



PROUD to be FOREFIELD



Forefield Junior School is a P.R.O.U.D school built on Passion and Respect, where Opportunities can be seized by Unique and Determined learners.

### Subject Leader Report: MFL: Spanish Autumn 2023

We provide our children with engaging, fun and immersive Spanish lessons which introduce them to the vast culture of Spain, the different grammatical structures of the language and the opportunity to develop their confidence in speaking Spanish.

The government expects a modern language to be taught at key stage two with a focus on 'practical communication' - to this end, the topics we cover focus on everyday life, which the children can personally relate to. In addition, children are expected to speak and write with increasing confidence, improving accuracy and understanding of grammatical structures.

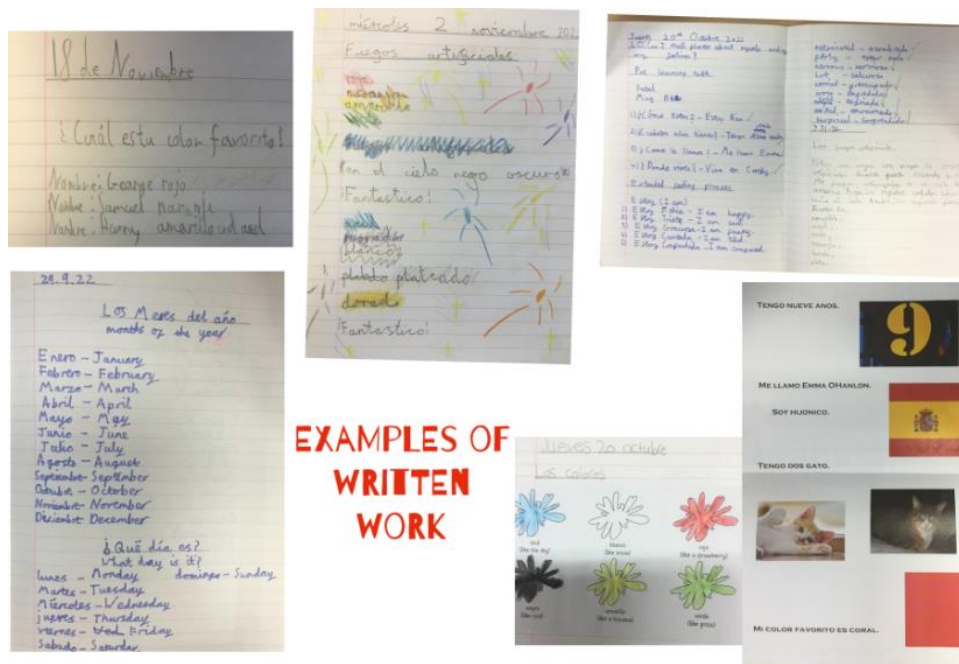
During the 2021-22 academic year, we utilised the expertise of Spanish speakers who were employed by Junior Jam (external providers) as part of the teaching staff's Planning, Preparation and Assessment release time. This enabled all children from years 3 to 6 to experience 50 minutes Spanish teaching per week. As the provision changed, we invested in a new scheme of learning provided by the Primary Languages Network. This scheme uses videos of experienced Spanish teachers to deliver content to the children with the support of the class teacher - 'Video to Teach.' Where teachers are more confident in their own delivery of the learning content, the scheme offers alternative 'Click to Teach' learning materials. The combination of these two approaches means all teachers can feel confident in the delivery of the Spanish lessons. The children enjoy Spanish lessons, are making good progress and are enthused by the topics they cover.

### National Curriculum Attainment Targets

By the end of key stage 2, children are expected to know, understand and apply the relevant skills and knowledge as set out in the programme of study:

- Listen attentively to spoken language and show understanding by joining in and responding.
- Explore the patterns and sounds of language through songs and rhymes and link the spelling, sound and meaning of words.
- Engage in conversations; ask and answer questions; express opinions and respond to those of others; seek clarification and help.
- Speak in sentences, using familiar vocabulary, phrases and basic language structures.

- Develop accurate pronunciation and intonation so that others understand when they are reading aloud or using familiar words and phrases.
- Present ideas and information orally to a range of audiences.
- Read carefully and show understanding of words, phrases and simple writing.
- Appreciate stories, songs, poems and rhymes in the language.
- Broaden their vocabulary and develop their ability to understand new words that are introduced into familiar written material, including through using a dictionary.
- Write phrases from memory, and adapt these to create new sentences, to express ideas clearly.
- Describe people, places, things and actions orally and in writing languages - key stage 2-3.
- Understand basic grammar appropriate to the language being studied, including (where relevant): feminine and masculine forms and the conjugation of high-frequency verbs; key features and patterns of the language; how to apply these, for instance, to build sentences; and how these differ from or are similar to English.



## EXAMPLES OF WRITTEN WORK

### How Forefield are making progress towards the national attainment targets:

The investment in the programme from Primary Languages Network mean that our children have been exposed to accurate, high-quality pronunciation which they could listen to and respond back to, and our staff could confidently deliver lessons without fear of mispronouncing vocabulary. The implementation of this scheme is being closely monitored and reviewed.

Utilising music to encourage language development has been beneficial as we have a range of Spanish songs which have been matched appropriately to learning. Teachers are encouraged to use these in class so children can explore the patterns and sounds of the language, appreciate songs in Spanish and have an extended opportunity to embed new vocabulary.

As well as developing oral fluency, we are working towards developing children's ability to write phrases and sentences from memory. Currently, children are expanding their vocabulary and developing a basic understanding of Spanish sentence structure. As they progress children will be able to write from memory independently. Similarly, children are able to describe specific people, places, animals and objects. Children are taught basic Spanish grammatical structures, including masculine and feminine articles and sentence structure which is recapped in each topic.

### Spanish at Forefield

We recognise that teaching a modern foreign language at Key Stage 2 is more than learning to read and write the language so offer enhancements through the following:

#### Spanish Club

Facilitated by a Spanish speaker from Chile, these sessions take place during Thursday lunchtimes and offer children in Years 3 to 6 the opportunity to learn about Spanish spoken in South America as well as appreciate another country. They give the children with a desire to develop their Spanish language skills an additional outlet.



## Year 4 and 5 Geography Topics

Spain is Year 4's geography topic of a European country study. In this topic, the children explore various aspects of Spain's physical and human geography. The children are taught to identify Spain on a map and learn to differentiate countries through their varying cultures, identities and history.

In year 5, the unit of learning on South America includes a wide number of Spanish speaking countries. Their physical and human geographical aspects are studied in detail. This also encourages children to think about how and why languages have spread and how widely spoken the language they are studying is.

## Spanish around our school

Through the use of a high number of quality displays, the children are continually exposed to core vocabulary around school and in their classrooms.



We have organised a Spanish Cultural Afternoon in May 2023 which will be delivered by the Spanish Language Leads from Greenbank High School. This will give our children the opportunity to further develop their language skills in a variety of activities in our school.

## Monitoring, Evaluation and Review

We have been monitoring and gaining teachers feedback regarding the teaching of Spanish using the Primary Languages Network. We have continued to explore how best to use the assessment tools to support children's progression. Monitoring and evaluation is built into the current academic year and will be used to inform the development of the teaching of Spanish at Forefield.

## British Values

Learning about a culture and language different to that experienced by the majority of our pupils enables comparison and contrast. As a result, children build up acceptance for other people's differences alongside respect for different ways of life. In addition, children respect the challenges of learning a new language and are therefore better equipped for developing their language skills at high school and have a better tolerance for those who have different cultural backgrounds to theirs. This all contributes to the growing understanding and appreciation of British Values.

## Next Steps

- Continue to use the Primary Languages Network programme and evaluate regularly
- Continue to get feedback from staff implementing the programme and amend and adjust where necessary
- Facilitate the Spanish club - Thursday lunchtimes Autumn 2 - for children who have an interest in developing their language development further
- Encourage staff teams to incorporate small chunks of Spanish vocabulary during the school day. 'Little and often' practice in areas such as counting and greetings - answering the register for example, can significantly boost children's confidence and willingness to 'have a go.' Support staff to achieve this where necessary.

Thank you for taking the time to read the progress we have already made and are continuing to make in Spanish at Forefield.

Mrs Summers and Miss Gerrard