

Spanish News Week 7

October 6th, 2017

Buen día Padres de Plato Academy! / Good day Plato Parents!

We finished our week with a lot of energy in our **Clases de Español**. We keep celebrating the Hispanic Heritage Month by honoring their culture and traditions. We finally got to finish our maracas with the younger students, we had to stop and think what we could put inside the paper bag in order to make the sounds we wanted. We decided that we needed some kind of balls or beads, but we only had beans. We then made the decision that 10 beans were better than 5 after comparing sounds. Then we counted individually the amount of beans as we put them inside the bag, we realized that we had to seal the bag so the beans don't get out. Other classes wanted to make maracas too, and we decided to make them in a different way: we used plastic Easter eggs, spoons and tape. They helped each other to hold the egg and taped it together. Once we finished, we sang some Spanish music with a fun beat, and we played along with our *maracas*. We were so proud of ourselves when we heard the sound that came from them when we shook them. We wished we had more time to sing some more and play with them. We also finished decorating the other side of our "*sarapes*", some students had the fun idea to put a few crayons in their hand and make beautiful rainbow lines across their *sarapes*. We will be modeling our *sarapes* next week. We looked at some pictures of the traditional Adobe Mexican buildings, and students were happy to replicate the pictures with some chalk over dark paper. The results were very colorful.

We looked at some pictures of Mexican Amate paintings, and we noticed that all the pictures had a few things in common: **pajaros**/birds, **flores**/flowers and **muchos colores**/lots of colors. We made our own and some decided that butterflies should be part of the picture as well. Each student put their own touch to their masterpiece.

We finally got to finish our recipe of *Agua de Arroz* Rice fresh water (Horchata). We read together the steps and we re-read them again while following the steps. We practiced asking each other if we'd liked it or not. Our final product was delicious and received thumbs up by students and teachers.

In our regular **Clases de Español**, we practice Spanish while doing art, science or game activities. We first establish a routine and practice greetings, days of the week, month, season, weather, colors, shapes, numbers, school furniture and material, we follow commands like **Escribe tu nombre**/write your name, we answer questions like **Donde esta John?**/where is John?. First we train our ears, then we begin using our speaking skills. We focus our attention on listening and speaking, since writing and reading will come along after. On the following weeks, we will continue talking about Hispanic traditions and

making comparisons to our own traditions. This helps us practice respect for other people's cultures, and honor and respect our own as well.

Hasta luego/ see you soon!

Soraya Castro



