

MFL NEWSLETTER

Honiton Community College • March 2022 • Issue 5

Welcome

hello!

shalom!

hola!

salut!

welkom!

namaste!

bienvenidos!

ciao!



French immersion day in London

MFL CLUB – YEARS 7+8 - THURSDAYS - 1.20-1.50pm

MARCH

03.03.22 – C2:
Pancake making - £1

10.03.22 - L4:
Learn about unique
Spring traditions
around the world.

17.03.22 – L4:
Celebrate St Patrick's
day. Learn Irish, listen
to Celtic music and
wear something
green!

24.03.22 – C3:
French culture escape
room (online)

31.03.22 – Guest
speaker Mrs Hay

APRIL

07.04.22 - L4:
Learn about unique
Easter traditions
around the world.
Make cards, learn
greetings, eat
chocolate and take
part in an
Easter Egg treasure
hunt or game of
Easter Cluedo.

28.04.22 - L4:
Guest speaker Mr
Woodward.

MAY

05.05.22 - L4:
Short French Film(s)

12.05.22 – L4:
Quiz

19.05.22 – L4:
Escape Room

26.05.22 – L4:
Guest speaker Mrs
Jefferies

Welcome to the fifth edition of the HCC MFL Newsletter! We hope to add to your language learning experience by celebrating student success, promoting language skills, and keeping you up to date with events and activities in the languages department. The Newsletter is written by some of our very talented Language Leaders, as well as MFL teachers.

Tales of Governor Travels

Governor Debbie Stuart interviewed by Amdusia Gregory (Language Leader, year 11)



Again, I experienced huge generosity from local people and learnt so much about their culture. One of my student's Father had 7 wives and another had 4 wives which I found intriguing. One of the year 8's was 17 years old and was a second wife herself!

Do you speak another language?

I speak French [studied to GCSE level equivalent] and waitressed in a French restaurant in the South of France in July and August [after A-levels and after first year of University] for 2 months each time. I spoke French all the time and worked 10 hour + days but really enjoyed it, and particularly love French food. I also started to learn Spanish 25 years ago at Night School and again spent 2 summers in Ecuador working a little and exploring the country for 6 weeks each time on a very limited budget, another fantastic experience

Have you ever lived abroad? How long for? Where?

I worked in Kenya, for 3 and a half years, teaching Science and Maths at a local Mission school in the Bush, surrounded by mud houses. Our electricity was via a generator for 2 hours at 7.00pm each evening. You had to make sure the gas lamps were lit before the generator was turned off and darkness swallowed everything, and we didn't have a fridge. I learnt a bit of Luo, the local dialect which I found really useful as I used it in locally and even down in Mombasa. People appreciated you making the effort. I also tried to learn a bit of Swahili but was less successful.

Do you often travel to other countries for holidays? If so, which ones?

If possible, we travel to France on holiday or Spain and try to speak the language. We speak English at home.

What is your favourite foreign country and why?

My favourite foreign country is Ecuador. We sat in a swimming pool heated by thermal springs surrounded by mountains with snow on their peaks. I also sat on the roof of a train for 5 hours going up a mountain called the Devils Nose [and got very sunburnt]

What is your favourite foreign food/drink?

I love Mousse au chocolat [French] and a Spanish drink called Horchata. [I first drank that while au-pairing in Menorca as a Sixteen-year-old]

Have you ever been surprised by a cultural difference?

My brother lived in Beijing for 18 years and I went out twice to visit. I learnt a few simple phrases, greetings and counting to ten which I found helpful as very few people spoke English. I was surprised to learn that he had to marry his wife **before** she gave birth to my niece, otherwise she would not have been allowed in the hospital to have the baby.

Learning languages keeps your brain active and opens so many doors to exciting experiences in other countries. My language skills are quite limited, but I always have a go. One day in France I couldn't remember the name for squid/octopus, the speciality that night at the restaurant and described it as a fish with many legs-much to the hilarity of the French family I was serving! Always have a go.



South of France



Ecuador



Kenya



Menorca



The Great Wall of China, Beijing

Le Printemps!

Mars en France

Le Printemps is the word to describe the beautiful season of spring. Le Printemps is a great time of renaissance, (another French word meaning "rebirth").

Officially spring starts on the 21st March and ends on 20th June, however Meteorologists often say March 1st is spring and ends on 31 May.

With Spring in France comes the festivities of Easter, (Pâques), as well as many other public holidays; May Day, The Ascension, Pentecost and the famous film festival of Cannes.

March is a fantastic time for visiting France. Although it can still be cold, it is also the time when more hotels, museums and markets start to open, but with cheaper rates. It's a great time to beat all the summer crowds.



By Poppy Gryman Y8

All About St Patrick's Day!

March 17th

March 17th marks the anniversary of the death of St. Patrick in the 5th century.

This day in history goes back 1,500 years and commemorates Saint Patrick and the arrival of Christianity in Ireland and celebrates the heritage and culture of the Irish. Many public parades and festivals, Ceilis, take place and the wearing of green clothes or shamrocks is common. The name Shamrock comes from Irish seamróg, which simply means 'young clover'.

St Patrick's Day is the start of spring in Ireland, and traditional foods eaten on St Patrick's day are lamb stew and chicken and leek pie. Children often bake soda bread, cinnamon biscuits and enjoy local festivities.



By Poppy Gryman Y8

St Patrick's Day Vocabulary



On account of conquest, commerce, and immigration over hundreds of years, English and Gaelic have mingled and intertwined. From all this contact, a set of curious and often cheeky vocabulary has found its way into the English vernacular.

<https://www.mentalfloss.com/article/62177/10-gaelic-loanwords-celebrate-st-patricks-day>



1. Banshee

This mythical female spirit is an omen of death in Irish folklore. To "howl like a Banshee" is to induce the same legendary spine-tingling terror. *Banshee* is a compound that correlates to the modern Irish for woman (*bean*) and fairy (*sídh*).

2. Brogue

Derived from the Gaelic word for shoe, this noun in English today has two meanings. The first, used to describe a fashion of perforated leather shoes, recalls the style employed by Gaels to allow water to drain out of their shoes while traversing soggy bogs. The second, slang for an Irish or Scottish accent, is assumedly derived from the former.

3. Galore

When typical quantity descriptors just don't quite cut it, the Irish /Gaelic phrase *go leor* literally translates as "to sufficiency." *Ceart go leor* remains a common response in modern Irish meaning "alright" or "good enough."

4. Gob

The common English term *gobble* derives from this noun meaning "mouth," or literally, "beak."

5. Hooligan

A term for a participant in rowdy, raucous behavior, this term derives from the Gaelic surname Ó hUallacháin (anglicized as O'Houlihan).

6. Slew

Irish is not shortchanged of ways to describe plenty. This one comes from the Irish *sluagh*, meaning "multitude."

7. Slogan

Sluagh injects itself into English yet again with this term, deriving from *sluagh-ghairm*, the battle-cry of an amassed army. The first English attestation of its modern usage dates back to 1704.

8. Smithereens

As in "blasted into smithereens," the root-word "smithers" may have been loaned from English. However, the original *smidiríní* carries a classically Irish diminutive suffix. If the original root-word was in fact English, this term has thus traveled full-circle.

9. Smidgen

Possibly related to smithereens, we take this term from the Gaelic *smidean/smidirin*, or "a very small amount." A phrase more commonly heard at a bar than on a battlefield.

10. Trousers

Trousers comes from *triubhas*, which means "close-fitting shorts."

11. Whiskey (or Whisky)

The word for this beloved drink is derived from *uisce beatha*, which translates literally as "the water of life."

Quick Revision Tip

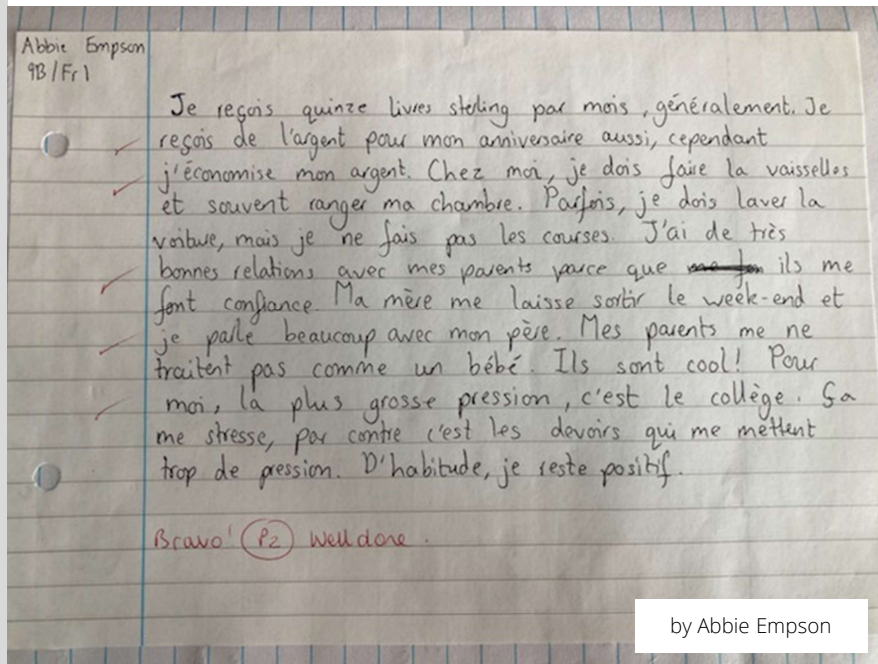
Remember to say what you liked/disliked about a particular topic and include why this was case – for instance if you disliked your holiday to Spain last summer was it because the weather was too hot? Giving and justifying opinions helps boost your grade.

Why Learn a Language?

Travel becomes cheaper and easier when you learn a foreign language

It's 10 p.m. You just got off a 14-hour flight and all you want to do is fall face-first into your pillow. If you are solely armed with a smattering of navigational terms in the local language, finding your place to crash could turn into a painfully slow process. Without the right lingo, you are limited to expensive or slower options. So you save yourself some time, money, and grief when you learn a foreign language. Just as a few key phrases will make transportation that much faster and cheaper, and the same is true for choosing a place to stay. This means lower rates and a better (even more authentic) experience.

Student work



In her end of unit assessment, Abbie Empson (year 9) excelled herself producing a GCSE quality piece of work without any help or support.

Well done Abbie!

(email answers to MTH for a P1. Earn a P2 if all answers are correct)



1. What is France's motto?
2. What was France's currency before the euro?
3. What is the name of the French national anthem?
4. France is home to the world's largest museum. Which one is it?
5. When is Bastille Day?
6. Who famously said "How can you govern a country which has two hundred and forty-six varieties of cheese?"
7. What colours can you find on the French flag?
8. Who was the president of France in 2020?
9. In which French race would you find someone referred to as the "Maillot Jaune"?
10. Which city was the capital of France from 1417 to 1422?

by Isabelle Pollard (yr 8)

"C'était tres intéressant et agréable"
Jess

"C'était une journée très amusante"
Evie

"c'était amusant et excitant"
Dominic

"Le voyage était incroyable!"
Katie

"J'ai appris beaucoup de phrases différentes"
Maicey

C'était super parce que j'ai beaucoup appris"
Oriana

"J'ai vraiment appréciée, merci".
Alex

"c'était fabuleux"
Fleur

"C'était une bonne expérience"
Kyle



French Immersion Day

"Le récent voyage à Londres était incroyable. On a commence la journée à cinq heures du matin. On a commencé très tôt le matin. Le trajet a duré environ 4 heures et la plupart des gens ont dormi pendant le voyage. Nous sommes arrivés à dix heures et on est partis à l'école internationale de Londres. Nous y sommes restés 4 heures. Nous avons fait une leçon de grammaire et une leçon sur Stromae. Après 2 leçons, nous avons pu faire du shopping à South Kensington. Et après une longue journée très amusante, nous sommes finalement rentrés à la maison vers 10 heures du soir."

"The recent trip to London was incredible. We started the day at 5am. We started very early in the morning. The journey lasted about 4 hours and most people slept during the journey. We arrived at 10am and we went to the International School in London and we stayed there 4 hours. We did a grammar lesson and a lesson on Stromae. After two lessons, we could go shopping in South Kensington. And after a long and very fun day, we finally returned home around 10pm."

(written by Ciara Tiach, year 10)

MARCH MFL COMPETITION

MFL BAKE OFF!



This is a competition for all students and staff on Friday 25th March 2022!

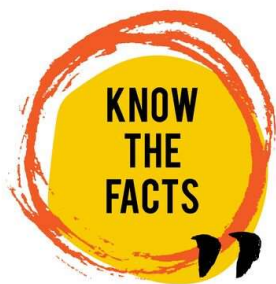
To enter this optional competition, students and staff must decorate a cake with a design based around a European country or language.

Cakes must be dropped off in the MFL department before tutor time. Cakes will be judged at break followed by a Great MFL Cake Sale at lunchtime with all proceeds given to a charity.

If you have any questions, please contact your MFL teacher.

DID YOU KNOW?

- France Is the Most-Visited Country in the World.
- France Is Smaller Than Texas.
- France Has the Largest Art Museum.
- The French Eat 25,000 Tons of Snails Each Year.
- France Produces Over 1,500 Types of Cheese.
- Supermarkets in France Can't Throw Away Food.
- France Had a King – That Lasted Only 20 Minutes.
- The French army invented camouflage
- It's unlucky to turn a baguette upside down
- The Tour de France is more than 100 years old
- The French drink over 11 million glasses of wine each year



MFL TALENT FESTIVAL

**Friday
29th of
April**

Lunch time
in the drama hall

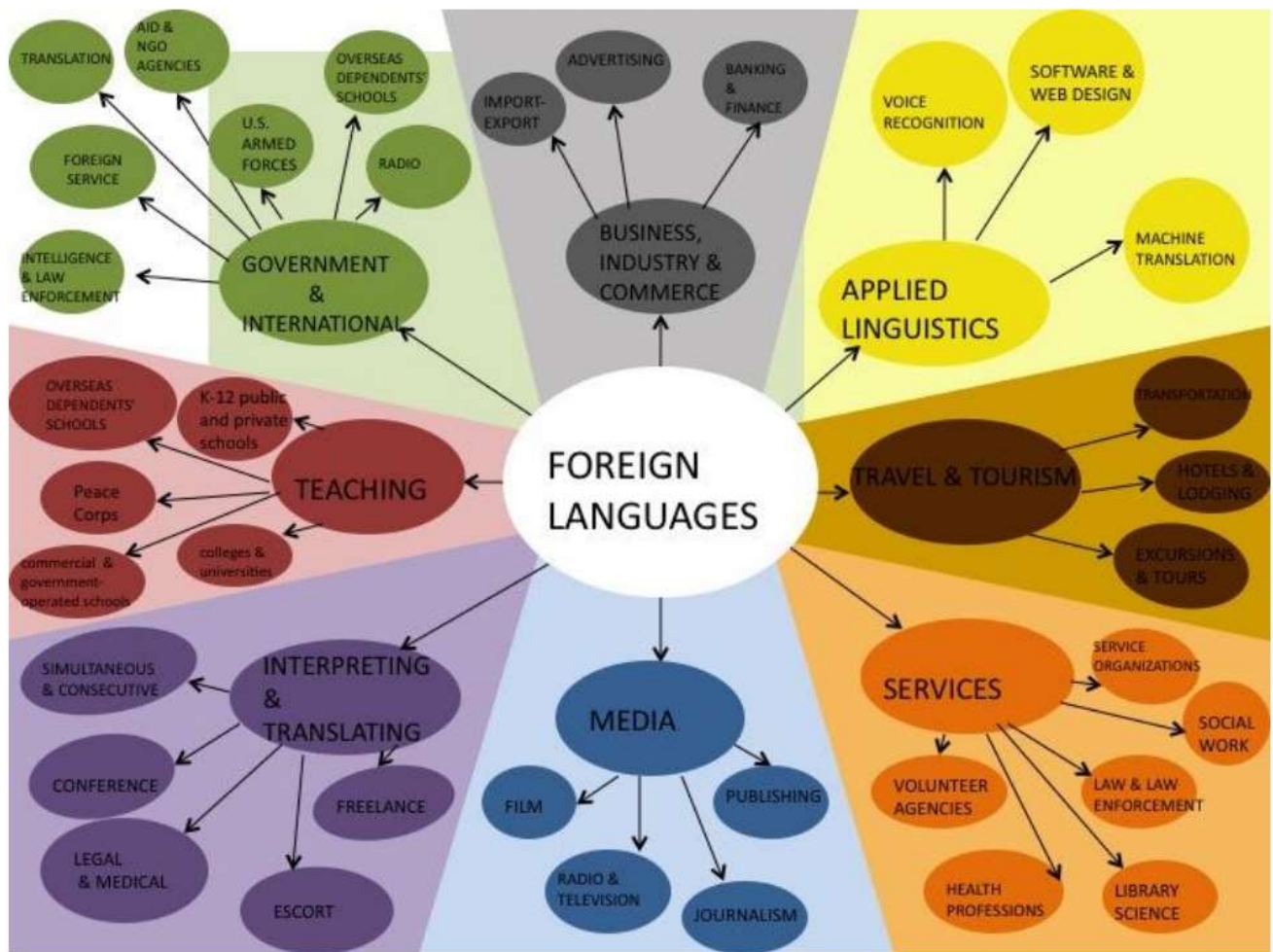
**To enter email
Mrs Theeten for
a Application
form, deadline for
application form
is Monday 28th of
March**

**50p ADMISSION
+ free food**

***All the years are welcome to enter and
come and watch***

You could perform an international dance number, an international rap/song/poem, play a piece of music composed by a foreign composer, showcase photography skills of time spent abroad etc.

MFL CAREER OPTIONS



Student Voice



Anya Gilbert – year 11

"I chose to study a language because I think it is a very useful skill to have. I also want to travel around Europe when I'm older and having the base knowledge of a language could be very helpful.

I enjoy feeling that I know stuff when I'm learning a language, like that moment where it clicks.

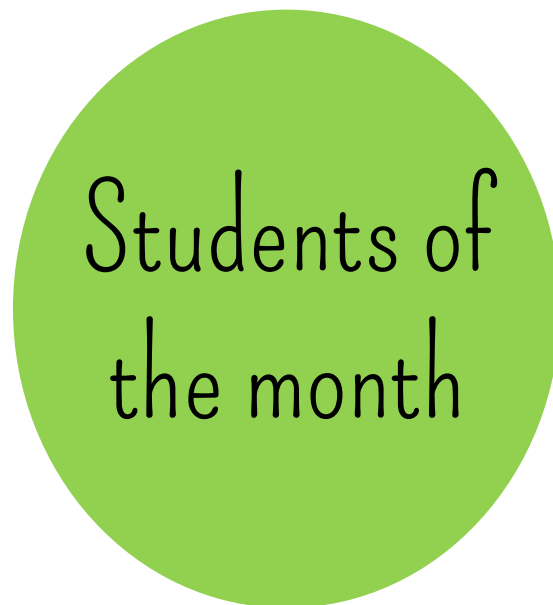
I rely on Flashcards a lot as I find making them is good revision and then I can get my family to test me on them."

MFL Spelling Bee



Congratulations to the following year 7 students who have made it through to the second stage of the MFL Spelling Bee. They will compete at a whole school level before the top performing students will be selected to compete at a regional level.

Aston Prinsloo
Harry Simmons
Caleb McEvoy
Kiera Catley
Elouise Outram
Joshua Lane
Niamh Storey
Luke O'Toole
Lily Ives
Reese Lauren Tacbas
Scarlett Shepherd
Alfie Hancock
Edward Newcombe
Millie Nex
Sophie Watts
Faith Nelson
Blake Neely
Oscar Michielen
Beau Lancaster



Congratulations to the following students who have been nominated by their MFL teachers as outstanding students of the month.

Well done for all their hard work and effort!

Year 7 – Hailie-Brooke Davenport

Year 8 – Nicole Maleshinov Iva

Year 9 – Abbie Empson

Year 10 – Harry Kent

Year 11 – Tom Burroughs

If you would like take part in the production of the newsletter, then we would welcome your involvement. Speak to MTH to find out more.