



## LANGUAGE IN JUNIOR SCHOOL

### **The Power of Hello. Teaching Young Children to Greet the World**

**In the Prep and Kindergarten classrooms, every small lesson can have a big impact.**

One of the simplest yet most meaningful lessons we can teach young children is how to say "hello" in different languages. This small word holds great power— it opens doors to new friendships, fosters inclusivity, and nurtures curiosity about the world.

When children learn how to say hello in multiple languages, they gain an early appreciation for diversity. Young learners who speak languages other than English feel seen and valued when they hear familiar words in the classroom.





Introducing children to words from different languages helps them understand that the world is full of unique cultures, traditions, and ways of communicating. Saying “hola,” “bonjour,” or “ni hao” sparks their curiosity and encourages them to ask questions about different countries and people. These early experiences with languages build the foundation for cultural understanding and empathy.

Greeting others is one of the first steps in forming connections. When children learn and practise saying hello in different languages, they develop confidence in communicating with others. They also learn that language is a bridge that connects people, no matter where they come from.

By teaching our youngest learners the simple act of saying hello in multiple languages, we are planting the seeds of kindness, inclusion, and global awareness. We are inspiring them to continue exploring new languages and embracing different cultures.

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