia Padres de Plato Academy!**

This week was the last week of the Hispanic Heritage Month, but we won't limit ourselves to celebrate the traditions and culture of Hispanics only on this month.

We began our class asking each other **Como estás?**/how are you? We talked about feelings such as **feliz, triste, enojado, asustado, tranquilo**/ happy, sad, angry, scared, and calm. Younger students played **Maestra dice**/teacher says, which is just as **Simon says**. **Maestra dice: Estoy enojado**/Teacher says: I'm angry. We had a lot of fun when looking at each other's faces.

We finalized some of the art projects we had unfinished with some of the classes such as the **Amate** paintings, and the **Adobe Mexican** art. Some of them will be at a wall on our school for you to admire; come and check them out!

We talked a little about center and South American ancestors, the **Mayan** and the **Aztecs**. We looked at some pictures of their beautiful paintings and sculptures like the **Mayan masks**. We could see that, just as in most Mexican art, they do have many vibrant colors as well. In this case, the colors represent happiness and bliss. We learned that **mayans** wore masks during ceremonies and festivals like the **Day of the Dead**. We thought that some of the pictures were scary, others were funny. We began creating our own masks out of construction paper of many colors.

The new vocabulary we learned was **figuras**/shapes, **circulo**/circle, **cuadrado**/square, **rectángulo**/rectangle, **triángulo**/ triangle, **chiquito**/small, **grande**/big, **poquito**/little, **pájaros**/birds, **flores**/flowers, **máscaras**/masks, and **sol**/sun.

We also talked about the very recognized **Aztec Sun**, **Stone of the five Eras**, or some times (erroneously) called **Aztec calendar**, and it is often confused with the **Mayan calendar**. We noticed the multiple shapes that it contains and the complexity of its content. Students were fascinated and we made two different projects, one with paint stamps, paper and colored glue, and the other one with clay. Older students were given the clay and toothpicks to carve the very complex **Aztec sun**. It was a challenge but after only fifteen minutes, the students made beautiful suns. We also looked at some other **Aztec** and **Mayan** symbols and reproduced them on black paper and chalk.

New songs this week:

Maestro puedo ir al baño? / Teacher, can I go to the bathroom?

<https://youtu.be/n3KbP2OebW4>

Números y colores/ numbers and colors <https://youtu.be/ZiNFXntW0Jw>

This is our 8th week, and by now we've established our routine that most students are familiarized already. They now recognize material and furniture around the Classroom, and follow instructions when given. Although they are not necessarily speaking the vocabulary, they do recognize it when listening. Older students are expected to ask in Spanish if they need to go to the bathroom or need to drink water.

Next week we will begin to talk about one of the most recognized Hispanic traditions: El Dia de los Muertos/the day of the dead. Stay connected 😊



Have a wonderful weekend!

Soraya Castro



