



August 2016

Dear Fourth Grade Families,

In a few weeks, a new school year with lots of experiences will start. This will be my fifth year at LILA, my first three teaching 5th grade and last year helping to build Middle school, teaching Math and French. You may want to know something about my past. I grew up in Spain, in a little town called Irun, right in the French border. That gave me the opportunity to go to school in France. Like in our school, I enjoyed a true immersion in a foreign language, which gives me an insight about LILA students' feelings. When I was 18, I moved to Valencia where I obtained a Bachelor's degree in Education and later studied Sports Training. Then I finished a Master's degree in research, which relates a lot with our curriculum based in inquiry.

I started considering and valuing the differences between different countries approaches to education. Coming to the USA was a dream that I always had. Then, I had the opportunity to come to the school as a Language Ambassador totally unaware of the great staff I was going to work with. I loved the philosophy and methodology used and applied for a position as a teacher. Still now, I continue learning lots from our close community. The way our school presents new concepts to students, makes learning much more comprehensive and fun. The fact that they can follow the path they choose in the units is the most powerful motivation I have seen. In general, I am very proud of our teaching model. Inquiry is something that guides my life, I try to research anything that comes up. Actually, I am as well working on a PhD on the development of physical body balance between 6 to 12 years old for which some of your children participated a year ago. Working at LILA, the PhD is going slow but, I hope to finish in about a year.

As a teacher, I have been in contact with students from 3rd to 8th grade. As an ambassador, I was helping in 3rd grade. Children have always been inspiring for me, I feel like I always can learn something new with them. At the same time, I try to be demanding when teaching because I particularly like to have committed and involved students. Sports, specifically Judo, have made me especially fond of courage, temperance and justice; all of which coincide with the IB learner profile attributes and attitudes.

I am very excited to start the year teaching fourth grade, with new students and families! I want you to know that I am always open to any comments and suggestions you wish to make related to your child's schooling process. I look forward to meeting you soon. If you have any questions before then, I can be reached by email.

Sincerely,

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