

# Spanish at Prairie Creek

## Why Spanish?

Prairie Creek believes cultural awareness as well as openness to learn other languages is central to developing a child's whole being.



The growth mindset ("I can try!" instead of "This is too hard") is developed by introducing language not as a barrier to understanding but a rewarding experience.



In our Spanish program, we encourage a growth mindset as we explore songs, games, stories, and cultural differences in the Spanish speaking world.

## What does Spanish class look like at Prairie Creek?

Our program strives to foster an interdisciplinary eagerness in students to learn about the language, culture, and local community of Spanish speakers. Instilling a sense of language accumulation is another one of these goals, accomplished through song memorization, dialogues, interactive games, and repeating after the teacher.



Each child attends Spanish for one hour each week. Two components create the structure of every child's Spanish experience: Spanish in the classroom and Spanish in the gym. Students will perform songs at the annual Special person's day.

## Spanish gym

Once every week, children meet in the gym as their classroom where laughter, movement, dancing and silliness coalesce to form a unique instructional period.

## Meet the Teacher:

Jennifer Sanders began her second year as Spanish teacher at Prairie Creek. She is a Chicagoland native and graduate of St. Olaf College, where she met her husband Noah. She has traveled to Costa Rica, Nicaragua, Mexico, and Guatemala serving as a translator and interpreter for six trips (and another two on the way!)



Jennifer shares the joy of the Spanish language through song, games, literature, dancing and project based work. The exposure to Spanish at Prairie Creek encourages students to examine the world around them – including our own town! – and to realize the diversity of culture locally and globally.

In addition to teaching at Prairie Creek, Jennifer is a freelance photographer, oboist, loves cooking and gardening and is working on acquisition of her third language- Hebrew!

## Contact Jennifer:

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