Home Connection



Hello amazing families of Corrales International School!

My name is Julia Tapia and I will be your child’s first grade teacher. I was born in Chicago, and at a very young age we moved to Aguascalientes, Mexico where I was immersed in the Spanish language. One summer, we drove through New Mexico on our way back from my sister’s college graduation in Mexico. My mother fell in love with this state. She made a comment about moving here, and in September of 1994 we relocated. (I thought she was kidding!) I completed 8th grade here and graduated from Highland High School -Go Hornets!

I graduated from the University of New Mexico with a degree in Elementary Education and a double endorsement in Spanish and ESL. I began teaching Kindergarten in the summer of 2005. In 2009 I was accepted into Columbia University where I received my master’s degree in Educational Leadership from the Teachers College in New York. Upon my return I took a year off from teaching in the classroom, to be with my youngest son. When I returned to the class, I had the opportunity to be in an IB school teaching first grade, and then become an Instructional Coach. A year without the children was too long and now I return to my first passion- teaching children.

I have lived in Yonkers NY, The Bronx NY, San Jose CA, and traveled to Hawaii, Japan, Canada, and of course different states in Mexico. I am a wife to Luis, and a mother to three amazing children age seven, four, and two. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me.

I can’t wait to meet you!

Helpful information for the week

* Pick up and drop off routine- parents drive through parking lot to the west side of the MPR to drop off or pick up students. Please **do not** park your cars in this area - we will do our best to get your kiddoes out to you promptly so you never leave your vehicle unattended. Drop off times are between 7:30 and 8:00am.
* Uniform Policy: The newly updated Family Handbook is available this year! Regarding our school uniform policy, we had one clarifying statement (for PYP students ONLY) - Leggings ARE permitted, but only if worn under a skirt (in lieu of tights). They must be in school colors (blue, forest green, or white), **no prints**. If you have any questions about this, or about any other school policy outlined in the handbook, please contact Mr. Tolley at [tolleym@corralesis.org](mailto:tolleym@corralesis.org).
* Our first unit: Our first unit this year is Who We Are: Traditions emerge from culture. We will be exploring; what traditions are, what cultural traditions derived from survival needs, why do people keep traditions, and what we can do to keep traditions alive.
* We will be reviewing letter recognition, sounds, and syllables. In math we will review uses of numbers, classification and representation of numbers.
* Kids love to share who they are, so if you have a cultural tradition that you would like to share with the class we would love to learn from you. Please make sure you have your background check as soon as possible so you can join us in class. Also, if you need a little guidance, do not hesitate to contact me and I can help.
* Lunches: Hot lunches will be supplied this year by APS catering. You can pay for your child’s lunches, apply for free/reduced lunches, and look at the month’s menu at the corralesis.org website: http://corralesis.org/for-parents/order-hot-lunch/ Please remember if you qualify for free/reduced price lunches, you do still need to put in the order each month to ensure enough meals are delivered to the school.
* Snacks: Please send your child a healthy snack to get them through the day. Remember that we are a peanut free school. Thank you for your cooperation in helping keep all of the children healthy and safe.
* Supplies: Students can bring their supplies in on the first day of school and throughout the week.
* For school-wide news, please make sure to check www.corralesis.org for updates.
* I will make every effort to respond to emails in a timely manner. However, please be aware that emails sent after 3:30pm may not be answered until the next day.

I am looking forward to an amazing school year!

Mrs. Tapia