



SANTO DOMINGO BILINGUAL SCHOOL

GLOBAL VOICES

FIRST EDITION

MAY 13TH - 2025



*La sencillez de aprender a vivir,
jme hace feliz!*
Colegio Santo Domingo Bilingüe

I ♥ SD SCHOOL
SANTO DOMINGO
www.colegiosantodomingo.edu.co



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We warmly invite you to become an active part of our growing community. Whether you are a reader, writer, thinker, or creator, your contributions have the power to enrich the discourse we aim to cultivate. Join us in shaping a space where curiosity meets critical thought—connect with us at globalvoices@colegiosantodomingo.edu.co to share your ideas, submit your work, or simply start a conversation. We look forward to hearing from you.



globalvoices@colegiosantodomingo.edu.co



Welcome to the Colegio Santo Domingo Bilingüe Online Magazine!

We are thrilled to welcome you to the official online magazine of Colegio Santo Domingo Bilingüe. This space is dedicated to our vibrant school community, where we celebrate our students' achievements, share important updates, and showcase the rich experiences that make our institution truly special.

At Colegio Santo Domingo Bilingüe, we pride ourselves on fostering a bilingual, diverse, and inclusive environment that encourages academic excellence and personal growth. Our mission is to provide students with the skills and knowledge they need to thrive in an ever-changing global society. Whether through our rigorous academic programs, extracurricular activities, or community-building efforts, we aim to equip our students with the tools they need to become responsible, empathetic, and engaged citizens.

This magazine serves as a window into the many facets of our school life. Here, you will find highlights of the latest school events, interviews with faculty and students, as well as thought-provoking articles written by our very own contributors. Whether it is an in-depth look at our innovative teaching methods, updates on sports and cultural activities, or a reflection on the values that shape our educational philosophy, our magazine will keep you connected to the heart of our school.

We are especially excited to feature the voices of our students and staff. From creative writing and art projects to reflections on their experiences, this platform provides an opportunity for all members of our community to share their stories. As a bilingual institution, we also strive to celebrate the unique blend of languages and cultures that define our school and its diverse student body.

In addition to academic and extracurricular news, the online magazine will serve as a hub for important announcements and updates. Whether it is changes to the school calendar, upcoming parent-teacher meetings, or special events, this magazine will keep you informed and engaged with the activities that matter most to our community.

We hope you find this space both informative and inspiring. As we continue to grow and evolve, we are excited to see the impact that this magazine will have in bringing together our students, families, and staff. Thank you for being part of the Colegio Santo Domingo Bilingüe family!

Welcome aboard, and enjoy exploring our world!



*La sencillez de aprender a vivir,
¡me hace feliz!*
Colegio Santo Domingo Bilingüe



Who are we?

Welcome to the Voice of Colegio Santo Domingo Bilingüe

Greetings from Colegio Santo Domingo Bilingüe! We are excited to introduce ourselves as the voice of our school community in this online magazine. We are teachers David Heley and Juan Felipe Triana with our wonderful and talented student from the school club

Grade 10 Ana Sofia Rodriguez Salazar – 10^a, Federico Amaya – 10^a, Johann Sebastian Mendez Pava – 10D, Juan Felipe Valencia – 10D Juan Pablo Castillo – 10B, Manuela Acevedo – 10^a, Maria Paula Mayorga Martinez – 10B, Martina Garcia Blanco – 10^a, Sara Sofia Monroy Martínez – 10C, Sol Samanta Roa Gomez – 10C

Grade 9 Camilo Riano – 9D, Juan Camilo Parra – 9E, Juan Sebastian Sanchez Murcia – 9F, Maria Valentina Sanchez Perilla – 9^a, Marian Luciana Tautiva Herrera – 9D, Samuel Guillen – 9E, Santiago Ramirez Pinzon – 9^a, Sara Lopez – 9C, Yiasus – 9E

Grade 8 Danna Gabriela Lopez Florido – 8E, Gabriel Alejandro Marentes Solorzano – 8B, Laura Valentina Riano Rojas – 8D, Maria Camila Salazar Acero – 8D, Mariana Castillo Vega – 8D and Mariana Pardo Ospina – 8D

Together, we are thrilled to share the stories, experiences, and vibrant spirit that make our school so special.

At Colegio Santo Domingo Bilingüe, we believe in nurturing a strong connection between all members of our community—students, teachers, parents, and staff. Our school is not just a place of learning; it is a family, and we are united by the shared goal of fostering an environment of growth, respect, and collaboration. This magazine will serve as a window into that world, giving everyone a chance to experience the energy, creativity, and ambition that drive us forward.

As a teacher at this institution, I, David Heley, have the privilege of working with bright and passionate students every day. It is my mission to guide them, not just academically, but also as individuals, helping them to develop a sense of responsibility, creativity, and critical thinking. This school encourages us all to pursue excellence, and I am constantly inspired by the dedication and enthusiasm that both my colleagues and students bring to every lesson.

On the other hand, as a student from the school club, They are here to represent the voices and perspectives of their peers. Through this magazine, we aim to share our thoughts, experiences, and the many talents that thrive within our school. Whether it is showcasing exciting school events, highlighting inspiring projects, or exploring the challenges and joys of student life, we are committed to giving you an authentic look at what it means to be part of the Colegio Santo Domingo Bilingüe community.

This space will allow us to connect with alumni, parents, and prospective students, offering a glimpse into the life and culture of our school. We hope to inspire others to be a part of our journey and join the growing legacy of academic excellence and community engagement.



Thank you for reading, and we look forward to sharing more stories, insights, and updates with you in the future.

What You Can Expect From Our Online Magazine.

Welcome to the Colegio Santo Domingo Bilingüe Online Magazine, a dynamic platform designed to connect our school community, demonstrate creativity, and highlight the rich diversity of experiences at our institution. Whether you are a student, parent, or staff member, our magazine is your go-to source for everything related to school life, academics, wellness, and culture. Here is a sneak peek into the exciting content you can expect in our monthly issues:

School Life

Dive into the heart of our school community with features like Student Spotlight, where we highlight the achievements of outstanding students, and Teacher Talks, offering fun and engaging interviews with our dedicated faculty. Take a peek behind the scenes with A Day in the Life, exploring the daily routines of both students and staff, and stay updated on Clubs and Extracurricular, showcasing the variety of activities available. Our School Events Recap & Photo Highlights will bring you up to speed on key moments, while Sports Highlights and our Athlete of the Month honor the talent and hard work of our athletic community. Do not miss the “Throwback” Moments, where we feature old school photos and alumni stories, connecting the past and present of Colegio Santo Domingo Bilingüe.



Our Spiritual Connection

At the core of our school's values is a strong spiritual foundation that guides us in every aspect of life. In our **Spiritual Connection** section, we will explore how our faith influences our community. From reflections on shared values to stories of personal growth and outreach, we aim to nurture the spiritual well-being of every individual. This section will also feature insights into local and global charity initiatives, spiritual retreats, and moments of collective prayer that strengthen the bond between students, teachers, and staff. By embracing these practices, we are not just growing intellectually but also spiritually, fostering a community where kindness, faith, and love lead the way.



Academics & Study Tips

Looking for ways to excel academically? Our Study Hacks & Exam Prep Tips section will help you boost your productivity, while our Subject of the Month offers fun facts and profiles of different academic disciplines. Enjoy insightful Book Reviews and Recommended Reads, and take advantage of Student-Created Study Guides for effective learning. In our “Ask a Teacher” column, get personalized academic advice from our faculty members.



Wellness & Mental Health

We believe in the importance of mental well-being, and our Mental Health Check-ins will keep you connected with tips on Self-Care for Teens, Mindfulness & Meditation, and managing Exam Stress. You will also find Student Voices in our Real Talk about Mental Health section, offering honest perspectives and support.



Community & Culture

Celebrate diversity with our Community Heroes, spotlighting local role models and organizations making a difference. Discover the richness of different cultures with our Cultural Spotlights and take part in Heritage Month Celebrations. Our goal is to showcase stories from students, professional and people with international backgrounds, bringing a global perspective to our school community.



Creative Corner

Our Creative Corner is a celebration of artistic expression. Enjoy the Student works, immerse yourself in poetry and short stories, and explore our Photography Showcase. We also feature Comic Strips, Illustrated Stories, and Music & Lyrics from student bands or original songs.



Trends & Pop Culture

Stay in the loop with What's Trending at Kennedy, discover fashion inspiration with our Style Spotlights, and read reviews on the latest movies, shows, games, and music. Enjoy our Kennedy Memes of the Month and join the debate on TikTok Trends: Yay or Nay?



Opinion & Debate

Engage in thought-provoking discussions with our Hot Takes on school or world issues, participate in our Monthly Debate, and enjoy open forums like Open Letters and Let's Talk About...—a space for meaningful conversations.



The Colegio Santo Domingo Bilingüe Online Magazine is a reflection of the vibrant and diverse community we are proud to be a part of. We hope this platform inspires, informs, and connects you.

Stay tuned for our upcoming issues, and enjoy exploring the many facets of life at our school!



SANTO DOMINGO BILINGUAL SCHOOL

SCHOOL LIFE



What is COGNIA? Understanding Its Role in Global Education.

In an increasingly interconnected and competitive world, ensuring high-quality education is more critical than ever. **COGNIA** is one of the most respected organizations globally that helps schools, systems, and educational institutions meet rigorous standards of excellence. But what exactly is COGNIA, and why is it so important in today's educational environment?

COGNIA is a non-profit, non-governmental organization that provides accreditation and certification services to schools and educational institutions around the world. Formerly known as **AdvancED**, it was formed through the merger of three major regional accrediting agencies in the United States. Today, COGNIA serves over **36,000 institutions in more than 85 countries**, making it one of the largest and most influential education improvement networks globally.

At its core, **COGNIA focuses on continuous improvement**. Its accreditation process goes beyond simple evaluation—it helps schools develop and implement strategies that foster long-term growth and educational effectiveness. Institutions accredited by COGNIA are committed to high standards in teaching, learning, leadership, and resource management. These standards are evidence-based and regularly updated to reflect the latest research and global trends in education.

One of the hallmarks of COGNIA is its **rigorous review process**. Schools undergo a detailed self-assessment, followed by an external review conducted by trained education professionals. This review includes classroom observations, interviews with staff and students, and a thorough analysis of data and outcomes. The goal is not only to assess current performance but also to identify opportunities for improvement and innovation.

COGNIA also provides valuable **professional development** and access to a global community of educators. Through workshops, webinars, and collaborative learning, schools can stay current with best practices and emerging educational trends. This empowers educators to refine their teaching approaches and create more effective learning environments.

Moreover, COGNIA accreditation gives students and families assurance that the education provided meets **international standards of quality**. It supports student mobility, helps in university admissions abroad, and boosts the reputation of the institution on a global scale.

In summary, COGNIA is much more than an accrediting body—it is a partner in educational excellence. By promoting a culture of reflection, accountability, and innovation, COGNIA helps schools like Colegio Santo Domingo deliver exceptional education that prepares students to thrive in a rapidly changing world.

The Benefits of COGNIA Accreditation at Colegio Santo Domingo Bilingual.

In today's ever-evolving educational landscape, quality assurance and continuous improvement are essential pillars of any institution striving for excellence. At Colegio Santo Domingo Bilingual School, our commitment to delivering a world-class education has been further strengthened through our accreditation with **COGNIA**, a globally recognized organization dedicated to advancing learning.

COGNIA, formerly known as AdvancED, is a non-profit, non-governmental organization that accredits primary and secondary schools throughout the world. Its rigorous standards and comprehensive evaluation processes ensure that schools not only meet but continually exceed expectations in key areas such as leadership capacity, learning impact, and resource utilization. For Colegio Santo Domingo, being part of this global network means aligning with best international practices while preserving the unique strengths of our bilingual and multicultural identity.

One of the primary benefits of COGNIA accreditation is the emphasis on **continuous improvement**. Rather than a one-time certification, the COGNIA model encourages schools to constantly assess and refine their practices. At our school, this translates into enhanced teaching methodologies, data-informed decision-making, and a strong focus on student outcomes. Teachers and administrators work collaboratively to evaluate what is working well and where we can grow—ultimately creating a more effective and inspiring learning environment.

Additionally, COGNIA provides access to a **global network of educational resources and expertise**. Through professional development, leadership training, and peer collaboration, our staff remain at the forefront of educational innovation. This fosters a culture of lifelong learning not only for students, but for educators as well, ensuring that we deliver instruction that is relevant, engaging, and aligned with 21st-century demands.

From a student perspective, attending a COGNIA-accredited institution adds significant value to their academic profile. It ensures that the education they receive meets high international standards, preparing them for further education abroad and giving them an edge in global opportunities. Parents, in turn, gain confidence knowing their children are part of a school system that is externally validated and focused on excellence.

In, COGNIA accreditation represents more than a seal of quality—it is a catalyst for growth, reflection, and transformation. At Colegio Santo Domingo, it empowers us to pursue our mission with clarity and purpose, as we nurture well-rounded, bilingual learners ready to thrive in an interconnected world.



Colegio Santo Domingo Bilingüe: A Legacy of Educational Excellence in Bogotá

Founded in 1977 by educators Menandro Flavio Burbano Ruales and Blanca María Torres de Burbano, Colegio Santo Domingo Bilingüe began its journey in Bogotá's Carvajal neighborhood with just 60 students. The founders, serving as both teachers and administrators, laid the foundation for an institution rooted in the philosophy of "educar es enseñar a vivir" ("to educate is to teach to live"), drawing inspiration from the teachings of Jean-Jacques Rousseau and the preventive pedagogy of Saint John Bosco. (colegiosantodomingo.edu.co)

Over the years, the school has evolved into a prominent bilingual institution, offering education from preschool through high school. In 2007, aligning with Colombia's national bilingualism initiative, the school integrated English into its curriculum, ensuring that 50% of subjects are taught in English. This commitment was further solidified in 2014 when the institution received official recognition as a bilingual school. (colegiosantodomingo.edu.co, colegiosantodomingo.edu.co)

Leadership remains a family affair. The founders' children, Flavio Javier Burbano Torres and Clara Inés Burbano Torres, currently serve as rector and general coordinator, respectively, upholding the family's dedication to holistic education. (colegiosantodomingo.edu.co)

Today, Colegio Santo Domingo Bilingüe stands as a testament to the Burbano family's unwavering commitment to nurturing responsible, globally-minded citizens, blending academic rigor with moral and spiritual growth.



For more information, visit the school's official website:
colegiosantodomingo.edu.co.

Interview with Mr. Omotunde Togla.

Good morning Teacher Togla, we wanted to ask you some as question about the school and you experience on it.

-How many years have you been in this school? -I've been working in Santo Domingo Bilingual School since 2014. That is approximately 12 years. Long time. Long time.

The second question is how was the process of returning to bilingual school like and what was the process of returning to international school like? -The process of bilingual school was challenging. In the year 2014, it was something the former principal, Flavio Aguirre-Budbano, wanted to, he wanted to make the difference in Kennedy and in the south of the city. He wanted to have a bilingual school, so we had to go through a lot of sleepless nights, challenges, difficulties, curriculum, changing many things. But finally we got it. Finally, it was a good experience. Finally, it was something that was what the effort, the sleepless nights, in order for this school to become bilingual. If you give me bilingual school in 2014, so it's been a long process and very good one. The same thing is happening right now with the International School, the process with Cognia. We are taking all our time. As you can see, we are changing the curriculum. We are adapting the studies plan, HERO standard, common code. We are adapting the one of the Ministry of Education, the one from the DBM. All this is what we are working on right now that will give us a solid foundation, not just about the curriculum. We need to work on the students thinking faculty. They need to know that this is not a bilingual school but an international school.

What are the characteristics of an international school? -Number one, students must be happy. Number two, students must feel secure. Number three, they must think beyond the environment. They must see the possibility of going to study in an international school outside the country and in many places in the world. So

right now, this is the situation with the international process. We have a long way to go. The first promotion is going to be in 2026. but we think we can make it with the help of the support of the teachers, the community, the parents and of course the directives.

What is your vision for the future of the school and what change would you like to implement?

-That is a very good question. I was just talking to the directives about two weeks ago and I told them that I dream one day I dream of the students of Santo Domingo bilingual school having the same possibilities of the IB schools in Colombia. It is something that is common in Colombia that is this socio-economical power. It depends on where you are located to become someone responsible or respected in Colombia. The dream of our school is to make sure that all our students the families can be positioned in a very good way that through education we can see that we are changing the life of students.



Interview with Mr. Christian Ramos.

How many years have you been at the school?

This is my eighth year at the Santo Domingo Bilingual School.

Why do you like your job?

I like my job because it allows me to stay active in the dynamics of working with adolescents and, additionally, because I can develop the vocational process I've been developing since I was a teenager.

Have you had any problems with your peers?

No.

What class do you like to lead?

I like leading the class; I like working with the eleventh-grade students.

Would you like to change any dynamics within the institution?

I feel it's not about changing, but rather updating the school's dynamics to reflect the thinking and development of adolescents as we progress. The dynamics can't be changed because it's the school's philosophy, and the philosophy must remain the same. What philosophy does is adapt to generational changes.

What would you have liked to have studied if you weren't a teacher?

I studied business administration. My degree is commercial business administration. I studied philosophy and theology, but not at a pedagogical level, but at a professional level. Being a teacher was never my focus. My initial focus was religious life, and later, the administrative side of things became a part of my life. But if I hadn't studied those degrees, I would have liked to study law.

What does your family think about your current job?

I have to be very patient with teenagers, given my current role, but the role I played and what God arranged for me to attend Santo Domingo Bilingual School has allowed my family to understand that this is part of a vocational project of service.

How much time do you have for your personal life?

It's a matter of getting organized. School certainly takes up a lot of my personal time in the role I play because I'm involved in many activities, but it's a matter of getting organized. I usually dedicate the afternoons to further academic study. On weekends, or when I come home on Saturday morning, I have more free time. Sunday is completely dedicated to my family. I don't do anything related to school.

Do you have any hobbies?

I like listening to music, I like walking; I love hiking, but especially music and watching movies.

How do you feel the school has progressed academically?

In the eight years I've been at the school, there has evidently been progress in the academic department. Different and diverse protocols and processes have been established to allow students to adapt to the new academic dynamics. If there is progress, it is evident in the results we have on the state exams, the number of students admitted to public universities as graduates of the school.

All of this sets a foundation. It has all generated different pedagogical dynamics, but it has helped. Another thing that favors us is that the profile of the teachers is different. It is a profile of young teachers who come with new ideas and also come with more energy to be able to develop the processes.

How is the bilingual process going? Do you have any projects?

The bilingualism project is currently at a good level. We are already certifying higher grades, for example, for eleventh-grade students. Year after year, we have seen how young people graduate with a higher level. For example, we started with a B2 English level with two students, and the following year, they completed their third grade, and so on. Last year, to graduate, they had to have a B2, and we already had 89% on the first exam. They already had their B2. The result was that they had to enter a reinforcement process to achieve B2 in order to graduate as high school graduates. We have many projects, such as an exchange program with England, and the process of offering immersion classes while in Colombia but with countries like the United States or Australia.

What do you think about internationalization?

The internationalization of the school is a step we're taking, a two-year effort, but what we seek as a school with internationalization is for children and young people from the south to have the opportunity to graduate from a school with an international diploma and to have more opportunities to open doors to the world. The school seeks this with the aim of strengthening the academic ties of the locality because we would be the first school, and it has always aimed to be a pioneer in academic approaches for the population we serve.

Would you add or modify anything to the coexistence manual?

I would add more restrictions for adolescents to the coexistence manual, for example, the use of mobile devices, not only because it's punishable but also because of the psychological implications. I would make it the parents' responsibility to support them in various processes, not only academic but also psychological. I would also make it the parents' obligation to spend time with their children not only on weekends but also during the week. The coexistence manual is a road map for many of us and shouldn't be restrictive; it's educational. But I do see that there are many things in it that neither parents nor students know about, nor do they want to apply, and if they are seen to be for their benefit.

Are there any projects planned for this period?

The project for this period is to help children and young adults understand that the intensity will be greater. During this period, we have the PSAT for grades one through ten, and in eleventh grade, we have the third mock PSAT.

Do you have any advice for students?

They should continue developing these types of exercises where they experience firsthand how the management team or teachers think and thus understand how the school operates.



Interview with Mrs. Dayan Wilches.

What do you like most about working at the school?

What I like most about working at this school is the innovation and the academic demands that we have to be at the forefront to be able to respond to what the school wants.

How many years have you been at the school?

15 years and counting.

What did you do to become a phase leader?

I believe that the greatest characteristic that one has as a teacher to be able to grow here and anywhere else is professionalism and dedication. When I entered; I entered as a teacher and I was characterized for being or I tried to fit in the school easily and for standing out in that was what helped me also to grow to become a phase leader, that they see the leadership, empowerment and work of one.

What upcoming projects does the school have to accomplish?

Right now our main project is the international school and we are working towards that.

Do you enjoy your work?

Yes, I do. I love teaching.

What don't you like about the school or what would you change?

More than not liking the school are situations that from the role of teacher sometimes one would say or could be better speaking exactly in the dynamics that they perform, activities, schedules, but they are things that go in the day to day that are in this and any other school.

How did you start working in this school or how did you find out about this vacancy?

I found out about Santo Domingo School through a friend, she referred me to it and that's how I got here.

What were your previous jobs?

I was a teacher in two other schools.

What is your opinion about the bilingualism process at the school?

Very good, you can really see the results and it is very nice to see the children in their process of evolution up to eleven when they are practically bilingual.

Would you like to be promoted to a higher position?

Of course I would, the idea is to continue growing and becoming more and more professional.

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What is your opinion about the bilingualism process at the school?

Very good, you can really see the results and it is very nice to see the children in their evolution process up to eleven when they are practically bilingual.

How does your family feel about your current job?

Because of the time I have been here, my family also feels part of the school, they like it, they know the dynamics, the founders, most of the teachers and the work is very familiar.

Would you like to be promoted to a higher position?

Of course I would, the idea is to continue to grow and become more and more professional.

What would have been your second profession?

Medicine, I love everything about helping and serving people and I think that medicine is another space in which one can do it.

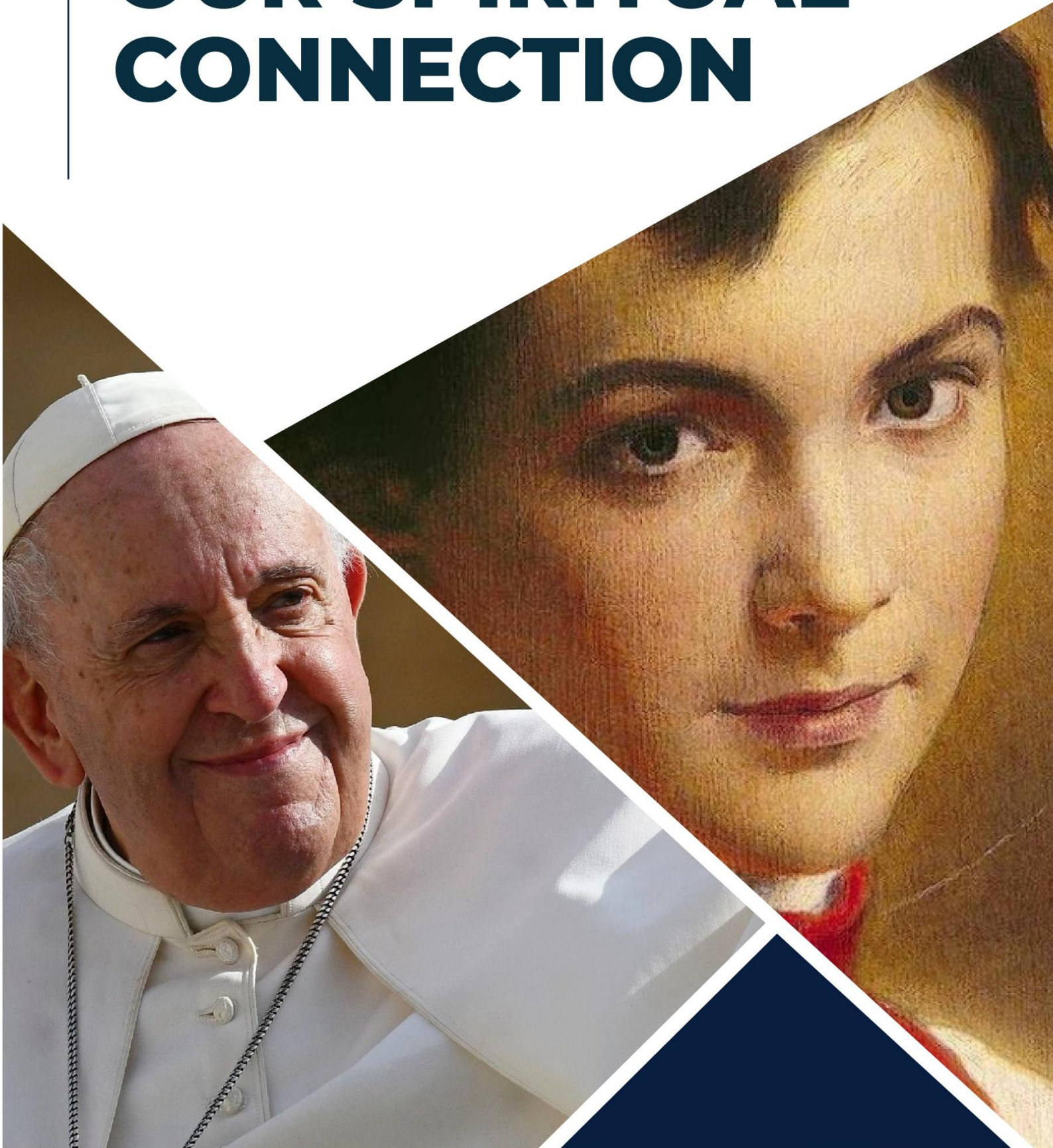
What is your advice to the community?

If you are thinking about teaching, it is one of the opportunities you have to project and impact people's lives, it is complex, it requires a lot of work and demands, but it is very enriching to know that you have sown something in the heart of a student and that in the future you will see the result.



SANTO DOMINGO BILINGUAL SCHOOL

OUR SPIRITUAL CONNECTION





The Passing of Our Pope: A Heart That Left Us Too Soon

A light has gone, and with it, peace,
A quiet heart now finds release.
The Shepherd rests, his journey done,
His work complete, but we, undone.

Through every tear, through every prayer,
His love was constant, always there.
A humble soul, who walked with grace,
A father's love in every place.

His voice, so soft, yet loud with truth,
Guided the lost, embraced the youth.
With every word, a spark was sown,
In hearts that felt they were alone.

Now silence falls where once he stood,
A void too vast, misunderstood.
We weep, but in the sorrow deep,
A legacy of love we keep.

He healed the broken, soothed the weak,
His hands held all who came to seek.
No distance kept his heart away,
He loved us all, both night and day.

And now, the world seems dimmer still,
Our Pope has left, but God's will,
Has called him home, where angels sing,
To rest beneath His gentle wing.

But oh, the ache, the emptiness,
A heart so pure, now laid to rest.
Yet in this grief, we know the truth:
His love remains, eternal, proof.

For though his body's gone from sight,
His spirit shines, a steady light.
In every prayer, in every heart,
Our Pope lives on, he's not apart.

So let us mourn, but also rise,
With tear-streaked cheeks and hopeful eyes.
For though he's gone, we are not lost—
His love, a flame that burns, no cost.

The Pope is with us, through the years,
In whispered prayers, in hopeful tears.
Though death has claimed his earthly form,
His love will rise and keep us warm.



Who is Santo Domingo Savio?

Santo Domingo Savio, a young saint revered for his deep faith, exceptional character, and devotion to God, remains an inspiring figure in the Catholic Church. Born on April 2, 1842, in the small town of Riva, Italy, he grew up under the guidance of St. John Bosco, a priest known for his groundbreaking work with young people. Despite his short life—he died at just 14—Savio’s impact continues to resonate today, especially among youth.

A Faithful Young Leader

Dominic Savio’s life was shaped by a profound devotion to Christ and a desire to live out his faith through his actions. From an early age, he was drawn to religious life, distinguishing himself not by his age, but by his maturity and commitment to living a moral and devout life. At the age of 12, Savio entered the Oratory of St. Francis de Sales, an educational and spiritual center founded by St. John Bosco in Turin. Here, Savio’s love for God flourished as he became a model student, showing compassion, integrity, and dedication.

Savio quickly caught the attention of Don Bosco, who recognized the boy’s remarkable spiritual gifts and wisdom far beyond his years. Savio made a solemn promise to live by a motto that encapsulated his commitment to both his faith and his peers: *"Death rather than sin."* He was resolute in his belief that he would rather die than fall into sin, a commitment that demonstrated his intense desire for purity and closeness to God.

His Role at the Oratory

Savio’s influence at the Oratory was immediate. He not only excelled in his studies but also served as a leader among his peers. Through his example, Savio encouraged his friends to live virtuously, showing them that holiness was not reserved for the clergy but was achievable by anyone, regardless of age or position. His joyful disposition and spiritual guidance led many to follow his example, and he became an unofficial leader, known for his integrity, kindness, and determination.

Savio’s zeal for the spiritual life also manifested in his love for the sacraments, especially the Eucharist, which he received daily. He also initiated regular prayer and spiritual discussions with his fellow students, offering a place where they could come together in faith. His ability to balance academic life, devotion to God, and a youthful joy made him beloved among both the clergy and his fellow students.

The Path to Sainthood

Sadly, Savio’s life was cut short when he fell ill in 1857, at the age of just 14. His illness, which turned out to be a terminal disease, was a great sorrow to his friends and mentors, especially St. John Bosco. Don Bosco, however, found comfort in Savio’s unwavering faith during his final days. Savio’s spiritual maturity shone through even as his health deteriorated. He continued to encourage his friends to maintain their faith, often expressing his desire to be with God in heaven.

After his death, Don Bosco wrote about Savio, calling him "a model of youth." His beatification in 1950 by Pope Pius XII and later canonization in 1954 confirmed his status as a saint and a role model for young people everywhere. His life continues to be a beacon of hope and inspiration for children, teenagers, and adults alike.

Santo Domingo Savio's Legacy

Today, Santo Domingo Savio is known not only as the patron saint of young people but also as a symbol of how youth can live holy lives, even in the modern world. His message is clear: living a virtuous life, devoted to God and service to others, is possible at any age. He remains an enduring example of how dedication to faith can shape one's actions and inspire others, regardless of age.

For young people striving to live meaningful and purposeful lives, Santo Domingo Savio's life offers both inspiration and practical guidance. Whether through his commitment to purity, his joy in serving others, or his unwavering faith, he remains an enduring model of holiness and Christian leadership. His feast day, celebrated on May 6, continues to inspire youth across the globe to pursue a life of faith, hope, and love.



Understanding Our Spiritual Connection: Beyond the Church Walls.

In today's fast-paced, often chaotic world, the concept of spiritual connection has never been more relevant. While many people associate spirituality with organized religion and places of worship, the idea of spiritual connection goes far beyond the

confines of a church building. It is about tapping into a deeper sense of purpose, inner peace, and unity—whether through prayer, reflection, community, or personal growth. Understanding this connection is a vital part of how we navigate our lives, and **it transcends traditional settings like churches.**

Spirituality and the Individual Journey

Spirituality, in its purest form, is the exploration of one's relationship with the divine, the universe, or the greater meaning of life. It is not confined to any particular place or institution; it is a personal experience. For many, spiritual connection involves finding harmony within themselves, recognizing their own purpose, and understanding their role in the broader tapestry of existence. It can be found in quiet moments of reflection, in the act of helping others, or in simply feeling connected to something greater than oneself.

While church communities often provide a structured setting for spiritual growth, many people find that their connection to spirituality can be nurtured outside of organized religious institutions. Activities like meditation, nature walks, reading sacred texts, or practicing mindfulness can foster a sense of spiritual well-being that does not require being physically present in a church or any formal religious space. In this sense, spirituality becomes more about inner peace and personal growth than about adhering to a specific set of religious doctrines.

The Role of Community in Spiritual Connection

That said, spirituality is also deeply communal. While the individual journey is essential, many find their spiritual connection strengthened within a community. Churches, synagogues, mosques, and other religious organizations provide a collective space where individuals can come together, share their beliefs, and support one another. These institutions offer a sense of belonging, accountability, and shared purpose, making the spiritual journey less solitary and more collective.

However, in today's world, spiritual communities are not limited to formal religious institutions. Digital platforms, social media groups, and even volunteer networks can create supportive environments for spiritual growth. These online communities offer a space for people to connect, share experiences, and provide guidance or encouragement to one another, proving that the essence of spirituality can thrive beyond the traditional walls of a church.

A Bridge Between Tradition and Personal Belief

Our spiritual connection is shaped by the intersection of tradition and personal belief. Many people continue to find profound meaning in the rituals, teachings, and sacraments offered by churches. These sacred spaces hold deep historical and cultural significance and provide a foundation of faith that helps individuals navigate life's challenges. The communal prayers, shared worship, and teachings of various religions allow individuals to draw strength from their shared values and experiences.

However, for others, spirituality might be about finding personal meaning in the world around them. It can be expressed through practices like yoga, contemplation, or artistic expression. For these individuals, their connection to the divine or the universe does not necessarily happen in a religious institution but through personal rituals and connections made in the world. It is a spiritual journey that feels uniquely their own, shaped by personal beliefs and experiences.

The Power of a Spiritual Connection

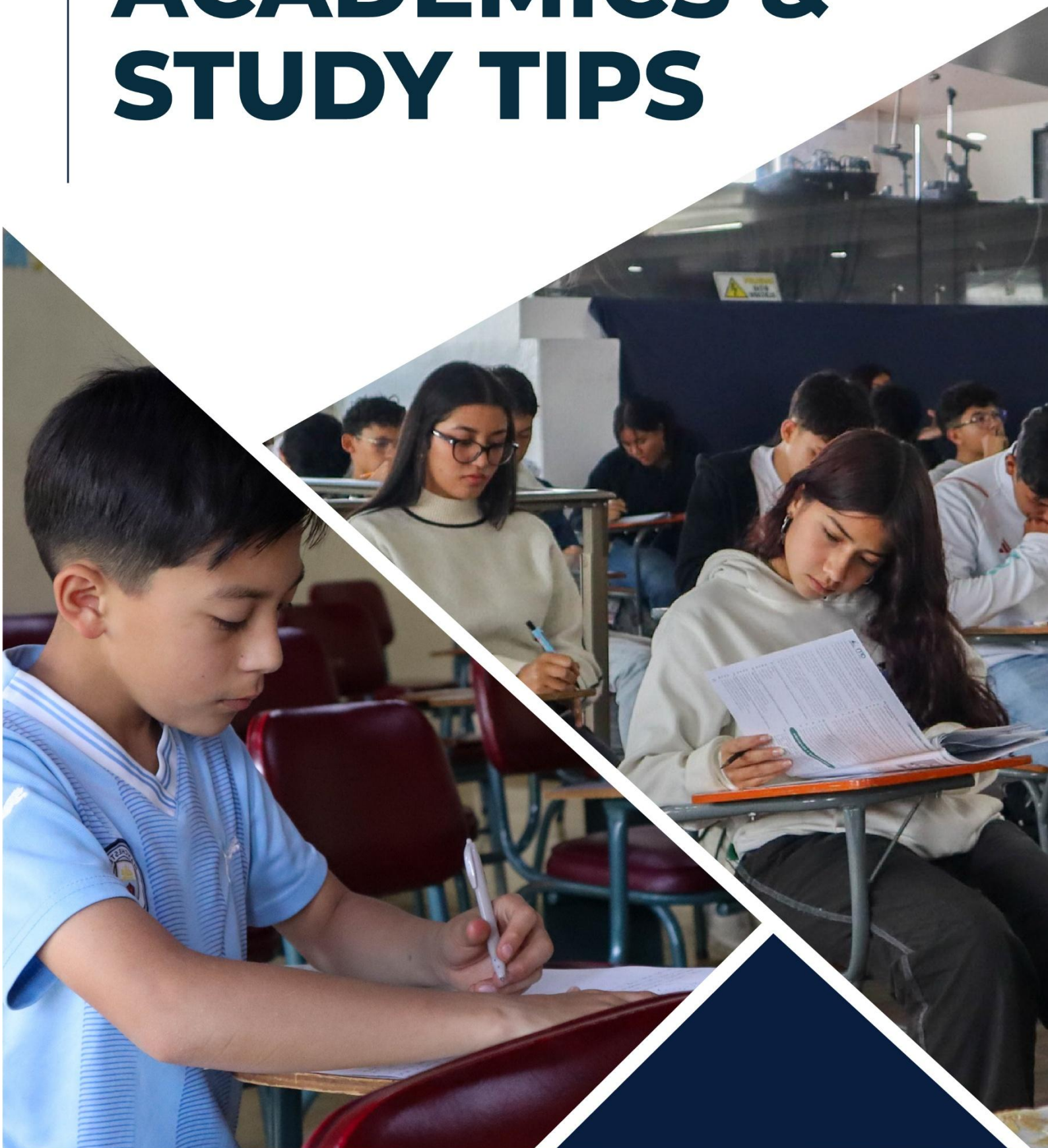
The power of spiritual connection—whether cultivated in a church or on a solitary mountain hike—lies in its ability to center the individual. In moments of crisis, loss, or uncertainty, spiritual beliefs provide solace and guidance. The act of reconnecting with one's spiritual roots fosters resilience, peace, and clarity, enabling individuals to better understand their place in the world and their relationship with others.

Ultimately, whether found in the echoing halls of a cathedral, in the pages of a holy book, or in a quiet moment of reflection, our spiritual connection is something that enriches our lives. It nurtures our emotional and mental well-being and reminds us of our deeper purpose. It offers a bridge between the sacred and the everyday, fostering a sense of peace, love, and understanding that transcends time and space. Spirituality, in any form, is a powerful tool for personal growth and a way to navigate the complexities of life with grace and intention.



SANTO DOMINGO BILINGUAL SCHOOL

ACADEMICS & STUDY TIPS



Tips and Techniques to Pass Every Multiple-Choice Exam: Steps and Examples.

Multiple-choice exams can be daunting, but with the right approach, you can improve your chances of success. Whether you are preparing for a school test, a professional certification, or any other multiple-choice assessment, here are some step-by-step techniques to help you pass every time.

1. Read the Question Carefully

The first step to acing a multiple-choice exam is to read each question thoroughly. Avoid skimming, as subtle changes in wording can change the meaning of the question entirely.

Example: Question: *Which of the following is a fruit?*

- A) Potato
- B) Apple
- C) Carrot
- D) Broccoli

In this case, you need to carefully understand that the question is asking about a fruit, not a vegetable. "Apple" (B) is the correct answer.



2. Eliminate Obvious Wrong Answers

If you can immediately rule out one or more options, you increase your chances of selecting the correct answer. This strategy works especially well when you aren't sure about the correct choice but can confidently dismiss the others.

Example: Question: *What is the capital of France?*

- A) Berlin
- B) Madrid
- C) Paris
- D) Rome

You know that "Berlin," "Madrid," and "Rome" are not the capital of France, so you can eliminate those. That leaves "Paris" (C) as the correct answer.

3. Look for Clues in Other Questions

Sometimes later questions can give you hints or directly answer a previous question. Keeping an eye out for these connections can be a lifesaver.

Example: Question 5: *Which scientist developed the theory of relativity?*

- A) Newton
- B) Einstein
- C) Galileo
- D) Darwin

Question 8: *Who is famous for the theory of evolution?*

- A) Newton
- B) Einstein
- C) Galileo
- D) Darwin

After answering Question 8 correctly, you can use the information to confidently select "Einstein" for Question 5.

4. Use the Process of Elimination (POE)

If you're unsure, try eliminating the most obviously incorrect answers first. This increases your chances of selecting the correct one.

Example: Question: *What is the boiling point of water?*

- A) 0°C
- B) 50°C

C) 100°C

D) 200°C

By eliminating A, B, and D (as these are clearly incorrect), you are left with C, which is the correct answer.



5. Pay Attention to Patterns

While patterns in answers can vary, sometimes you might notice trends. For example, if "C" has been the answer for several questions, it might be worth considering, though this should not be your primary strategy.

Example:

Question 1: C

Question 2: C

Question 3: C

Question 4: C

While this pattern might not always hold true, it is worth paying attention to any emerging trends. However, do not rely on this approach alone.

6. Review All Answer Choices

Even if you think you know the answer right away, always look at all the options before making your final choice. A seemingly correct answer might be overshadowed by a better one after review.

Example: Question: *Which of the following is the largest planet in our solar system?*

- A) Earth
- B) Jupiter
- C) Saturn
- D) Mars

You might initially choose Earth (A) because it is the one you are most familiar with, but after reviewing all options, you realize that Jupiter (B) is the largest planet.

7. Stay Calm and Manage Your Time

Do not rush through the exam. Take a deep breath, pace yourself, and make sure to leave time for reviewing your answers.

Example: If you are running out of time and feel panicked, you might start guessing randomly. Instead, remain calm, and quickly answer the questions you are sure about first. Then, use the remaining time to revisit difficult questions.



8. Trust Your First Instinct (Sometimes)

Studies show that your first instinct is often correct. If you find yourself second-guessing a question, trust your gut unless you have a strong reason to change your answer.

Example: You originally chose “Einstein” for a question about the theory of relativity, but then you second-guess yourself and change the answer to “Newton.” When you go back to check, you realize that your first choice was right all along.

9. Prepare Thoroughly

Proper preparation is crucial for any exam, especially multiple-choice tests. The more familiar you are with the material, the easier it will be to answer questions correctly.

Example: If you are studying for a history test, focus on understanding key events and people rather than just memorizing facts. This will help you recognize patterns in the questions and choose the most accurate answer.

Mastering multiple-choice exams involves strategic reading, effective elimination, and calmness under pressure. By following these steps—reading carefully, eliminating wrong answers, looking for patterns, and staying prepared—you will significantly increase your chances of success. Keep practicing these techniques, and with time, you will approach every multiple-choice exam with confidence.

Power Words and Key Strategies to Eliminate Wrong Answers in Multiple-Choice Exams.

In multiple-choice exams, one of the most effective techniques for success is knowing how to spot and eliminate incorrect answers. By focusing on power words and key phrases in the question and answer choices, you can drastically improve your chances of selecting the right answer. Here is how to use strategic word choices to your advantage when tackling multiple-choice exams.

1. Identify Absolutes and Extremes

Words like “**always**,” “**never**,” “**only**,” and “**every**” are **extreme** terms that can often be clues for eliminating answers. These absolute terms are rarely correct, especially in science, history, and other subjects where exceptions are common.

Example: Question: *Which of the following is always true about mammals?*

- A) They lay eggs.
- B) They give live birth.
- C) They have fur or hair.
- D) They are cold-blooded.

Here, the word “**always**” in the question suggests you need an answer that applies universally. The correct choice is **C** because all mammals have fur or hair, but not all mammals lay eggs or give live birth, and they are not all cold-blooded.

2. Look for Keywords in the Question

Certain **keywords** in the question help you zero in on the correct answer. For instance, words like “**except,**” “**not,**” “**least,**” “**most,**” “**best,**” and “**worst**” indicate the need to **eliminate** options. Pay close attention to these because they often point you to the answer that is the opposite of what seems most logical.

Example: Question: *Which of the following is not a primary color?*

- A) Red
- B) Blue
- C) Yellow
- D) Green

The word “**not**” signals that you need to find an option that **does not** fit. Since **green** is a secondary color (made from blue and yellow), **D** is the correct answer.



3. Eliminate Irrelevant or Outlier Options

Look for answers that do not fit the context of the question or seem off-topic. These outlier answers can often be eliminated immediately, leaving you with more reasonable choices.

Example: Question: *What is the boiling point of water at sea level?*

- A) 90°C
- B) 100°C
- C) 110°C
- D) 120°C

Here, **90°C**, **110°C**, and **120°C** are clearly incorrect, as the standard boiling point of water at sea level is **100°C**. The word “**boiling point**” and context help eliminate the other choices.

4. Pay Attention to Similar-sounding Choices

Multiple-choice exams often include **closely related options** that are easy to confuse. By looking for subtle distinctions between these answers, you can eliminate those that do not fully match the question.

Example: Question: *What is the chemical symbol for iron?*

- A) Fe
- B) Ir
- C) In
- D) I

Here, the word “**iron**” helps eliminate **Ir** (for iridium), **In** (for indium), and **I** (for iodine). The correct answer is **A** because **Fe** is the symbol for iron.

5. Recognize Negative Phrasing

Questions with **negative phrasing**—such as “**Which of the following is not,**” “**Which is least likely,**” or “**Except**”—indicate that you need to identify the option that stands apart or does not belong.

Example: Question: *Which of the following is least likely to be a gas at room temperature?*

- A) Oxygen
- B) Nitrogen
- C) Water
- D) Carbon dioxide

The word “**least likely**” helps you eliminate gases like **oxygen, nitrogen,** and **carbon dioxide.** **Water** is **the correct answer**, as it is typically a liquid at room temperature.

6. Use Repetition and Redundancy

If an answer choice **appears to be repeated** or too similar to another, it is often a **trap**. Multiple-choice exams sometimes use redundant or near-identical answers to confuse you. Check if two or more answers seem nearly identical and **eliminate one** of them.

Example: Question: *Which of the following is an example of a mammal?*

- A) Whale
- B) Dolphin
- C) Shark
- D) Fish

A and **B** both could technically be mammals, but **C** and **D** are clearly wrong (sharks and fish are not mammals). Therefore, if you are confused, one of **A** or **B** might be your final answer. By looking closely, you will see that both are technically correct, so reviewing the question again could help you decide.



7. Trust Contextual Clues

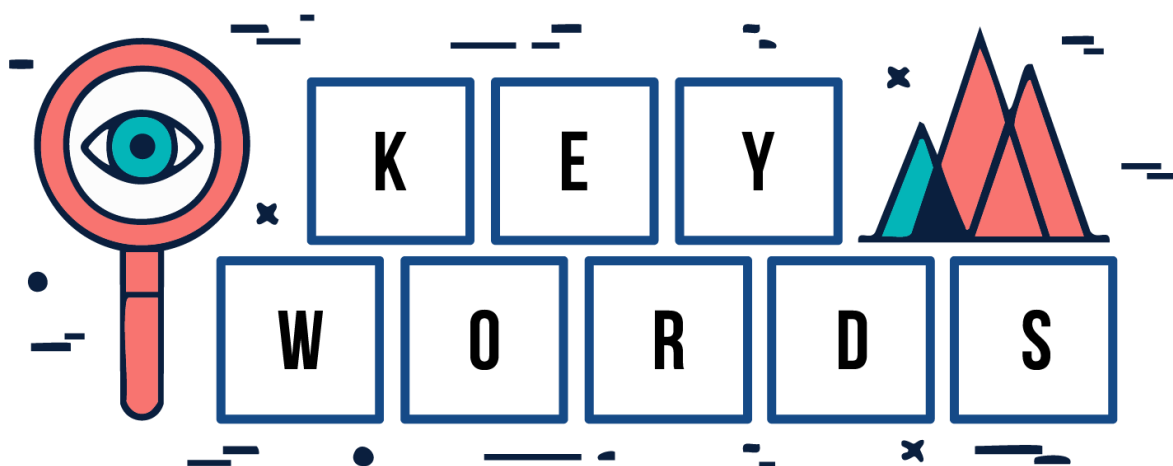
Sometimes, the **context of the question**—whether it is scientific, historical, or literary—will guide you in eliminating certain answers. For instance, if a question asks about a **historical event**, but one of the answers refers to a modern technology, you can rule it out.

Example: Question: *Who was the first President of the United States?*

- A) Thomas Jefferson
- B) Benjamin Franklin
- C) George Washington
- D) John Adams

The **historical context** of the question helps you eliminate **Jefferson** and **Franklin**, as **Washington** is universally known as the first president.

By focusing on **key words** like “**always**,” “**except**,” “**not**,” and “**least likely**,” and using **elimination techniques** with contextual clues, you can confidently reduce your options and significantly improve your chances of selecting the correct answer. Recognizing these **power words** allows you to quickly identify and eliminate incorrect choices, making multiple-choice exams more manageable and less intimidating



SANTO DOMINGO BILINGUAL SCHOOL

WELLNESS & MENTAL HEALTH



Wellness and Mental Health in School Children.

In today's fast-paced world, the importance of mental health and overall wellness in schoolchildren has become more evident than ever before. As academic pressures increase, coupled with the challenges of social media and the complex dynamics of peer relationships, children are facing greater mental health challenges. It is crucial for parents, educators, and communities to understand and address these issues to foster a healthy and balanced environment for young learners.

The Importance of Mental Health in School Children

Mental health in children is just as important as physical health. Children face various stressors, such as school performance, family dynamics, bullying, and the transition to new social environments. When these stressors are left unaddressed, they can lead to anxiety, depression, and other mental health issues. Mental health disorders in children can impact their ability to concentrate, learn effectively, and engage in school activities, often leading to a decline in academic performance and social withdrawal.

A healthy mental state enables children to better cope with life's challenges, manage stress, and build strong interpersonal relationships. When a child's mental health is nurtured, they develop resilience, emotional intelligence, and coping strategies that support both their academic and social success.



Key Factors Affecting Mental Health

Several factors contribute to the mental health of school-aged children. Academic pressure is one of the leading causes of stress, particularly as children grow older and

face more rigorous testing and assignments. Social challenges, including issues like bullying, exclusion, and peer pressure, also play a significant role. Additionally, the impact of social media cannot be overlooked—exposure to unrealistic beauty standards, online bullying, and the pressure to constantly be connected can all contribute to poor mental health in children.

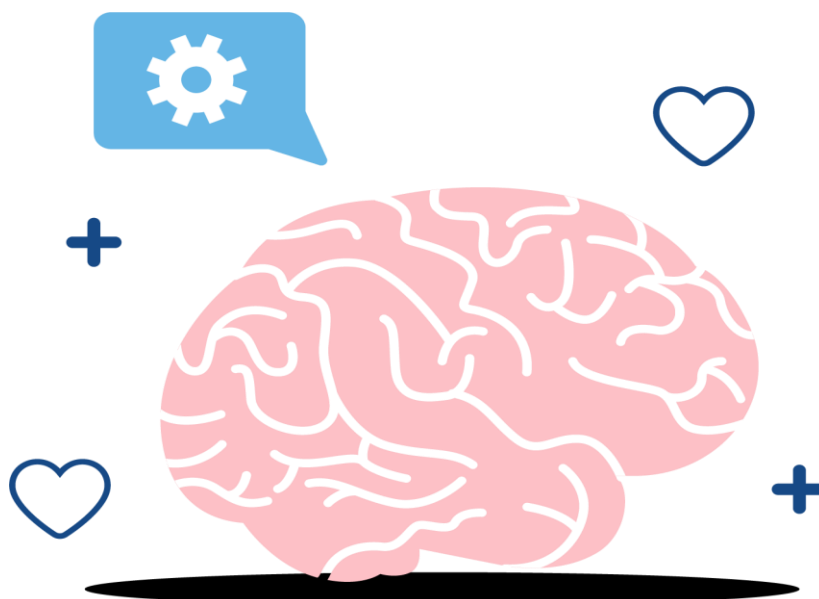
Moreover, family dynamics such as divorce, economic hardship, or the loss of a loved one can exacerbate mental health problems in children. Addressing these issues early on is critical in preventing more serious long-term psychological concerns.

Strategies for Promoting Wellness

Creating a supportive and nurturing environment is key to promoting mental health in children. Schools play a crucial role by offering counseling services, teaching stress-management techniques, and creating safe spaces for students to express themselves. Incorporating mindfulness practices and physical activities into daily routines can also help alleviate stress and promote overall well-being.

Parents and caregivers should encourage open conversations about feelings, provide emotional support, and be mindful of the pressures children may face. Ensuring that children have time for play, hobbies, and relaxation can help balance their academic responsibilities with personal growth.

The mental health and wellness of schoolchildren are foundational to their academic success and overall well-being. By addressing mental health issues early and providing ongoing support, we can help children navigate the complexities of school and life with resilience and confidence. It is essential that schools, families, and communities work together to prioritize and promote mental wellness for the younger generation, ensuring a brighter future for all.



The Role of Classroom Environment and Friendships.

The mental health and wellness of schoolchildren are foundational to their growth and academic success. While external factors such as family dynamics and social pressures play a role, the classroom environment and the quality of friendships children form are essential to their emotional well-being. A positive classroom setting and healthy peer relationships not only support academic learning but also promote resilience, self-esteem, and emotional stability. Here are some practical tips, along with examples, to help foster mental wellness through classroom dynamics and friendships.

1. Creating a Positive Classroom Environment

A supportive and inclusive classroom environment can significantly impact a child's mental health. When children feel safe, respected, and valued, they are more likely to engage in learning and build healthy relationships.

Tip 1: Establish Clear, Positive Expectations Setting clear and consistent expectations for behavior and respect creates a safe space for all students. When children understand the rules and know what to expect, it reduces anxiety and fosters a sense of security.

Example:

A teacher could start the school year by discussing classroom rules with the students in a positive, collaborative way. For example, rules such as “We listen when others speak” or “We celebrate each other’s successes” help create a culture of respect.

Tip 2: Foster Active Participation Encourage all students to participate in discussions and activities. Active involvement boosts self-esteem and encourages a sense of belonging.

Example:

Teachers could implement “think-pair-share” activities where students have a chance to discuss their ideas with a peer before sharing them with the whole class. This promotes both social interaction and the opportunity to have their voices heard in a less intimidating setting.

Tip 3: Provide Emotional Support and Validation Validate emotions and let students know their feelings are important. When children feel understood, they are more likely to open up and address mental health concerns.

Example:

If a student seems upset, instead of ignoring it, a teacher can say, “I see you're feeling frustrated. Would you like to talk about what’s going on?” This shows empathy and helps children feel supported.



2. Fostering Healthy Friendships

Friendships play a vital role in a child's mental health. Positive friendships provide emotional support, help children cope with stress, and create a sense of community.

Tip 4: Encourage Collaborative Activities Group work and cooperative learning activities are great ways to encourage healthy friendships and teamwork. By collaborating on tasks, students can practice social skills, share ideas, and form connections with their peers.

Example:

Teachers can organize group projects where children with different strengths work together. For instance, a group project on a science topic could involve one child doing research, another creating a visual presentation, and a third presenting the findings. This way, all students contribute and feel valued.

Tip 5: Teach Social-Emotional Skills Social-emotional learning (SEL) programs teach children how to manage emotions, set goals, show empathy, and resolve conflicts. These skills are essential for building healthy relationships and maintaining good mental health.

Example:

In a classroom, teachers could set aside time for a short “check-in” session each morning, where students share how they're feeling and any challenges they might be facing. This helps students practice self-awareness and builds a sense of community.

Tip 6: Address and Prevent Bullying Bullying can have devastating effects on a child's mental health. It is important to address and prevent bullying through awareness, education, and creating a safe space for children to talk about their experiences.

Example:

A teacher can implement an anti-bullying initiative, such as weekly discussions about kindness, the impact of bullying, and how to stand up for others. Additionally, a “buddy system” can be established, pairing students together to foster inclusion and peer support.



3. The Role of Teachers and Caregivers

Teachers and caregivers play a critical role in supporting children's mental health by modeling healthy behavior and creating opportunities for children to express their emotions.

Tip 7: Be a Role Model for Healthy Behavior Teachers can model positive coping strategies and emotional regulation by showing how they handle stress or frustration. Children learn from observing adults and often mimic their behaviors.

Example:

When a teacher faces a stressful situation, they might say, “I’m feeling frustrated, so

I'm going to take a few deep breaths to calm down.” This shows children how to manage their emotions in a healthy way.

Tip 8: Open Lines of Communication Encourage open communication with both students and parents. By understanding each child's needs and concerns, educators can provide targeted support.

Example:

A teacher might hold parent-teacher meetings to discuss a child's progress and emotional well-being. They could ask parents about any home challenges and work together to address concerns and offer additional support for the child.

Promoting wellness and mental health in schoolchildren begins with creating a positive classroom environment and fostering healthy friendships. By incorporating strategies such as setting clear expectations, encouraging group work, teaching social-emotional skills, and addressing bullying, schools can significantly enhance students' emotional well-being. Teachers and caregivers play an essential role in supporting children's mental health by providing guidance, empathy, and a safe space for self-expression. Through these efforts, children can develop the resilience, confidence, and social skills they need to thrive both academically and emotionally.



Embracing Your Natural Beauty: Expressing Yourself Without Makeup at School.

In today's world, makeup is often seen as a tool for enhancing one's appearance, but it is important to remember that beauty is not just about how we look—it is about how we feel and express ourselves. At school, where the focus is on learning and self-expression, there are many ways to show off your unique style without the use of makeup. Embracing your natural beauty is a powerful way to express yourself authentically and confidently, and it does not require any cosmetics.

First and foremost, confidence is key. When you walk into school with self-assurance, it is the first thing people notice. Confidence radiates from within, and it shows in the way you carry yourself. You do not need makeup to feel beautiful—what you need is to recognize your own worth and appreciate your natural features. When you feel comfortable in your own skin, others will see your inner beauty shine through, and that is a powerful form of expression.

Another way to express yourself without makeup is through your clothing and personal style. Fashion is an amazing way to communicate your personality and taste. Choose outfits that make you feel empowered and reflect your individuality. Whether it is through bold colors, unique accessories, or trendy designs, your clothes can speak volumes about who you are. When you dress in a way that feels authentic to you, it shows that you are comfortable with who you are, and that confidence will enhance your overall presence.

Hair is another great way to highlight your personality without the need for makeup. Whether you wear your hair naturally curly, straight, or in a creative hairstyle, your hair can be an expression of your mood and style. Experiment with different hairstyles to find what makes you feel good, and remember, it is not about perfection—it is about embracing what makes you unique.

Finally, do not forget about the power of a smile. A warm, genuine smile can light up a room and instantly make you feel more beautiful. It is a natural expression of joy and kindness that transcends any makeup product. When you smile, it communicates confidence, positivity, and warmth to those around you.

In conclusion, expressing yourself without makeup at school doesn't mean sacrificing beauty—it is about embracing your natural features, feeling confident, and showing the world who you truly are. Beauty comes from within, and when you believe in your own worth and uniqueness, you will undoubtedly shine in ways that go beyond what any makeup can accomplish.

Remember not to use makeup in the school.

SANTO DOMINGO BILINGUAL SCHOOL

COMMUNITY & CULTURE



Community and Culture of Children in Colombia: Becoming a Global Citizen.

In Colombia, the cultural richness and strong sense of community play a significant role in shaping the lives of children. From the diverse landscapes to the blend of indigenous, African, and Spanish heritage, Colombia offers a unique environment for children to grow and develop. As global awareness continues to rise, Colombian children are increasingly exposed to the concept of becoming global citizens—individuals who understand and engage with the wider world while maintaining a deep connection to their roots.

The Importance of Community

In Colombia, family and community are at the heart of children's lives. The concept of "**familismo**," a term reflecting strong family ties, is a cultural cornerstone. Children are raised in environments where extended families often play active roles in their upbringing. This tight-knit structure creates a sense of belonging, support, and shared responsibility. Colombian children also benefit from the larger community, where neighborhoods often come together for social gatherings, celebrations, and mutual support.

For example, festivals like **Carnaval de Barranquilla** and **Semana Santa** (Holy Week) are major community events in which children participate, learning about their cultural heritage through dance, music, and traditional customs. These activities not only teach local traditions but also encourage a sense of pride and belonging to a larger cultural narrative.

Cultural Diversity and Global Perspective

Colombia's cultural diversity is another key factor that contributes to children's development as global citizens. The country is home to a variety of ethnic groups, including Afro-Colombians, indigenous communities, and people of European descent. Children are exposed to multiple languages, traditions, and worldviews, which fosters **cultural awareness** and appreciation for diversity.

For example, in the rural regions of Colombia, children may grow up speaking indigenous languages like **Wayuu** or **Embera**, while in urban centers, Spanish remains the dominant language. These multicultural interactions broaden their understanding of the world and teach them how to navigate a globalized society.

Moreover, children are increasingly engaging with international media and technology, enabling them to connect with peers from different parts of the world. This exposure to global ideas, issues, and cultures helps children recognize their role in a larger global community.

The Path to Becoming Global Citizens

For Colombian children, the journey toward becoming global citizens is supported by both local and national educational frameworks. Schools are increasingly incorporating **global citizenship education (GCE)**, which emphasizes skills such as critical thinking, empathy, and understanding global issues like climate change, human rights, and social justice.

Additionally, Colombian children are encouraged to engage in community service, participate in youth organizations, and take part in international programs like **Model United Nations (MUN)**. These experiences help children develop a sense of responsibility, teamwork, and awareness of global challenges.

Children in Colombia grow up in a rich cultural environment that values community, diversity, and a strong connection to heritage. As they engage with the wider world, they are equipped with the tools to become global citizens—individuals who are aware of global issues, compassionate towards others, and committed to making a positive impact. By nurturing these qualities, Colombian children are prepared to face the challenges of an interconnected world while staying rooted in the values and traditions that shape their identity.



Bilingualism in Colombia and the Path to Becoming Global Citizens.

In Colombia, bilingualism is becoming an increasingly important asset for children as they navigate a world that is more interconnected than ever. With Colombia's rich cultural diversity and growing engagement with the global community, learning additional languages, especially English, is seen as essential for children to thrive in the modern world. Bilingualism not only opens doors to academic and professional opportunities but also helps children embrace the role of **global citizens**—individuals who understand, respect, and contribute to the global community while staying connected to their local roots.

Bilingualism in Colombia: A Bridge to the World

Colombia has made significant strides in promoting bilingual education, especially in urban areas. Schools across the country are increasingly offering English as a second language, starting from early childhood education and continuing through secondary school. In fact, the Colombian government has implemented various policies to improve English proficiency, recognizing that bilingualism is a key skill for success in the globalized world.

Children who grow up bilingual in Colombia are not only able to communicate in both Spanish and English but also have the cognitive benefits of learning multiple languages. Being bilingual enhances problem-solving skills, improves multitasking abilities, and increases brain flexibility. These cognitive advantages help children better adapt to the complexities of the modern world, making them more prepared for the demands of a global society.



Cultural Awareness and Global Citizenship

For Colombian children, being bilingual is about more than just learning another language—it is about understanding and appreciating **different cultures**. Colombia is home to a mix of indigenous, Afro-Colombian, and European influences, and bilingualism allows children to access a wealth of global cultures and ideas. Through learning English and engaging with global media, literature, and social platforms, Colombian children gain exposure to different worldviews, traditions, and social issues.

This cultural awareness helps children develop a sense of empathy, respect, and responsibility for others. As bilingual individuals, they can communicate with people from diverse backgrounds, forming meaningful relationships and promoting cross-cultural understanding. These skills are foundational for becoming **global citizens**, who are not only aware of global issues but actively contribute to solutions.

For example, a child who speaks both Spanish and English can participate in international youth programs, such as **Model United Nations (MUN)**, where they discuss and debate global challenges like climate change, poverty, and human rights. These experiences encourage children to think critically about their place in the world and the impact of their actions.

The Role of Technology in Expanding Horizons

The digital age has also played a significant role in helping Colombian children become global citizens. With access to the internet and online learning platforms, children can interact with peers from around the world, participate in virtual exchange programs, and engage in global conversations. Social media platforms, online gaming, and collaborative projects provide avenues for children to connect with others across borders, allowing them to share ideas, learn about new cultures, and advocate for positive change on a global scale.

For instance, children in Colombia might collaborate on environmental projects with students from other countries, learning about global efforts to combat climate change. These experiences instill a sense of global responsibility, teaching children that they are part of a larger, interconnected world that requires collective action.

Preparing Colombian Children for the Future

As Colombia continues to embrace bilingual education, it empowers children to become both **global citizens** and **proud bearers of their cultural heritage**. The ability to communicate fluently in multiple languages allows Colombian children to bridge cultural gaps and create connections worldwide, while also deepening their understanding of their own traditions and history. By equipping them with language skills and global awareness, Colombia is preparing its future leaders to thrive in an increasingly interconnected world.

Bilingualism in Colombia is not just about language acquisition—it is about preparing children to become engaged, compassionate, and responsible global citizens. By learning English and gaining access to the broader world, Colombian children can develop the skills necessary to navigate global challenges, understand diverse cultures, and contribute to a more interconnected and inclusive world. Through bilingual education, they are not only enhancing their personal opportunities but also embracing the responsibility to make a positive impact on the world stage, all while staying rooted in their rich Colombian culture.



SANTO DOMINGO BILINGUAL SCHOOL

CREATIVE CORNER



CSDB wonderful English teachers are more than an instructor—they are a catalyst for curiosity, communication, and cultural understanding. Within both Colombian and international standards, such a teacher plays a vital role in developing students' linguistic competence, critical thinking, and global awareness. Through innovative and inclusive pedagogy, this educator creates a classroom environment where students feel safe to express themselves, make mistakes, and grow. By integrating literature, media, and real-world issues into lessons, they ignite a passion for language that transcends grammar rules and vocabulary lists. Their commitment to formative feedback, personalized learning, and cultural relevance ensures that every student is supported in reaching their potential—whether preparing for the ICFES, advancing through the CEFR levels, or mastering the art of persuasive communication. A truly wonderful English teacher not only teaches language—they empower voices, open minds, and shape global citizens.



Pre-Kinder

In Pre-Kinder, the primary focus is on fostering a positive attitude toward language learning through play-based activities and sensory experiences. Students engage in listening and speaking exercises that introduce basic English vocabulary related to everyday objects, emotions, and actions. Achievements in the first term include recognizing and responding to simple English words and phrases, such as greetings and classroom instructions. Goals for the upcoming term involve expanding vocabulary through thematic units, enhancing listening comprehension through interactive songs and stories, and encouraging students to express themselves using simple English phrases and gestures.



Kindergarten

Kindergarten students build upon their foundational language skills by participating in structured activities that promote phonemic awareness, letter recognition, and basic sentence formation. Achievements in the first term encompass identifying and naming letters of the alphabet, producing the corresponding sounds, and using simple sentences to describe familiar objects and actions. The goal for the next term is to introduce basic reading and writing skills, such as recognizing sight words, writing their names, and constructing simple sentences with guidance, while continuing to develop listening and speaking abilities through interactive storytelling and songs.

Grade 1

In Grade 1, students begin to develop reading and writing skills alongside their listening and speaking abilities. Achievements in the first term include recognizing high-frequency sight words, reading simple sentences with comprehension, and writing short sentences using basic punctuation. Goals for the upcoming term involve expanding vocabulary through thematic units, enhancing reading fluency by practicing decoding skills, and encouraging students to write short paragraphs with a clear beginning, middle, and end. Additionally, students will engage in group discussions to improve oral communication skills and build confidence in using English in various contexts.



Grade 2

Grade 2 students continue to strengthen their language skills by focusing on sentence structure, grammar, and vocabulary expansion. Achievements in the first term include constructing compound sentences using conjunctions, identifying and using nouns, verbs, and adjectives correctly, and reading short stories with improved fluency and comprehension. The goal for the next term is to introduce more complex sentence structures, such as questions and negations, and to expand vocabulary through thematic units related to everyday life and the environment. Students will also engage in writing activities that involve creating simple narratives and descriptions, while continuing to develop listening and speaking skills through group discussions and presentations.



Grade 3

In Grade 3, students focus on enhancing their reading comprehension and writing skills, with an emphasis on understanding main ideas and supporting details. Achievements in the first term include identifying the main idea and key details in short texts, writing coherent paragraphs with a clear topic sentence, and using appropriate punctuation and capitalization. Goals for the upcoming term involve expanding vocabulary through thematic units related to personal experiences and the world around them, improving reading fluency by practicing reading aloud, and engaging in writing activities that involve creating short stories and informational texts. Additionally, students will participate in oral presentations to build confidence in speaking English in front of an audience.



Grade 4

Grade 4 students work on refining their language skills by focusing on grammar, sentence variety, and writing organization. Achievements in the first term include using different sentence types (declarative, interrogative, and exclamatory) correctly, applying basic grammar rules in writing, and reading texts with improved fluency and comprehension. The goal for the next term is to introduce more complex grammatical structures, such as tenses and subject-verb agreement, and to expand vocabulary through thematic units related to history, culture, and science. Students will also engage in writing activities that involve creating detailed narratives and reports, while continuing to develop listening and speaking skills through group discussions and debates.

Grade 5

In Grade 5, students focus on developing their writing skills by producing well-organized and coherent texts, and enhancing their reading comprehension abilities. Achievements in the first term include writing multi-paragraph compositions with a clear introduction, body, and conclusion, analyzing texts to identify main ideas and supporting details, and using appropriate grammar and vocabulary in writing. Goals for the upcoming term involve expanding vocabulary through thematic units related to global issues and current events, improving reading comprehension by analyzing different text types, and engaging in writing activities that involve creating persuasive essays and research reports. Additionally, students will participate in oral presentations to develop public speaking skills and build confidence in using English in various contexts.

Grade 6

Grade 6 students continue to develop their language skills by focusing on critical thinking, analysis, and effective communication. Achievements in the first term include analyzing texts to identify themes and literary devices, writing well-structured essays with clear arguments and supporting evidence, and participating in discussions to express opinions and listen actively. The goal for the next term is to introduce more complex writing tasks, such as literary analyses and research papers, and to expand vocabulary through thematic units related to literature, history, and social studies. Students will also engage in oral presentations and debates to develop public speaking skills and enhance their ability to communicate effectively in English.



Grade 7

In Grade 7, students focus on refining their language skills by engaging in more sophisticated reading, writing, and speaking tasks. Achievements in the first term include analyzing and interpreting texts to identify themes, character development, and literary techniques, writing analytical essays with clear arguments and supporting evidence, and participating in discussions to express opinions and respond to others' viewpoints. Goals for the upcoming term involve expanding vocabulary through thematic units related to literature, history, and social studies, improving writing skills by producing research papers and literary analyses, and enhancing speaking abilities through debates and presentations. Additionally, students will continue to develop listening comprehension by analyzing audio and video materials in English.



Grade 8

Grade 8 students continue to develop their language skills by focusing on advanced reading, writing, and speaking tasks. Achievements in the first term include analyzing complex texts to identify themes, literary devices, and cultural contexts, writing well-organized essays with clear arguments and supporting evidence, and participating in discussions to express opinions and engage in critical thinking. The goal for the next term is to introduce more complex writing tasks, such as research papers and literary critiques, and to expand vocabulary through thematic units related to global issues, literature, and social studies. Students will also engage in oral presentations and debates to develop public speaking skills and enhance their ability to communicate effectively in English.



Grade 9

In Grade 9, students focus on refining their language skills by engaging in advanced reading, writing, and speaking tasks that require critical thinking and analysis. Achievements in the first term include analyzing and interpreting complex texts to identify themes, literary techniques, and cultural contexts, writing analytical essays with clear arguments and supporting evidence, and participating in discussions to express opinions and respond to others' viewpoints. Goals for the upcoming term involve expanding vocabulary through thematic units related to global issues, literature, and social studies, improving writing skills by producing research papers and literary analyses, and enhancing speaking abilities through debates and presentations. Additionally, students will continue to develop listening comprehension.



Grade 10

Grade 10 English learners deepen their analytical, interpretive, and argumentative skills, emphasizing academic writing and advanced literary analysis. First-term achievements include understanding and discussing complex literary texts, employing various rhetorical strategies in written and oral arguments, and composing structured essays with logical reasoning and textual support. Students have also demonstrated growth in interpreting figurative language, tone, and authorial intent across diverse genres. In alignment with Colombian MEN standards and CEFR guidelines (approaching B2+), goals for the next term include developing research-based writing, refining thesis development, and incorporating MLA/APA citation styles. Students will also work on synthesizing information from multiple sources, participate in formal debates, and enhance their fluency and accuracy in academic discussions.



Grade 11

In Grade 11, students engage with global and multicultural texts, connecting themes to real-world issues and personal perspectives. Achievements in the first term include producing critical essays with well-supported arguments, analyzing narrative structure and author's purpose, and engaging in peer reviews to improve clarity and coherence in writing. Students have also practiced note-taking and summarizing key ideas from lectures and readings. In line with international standards and the CEFR B2-C1 range, goals for the upcoming term focus on preparing students for high-stakes assessments like national ICFES and international exams (TOEFL, IELTS), as well as enhancing their ability to write reflective and comparative essays. Oral communication will also be a priority, with emphasis on persuasive speaking and academic discourse in collaborative settings.



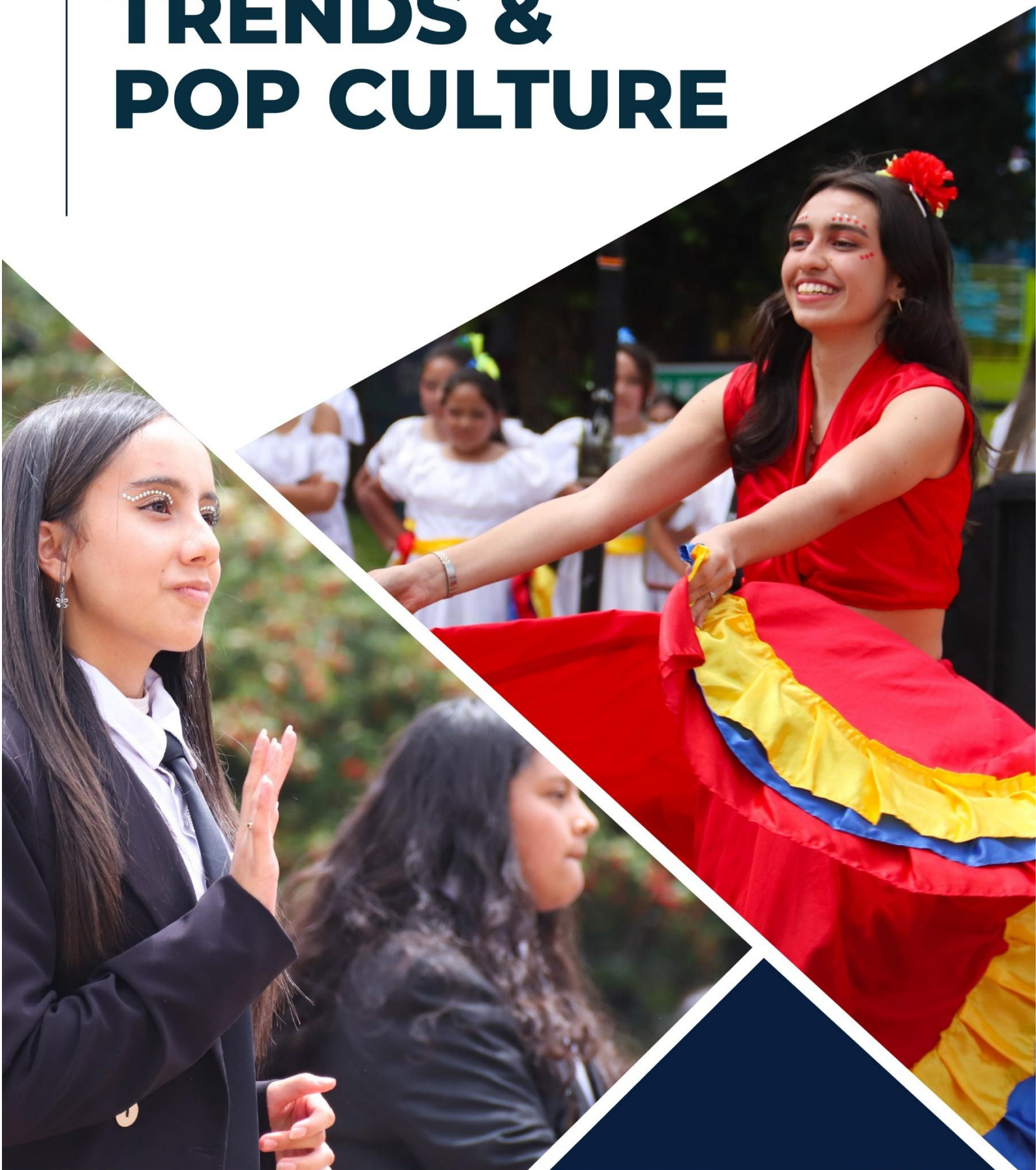
Grade 12

Grade 12 marks the culmination of students' English language education, aiming to solidify advanced language proficiency and prepare them for academic and professional settings. In the first term, students have successfully demonstrated the ability to write extended essays, conduct independent research, and present findings in structured oral and written formats. They have shown proficiency in analyzing complex literary and non-literary texts, evaluating arguments, and integrating critical perspectives. Aligned with national goals (ICFES Saber 11) and international standards (CEFR C1, Cambridge AS/A-Level expectations), the goals for the final term include mastering academic writing across disciplines, polishing formal presentation skills, and synthesizing ideas across multiple texts. Students will also be encouraged to reflect on their language journey and prepare portfolios or capstone projects highlighting their progress and competencies in English.



SANTO DOMINGO BILINGUAL SCHOOL

TRENDS & POP CULTURE



Trends and Pop Culture in Colombia: A Vibrant Fusion of Tradition and Modernity.

Colombia is a country known for its rich cultural heritage, vibrant music, stunning landscapes, and warm people. Over the years, Colombian trends and pop culture have evolved, blending traditional elements with modern influences from around the globe. From music and fashion to social media and entertainment, the country's pop culture reflects a dynamic fusion of history, creativity, and innovation that continues to shape the identity of its people, especially the youth.



The Rise of Reggaeton and Latin Music

One of the most significant trends in Colombia's pop culture is the global rise of reggaeton and other Latin music genres. Colombian artists such as **J Balvin**, **Maluma**, and **Karol G** have helped bring reggaeton to the international stage, shaping the global music landscape. Their music is a blend of reggaeton, pop, and trap, capturing the energy and rhythm of Colombian culture. These artists not only represent Colombia but also push the boundaries of Latin music, becoming international stars and influencing youth culture worldwide.

In addition to reggaeton, Colombia is home to other genres that shape the cultural scene. **Cumbia**, **Vallenato**, and **Salsa** remain deeply rooted in the country's music traditions, often fused with modern styles to create exciting new sounds. Colombia's **Carlos Vives** and **Shakira** have also played key roles in merging traditional Colombian music with global pop trends, furthering the country's influence in the music industry.

Fashion and Streetwear Influence

Fashion in Colombia has undergone a major transformation, with a growing influence of streetwear and global fashion trends. In major cities like Bogotá and Medellín, young Colombians are embracing bold and trendy styles. The rise of international brands like **Supreme**, **Nike**, and **Adidas** has made street fashion an important part of urban youth culture. Many Colombian influencers and fashion designers are now taking the lead, showcasing Colombian talent on global platforms and blending local aesthetics with international trends.

Colombian designers such as **Esteban Cortázar** and **Johanna Ortiz** have achieved international acclaim, bringing Colombian fashion into the spotlight. Their collections often reflect the country's natural beauty, blending modern sophistication with traditional craftsmanship.



The Power of Social Media and Influencers

Social media plays a massive role in shaping Colombian pop culture. Platforms like **Instagram**, **TikTok**, and **YouTube** are where young Colombians express themselves, connect with others, and stay updated on the latest trends. Influencers such as **Luisa Fernanda W** and **Greeicy Rendón** have millions of followers, sharing everything from fashion tips and beauty routines to lifestyle content and music updates. These influencers have become important cultural figures, setting trends and influencing the choices of the younger generation.

The use of social media also extends to activism and social issues. Many Colombian influencers use their platforms to raise awareness about important topics such as mental health, women's rights, and social justice. This trend has helped bring attention to Colombia's vibrant youth culture and its growing influence on global conversations.

TV, Film, and Streaming Services

Television and film continue to be essential parts of Colombian pop culture, with an increasing presence in the global entertainment industry. Colombian telenovelas, or soap operas, have a long history of success across Latin America and beyond. More recently, Colombian content has seen a surge in popularity on international streaming platforms like **Netflix** and **Amazon Prime**, with shows like "**Narcos**" and "**The Queen of Flow**" gaining worldwide attention.

Additionally, Colombian cinema is gaining recognition at international film festivals, showcasing the country's growing film industry. Films such as "**Embrace of the Serpent**" and "**Birds of Passage**" highlight Colombia's unique storytelling traditions and its potential as a powerhouse in global cinema.

Colombian pop culture is a dynamic blend of tradition and innovation, drawing from its rich heritage while embracing the influence of global trends. From the global success of reggaeton to the rise of street fashion and the growing influence of social media influencers, Colombia's cultural scene continues to thrive, shaping both national identity and global conversations. As the country evolves, its cultural trends will likely continue to captivate and inspire audiences worldwide, contributing to Colombia's ever-expanding presence on the global stage.



Upcoming Trends and Pop Culture Events in Bogotá for May 2025: A Guide for Youth, Teens, and Families.

Upcoming Trends and Pop Culture Events in Bogotá for May 2025: A Guide for Youth, Teens, and Families

Bogotá, Colombia's vibrant capital, is a cultural hub brimming with exciting events and activities throughout the year. May 2025 promises a packed calendar of events for youth, teens, and families looking to immerse themselves in the latest trends and pop culture. From music festivals to art exhibitions, here are some of the most anticipated happenings for the younger generation and families alike.

1. Bogotá Music Festival: A Celebration of Youth and Global Sounds

Music is an integral part of Bogotá's pop culture scene, and the **Bogotá Music Festival**, held every May, is expected to be one of the biggest events for young people in 2025. The festival will feature an eclectic mix of local and international artists, with genres ranging from **reggaeton** and **urban music** to **alternative rock** and **indie pop**. Expect performances from Colombian superstars like **J Balvin**, **Karol G**, and emerging artists who represent the pulse of youth culture.

For families, the festival also provides opportunities for cultural exchange and collaboration, as the event often includes music workshops, youth talent showcases, and family-friendly performances.

2. Bogotá International Book Fair (FILBo)

For families and teens who love to read or are looking to explore the literary world, the **Bogotá International Book Fair (FILBo)** is an event not to be missed. Scheduled to take place from April 29 to May 10, 2025, this renowned fair attracts authors, publishers, and book enthusiasts from around the world. Young readers can attend book signings, writing workshops, and panels featuring both local Colombian authors and international literary figures.

The fair is also an excellent opportunity for teens to engage in discussions about emerging trends in literature, such as **graphic novels**, **young adult fiction**, and **digital storytelling**. It is an event where the younger generation can connect with the world of literature in a fun and interactive way.



3. Youth Fashion and Street Culture Expo

Bogotá's youth are known for their cutting-edge fashion and style, often blending **streetwear, indigenous influences**, and global trends. In May 2025, the **Youth Fashion and Street Culture Expo** will showcase the latest in fashion, music, and art, providing a platform for young designers, influencers, and artists. This event celebrates the creativity of Bogotá's youth and serves as a space for them to express themselves through fashion, photography, and live music.

Teens will especially enjoy the opportunity to interact with local influencers and explore the latest trends in fashion and pop culture. For families, the expo offers a unique opportunity to witness how the younger generation is shaping the future of fashion in Bogotá.

4. Outdoor Movie Nights and Family Events at Simón Bolívar Park

For families looking for a more relaxed and accessible pop culture experience, Bogotá's **Simón Bolívar Park** will host outdoor movie nights throughout May 2025. These events feature screenings of family-friendly films, popular teen movies, and iconic classics under the stars. The open-air setting offers an ideal environment for families to bond over cinema while enjoying Bogotá's beautiful weather.

Movies like "**Encanto**", "**Spider-Man**", and popular teen films will be featured, creating a shared experience for both young children and teens. It is an opportunity for families to embrace the magic of cinema in a unique and relaxed atmosphere.

5. Comic Con Bogotá

For teens and families with a love for pop culture, **Comic Con Bogotá** is set to return in May 2025. This massive event brings together fans of comics, video games, movies, and anime, creating an immersive experience for fans of all ages. Attendees

can expect to meet their favorite characters, participate in cosplay contests, and engage in workshops focused on animation, game development, and graphic design.

Teens and young adults can enjoy panels and meet-and-greets with popular YouTubers, content creators, and influencers. For families, there are kid-friendly activities, superhero shows, and interactive games that make this event fun for all ages.

May 2025 is set to be an exciting month for young people, teens, and families in Bogotá. Whether you are into music, literature, fashion, or pop culture, the city offers a variety of events that celebrate creativity, diversity, and the latest trends. From the Bogotá Music Festival to FILBo, Comic Con, and outdoor movie nights, there is something for everyone to enjoy and experience the vibrant pulse of Bogotá's youth culture.



SANTO DOMINGO BILINGUAL SCHOOL

OPINION & DEBATE



Opinion & Debate: Empowering School Students in Colombia (2025).

In 2025, the importance of opinion and debate among school students in Colombia is more crucial than ever. In a rapidly changing world where communication and critical thinking are key skills, engaging in debates allows students to not only form their own opinions but also express them confidently and constructively. This process is not just about winning an argument, but about learning to listen, think critically, and communicate effectively—skills that will serve students well both inside and outside the classroom.

Debate encourages students to look at issues from multiple perspectives. In Colombia, where social, political, and economic issues are constantly evolving, it is essential for young people to engage in discussions about the world around them. Topics like environmental sustainability, social justice, education reform, and technology are highly relevant in the context of Colombia's growth. By debating such topics, students can understand diverse viewpoints, refine their own thoughts, and develop empathy for others' opinions.

Furthermore, debate nurtures essential life skills like public speaking, active listening, and logical reasoning. When students present their opinions, they must organize their thoughts, gather evidence, and articulate their points in a clear and persuasive manner. This process builds confidence and prepares them for future academic and professional challenges. In a globalized world, the ability to communicate effectively is a key asset, and debate helps students hone this skill from an early age.

In addition, engaging in debates fosters a sense of civic responsibility. As students become more informed about social and political issues, they develop an awareness of their role as active participants in society. Debate provides a platform for students to discuss ideas that are important to them and to others, which in turn cultivates leadership and teamwork skills. It also instills in them the value of respectful disagreement—understanding that differing opinions do not have to lead to conflict but can instead foster healthy, productive conversations.

For schools in Colombia, fostering a culture of opinion and debate is more than just an educational tool—it is a way of preparing future leaders who are informed, thoughtful, and able to contribute meaningfully to society. By encouraging students to speak up, listen carefully, and engage in respectful dialogue, we are empowering them to be critical thinkers and responsible global citizens.

Opinions and debates are essential in shaping the leaders of tomorrow. By embracing these activities, students in Colombia can develop their voices, engage with current issues, and prepare for the challenges of the future.

Should Colombia prioritize environmental conservation over economic development?

In Colombia today, the balance between environmental conservation and economic development is a pressing issue. As a country rich in natural resources and biodiversity, Colombia faces the challenge of managing its economic growth while ensuring the protection of its ecosystems. This topic invites students to explore the importance of preserving Colombia's natural heritage and the potential consequences of neglecting environmental sustainability in the pursuit of economic progress.

On one side of the debate, proponents of prioritizing economic development argue that Colombia needs to boost its economy to address poverty, create jobs, and improve living standards. With industries such as mining, agriculture, and oil extraction playing a significant role in the country's economy, they believe that economic growth is essential for the nation's overall progress and prosperity.

On the other hand, those who advocate for environmental conservation argue that protecting Colombia's unique ecosystems is not only crucial for maintaining biodiversity but also for the long-term well-being of the country's population. They emphasize that over-exploitation of natural resources can lead to irreversible damage, such as deforestation, pollution, and climate change, which will ultimately undermine Colombia's economic stability in the future.

This debate challenges students to consider how Colombia can strike a balance between these two critical concerns. Should the country focus more on protecting its environment to ensure a sustainable future, or should it prioritize economic growth to meet immediate developmental needs? Engaging in this discussion encourages students to think critically about the long-term implications of both choices and to reflect on the role of responsible leadership in shaping the country's future.

Ultimately, this topic serves as a reminder that the decisions made today will shape the lives of future generations, making it a crucial issue for students to debate and understand.



Thank You for Reading Our First Online School Magazine!

Dear Readers,

On behalf of the entire team, we want to extend a heartfelt thank you for reading the first edition of our online school magazine. It has been an exciting journey for all of us, from students to teachers, as we worked together to bring this magazine to life. We hope that you enjoyed reading it as much as we enjoyed creating it. Your support means the world to us, and we are incredibly grateful for the opportunity to share our stories, experiences, and ideas with you.

This magazine has been a labor of love, with contributions from various members of our school community. From thought-provoking articles to creative projects, it is a reflection of the vibrant spirit of our students and teachers at Colegio Santo Domingo Bilingüe. It is more than just a collection of words and images; it is a testament to the talent, passion, and hard work that defines our school. Whether it was exploring relevant school events, engaging in important debates, or showcasing artistic expressions, each piece was created with the aim of highlighting what makes our school community unique.

As this first edition wraps up, we are already looking ahead to our next issue. We're excited to continue this journey of self-expression, creativity, and collaboration. We have many more exciting ideas in the works, and we can't wait to share them with you. Our next edition promises to be even better, filled with more insightful articles, inspiring stories, and fresh perspectives from the students, teachers, and staff who make our school so special.

We encourage you to keep sending us your ideas, feedback, and contributions. This magazine is for you, and your voice matters! Whether it is an opinion piece, an interview, or a photo story, we welcome all forms of creativity and expression. Your participation is what makes this magazine truly reflective of our school community.

In closing, we want to express our deepest appreciation once again for your time and support. We hope this magazine has inspired you, entertained you, and perhaps even sparked some new ideas. Thank you for being part of this exciting new chapter in our school's story, and we look forward to bringing you even more exciting content in the next edition!

With gratitude and anticipation,
The Editorial Team of In the Kennedy location Colegio Santo Domingo Bilingüe

Contact us

Thank you for engaging with our online magazine. We strive to foster an intellectually stimulating environment where diverse perspectives are welcomed and explored. Your thoughts, ideas, and critiques are not only appreciated but vital to the ongoing evolution of our platform. Please feel free to contact us at globalvoices@colegiosantodomingo.edu.co with any comments, suggestions, or reflections you wish to share—we welcome your voice in this dialogue.



EduPage

We encourage all students to actively participate by completing the assigned questions and surveys in Edupage. Your input plays a crucial role in shaping a more effective and responsive learning environment. By taking a few moments to share your thoughts and feedback, you contribute meaningfully to the ongoing improvement of our educational experience. Please log in to Edupage and complete the tasks at your earliest convenience—your voice matters.

