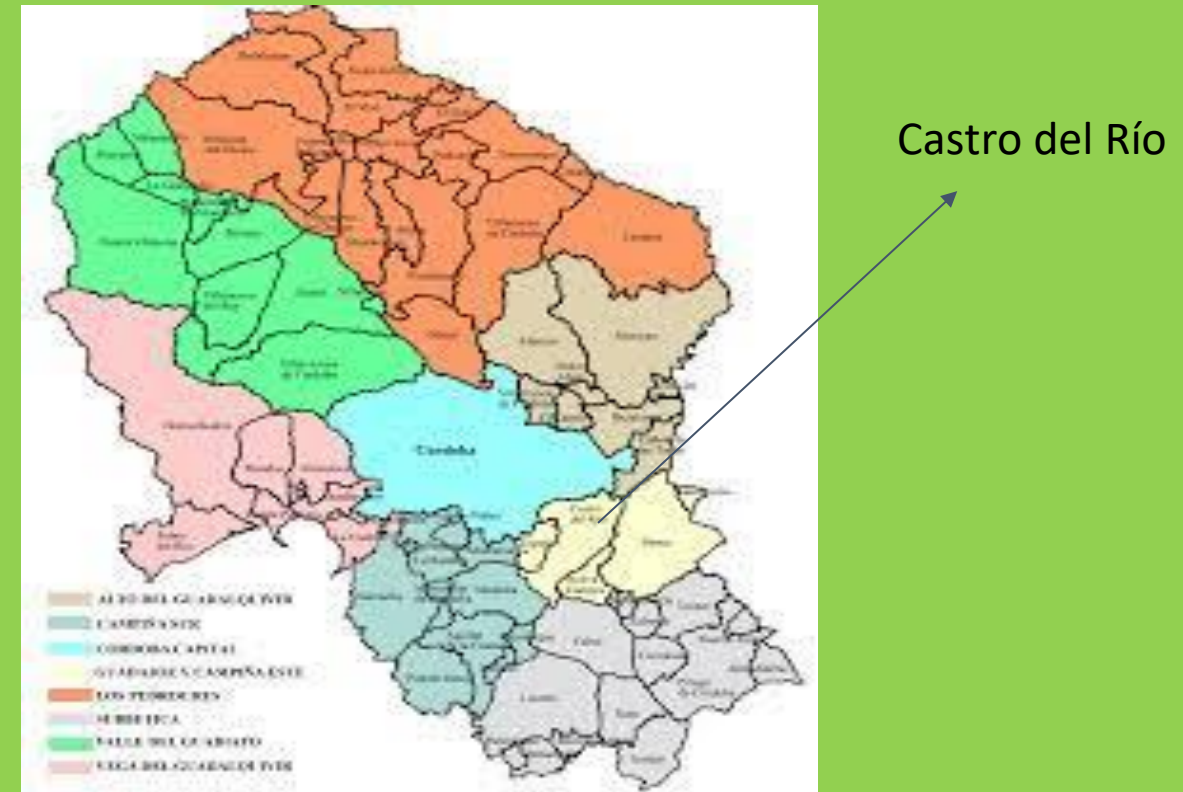


CEIP VIRGEN DE LA SALUD

CASTRO DEL RÍO,
CÓRDOBA, SPAIN



Castro del Río is a town in the province of Córdoba (Andalucía). It is situated in the southeast of Spain.



It is devoted to the cultivation of cereals and olives and its irrigable land are crossed by the river Guadajoz, the río are referred to in the village's name.





This is our school.



Our playground



Our classroom



CHRISTMAS TRADITIONS IN SPAIN

One of the most exciting Spanish Christmas traditions is playing the lottery. It takes place on December 22. The winning numbers are sung out by school children.



Our homes are decorated with Nativity scenes, called *belenes*, they are very typical in Spain. Although they come in all shapes and sizes, the nativity scene always includes figurines of at least Mary, Joseph, baby Jesus, and the three kings, Baltasar, Melchior and Gaspar.



Seafood and ham (jamón) play a big part in a Spanish Christmas meal.





Nochevieja, is the term used for New Year's Eve in Spain. Just before the clock hits midnight, we eat 12 green grapes, one for every strike of the clock. If you manage to eat the twelve grapes in the 12 strikes before midnight, you are guaranteed good fortune for the New Year.

They are “The Three Kings or the Three Wise Men” (known as Reyes Magos – Melchior, Gaspar and Baltazar) who bring the gifts to good children at Christmas time. We leave out our shoes for the Kings to fill with gifts during the night. They come 6th January.



Christmas cake is one of the favourite Spanish Christmas foods, but in Spain, they don't enjoy it until Epiphany on January 6th, to celebrate the arrival of the Three Wise Men in Bethlehem. On this holy day, they bake the Roscón de Reyes, a sweet bread-like cake, filled with whipped cream and topped with candied fruits and crushed almonds.



**!!FELIZ NAVIDAD!!
CHRISTMAS!!**

MERRY

Wishing you and your
family health, happiness,
peace and prosperity this
Christmas and in the
coming New Year.

