Dual Language Immersion Newsletter

June 2024 (Haz click abajo para español)

Boletín del programa de DLI

Boletín del programa de DLI - Junio 2024 (Click below for English) by Sarah Olsen | This newsletter was created with Smore, an online tool for creating beautiful newsletters for individual educators, schools and districts

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Thank You for a Great School Year!

Thank you for another great school year of learning and growing! We are a team, families and educators working together to give your children the education that they deserve for a bright future.
For those of you who are new to our Dual Language family: Welcome! we are glad that you and your child are here.
For those of you who have been with us for years: Thank you for continuing to entrust us with your child's education.
It has been inspiring to watch your children embrace language and culture, to grow in confidence, and to grow into the people that they will become. Enjoy your summer vacation and we will see you next school year!

Promotion Ceremonies

May is a busy time in NNPS--there is testing, end of the year learning opportunities, and promotion ceremonies. We were happy to send 4 DLI cohorts on their way as they continue their educational journeys. Our DLI PreK Classes at Watkins Early Childhood and Denbigh Early Childhood Centers are preparing for kindergarten! Our DLI 5th Graders at Saunders are preparing for middle school! Our second cohort of DLI students has finished middle school and is preparing for high school! High schoolers in the Dual Language program will have the opportunity to take the Seal of Biliteracy assessment to determine if their literacy skills in English and in Spanish qualify for the Seal of Biliteracy on their graduation diploma at the end of their high school career. Our goal is to help our students be ready as global citizens for the careers that they choose and their bilingualism and biliteracy will help them in whatever path they choose!

WECC DLI Students

DECC DLI Students

5th Grade DLI Students at Saunders

NNPS Student Spotlight Selected One of Our Marvelous Students!

Everyone who has met Kenner knows what a great student and kind friend he is, so we were not surprised when he was selected to be showcased in the NNPS spotlight! We are proud of ALL of our students and celebrate when their accomplishments are recognized. Read more at https://sbo.nn.k12.va.us/news/archive/2024-03-28_STUDENT-SPOTLIGHT--Saunders-3rd-grader-Kenner-Zelaya-Gutierrez.html

¡Hola verano!

Students received a summer packet to continue practicing Spanish during summer break. Students who complete the activities will receive a prize at the beginning of the 2024-25 school year.

PreK, Kindergarten, and 1st Grade
Link

2nd and 3rd Grade
Link

4th and 5th Grade
Link

Middle School and High School

Link

Why Dual Language?

Becoming bilingual comes with many cognitive and social benefits. When you support your child's bilingualism, you invest in their future. For our native English speakers, DLI is a great enrichment. For our native Spanish speakers, DLI gives them the opportunity to learn English while not exhausting them with learning in an English-only environment. For all students, it gives them the opportunity to explore cultures, to be the language expert in one class and the language learner in another class, and to deepen their learning with the experiences and vocabulary of two languages.

Last school year, we asked parents why they chose the DLI program and these are a few of their responses:

1. Knowing two languages gives people an advantage and makes them marketable. They will be able to get jobs, help people, etc. Hispanics are the number one minority in the U.S. and for this reason, knowing Spanish will help them.
2. My daughter can learn to speak Spanish since her parents are Puerto Rican.

Are you looking for ways to help?

We work with Dual Language because we believe that it has the power to improve lives. We want our students to grow and thrive in both languages. The best way to help our program is to get the word out and help people know about how it benefits children. YOU can help by joining our Parent Advocacy Group. Join us to share your questions, ideas, and talents!

1. To give us feedback please complete this form: https://forms.gle/eSimwPhBm1mgJJ8f8
2. Reach out to us with questions and concerns
3. Help others know what Dual Language Immersion is! Many people think that DLI is an ESL class or a world language class--but it is so much more because our students are learning with native Spanish speakers and with native English speakers and they are learning content as well as language in their classes!
4. Continue to support your child's academics and build relationships with their teachers each year

How to Support Bilingualism Over the Summer

From our Parent Advocacy Group meetings and surveys, we know that many families want more resources to support their child's biliteracy. Over the summer, you can continue to help their language development by:

1. Complete the ¡Hola Verano! activities to earn a prize at the beginning of the next school year. Your child should have come home with a paper copy with QR codes, but if they lost it, we have the links in this newsletter.
2. Asking them to tell you about things they see in their second language. For lower grades, ask them to describe things by color or shape. For upper grades ask them to put it in a complete sentence. If they get shy or don't remember, use resources to look up those words or phrases and help them practice!
3. Go to the public library: https://library.nnva.gov/ and check out books in both languages or participate in the Summer Reading Challenge: https://www.library.nnva.g

3. To expose my child to as many languages and cultures as possible early on.
4. To keep my child evolving and to have a diverse way of thinking.
5. As a Hispanic mother, it is very important that children know how to read and write in Spanish and the language of the country where we are is also important. If you can know both it is much better.

ov/256/Reading-Challenges

4. Sign-up for the Pizza Hut Book It Program to motivate your child to read: https://www.bookitprogram.com/
5. Utilize the Eureka Math resources to support Math and academic Spanish
6. Change the language preference on streaming services so that they are watching their shows in the other language.
7. Explore the resources on our website: https://sbo.nn.k12.va.us/worldlanguage/duallanguage.html
8. Here are more resources: https://rb.gy/9shab

DLI Superhero Literacy

We had a fantastic time learning about biliteracy at our May 14 Superhero Literacy Event for students in PreK-5th grade! Families came for dinner and a presentation and students were given their own superhero capes and bags to collect materials throughout the event. The William and Mary Literacy Lab team co-presented during dinner to help families learn how to support their children at various stages of literacy development. After the presentation, students and families moved into the gym to circulate through a variety of stations related to different aspects of literacy. Families were able to collect additional resources and students were able to participate in engaging literacy activities. We are excited about this partnership with William and Mary's literacy lab and hope to co-host more events with them in the future!

DLI families came to Katherine Johnson Elementary School for the William and Mary Literacy Lab presentation on literacy.

DLI students and families learned about literacy strategies at the Super Hero Literacy Event.

Students showed their Spanish skills by building words with syllables and then read them aloud.

Sarah Olsen
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