

MFL NEWSLETTER

Honiton Community College • April 2022 • Issue 6

Welcome



Welcome to the sixth 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.



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

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

JUNE

09.06.22 - L4:
Board Games

16.06.22 - L4:
French Food taster session - £1 sign up with MTH in advance (last sign-up date Mon 13th June)

23.06.22 - L4:
Learn about French artists and painters – learn how to imitate their technique

30.06.22 - L4:
Guest speaker Mrs Hay

Tales of Teacher Travels

*Dr Murch
interviewed
by Amduscia
Gregory (Language
Leader, year 11)*



When on holiday abroad, do you make the effort to speak a few words in the language?

Yes, I always learn how to say "please" "thank you" and "hello" if nothing else..

Do you feel this effort makes a difference?

Definitely. People appreciate you trying, and you can go surprisingly far on a few words

Have you ever been surprised by a cultural difference?

Not really. I find people are people wherever you go

Do you speak another language?

I speak French (badly!)

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

Unfortunately not.

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

I have been to the USA, Canada, Russia, France, Ireland, Spain, Portugal, Belgium, the Netherlands, Germany, Italy, Turkey, Greek Islands, Canary Islands, Monaco, Corsica and Sardinia.

Do you speak another language at home?

I practice my French. I have a Belgian sister-in-law who helps me.

What is your favourite foreign country and why?

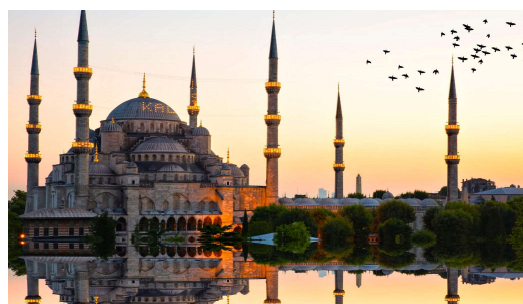
That's really hard to answer. They all offer different experiences. Maybe Corsica/ France because of the history and links with my family.

What is your favourite foreign food/drink?

Favourite food is Borek, a Turkish starter that I always choose if it's on offer. No favourite drink.



Portugal



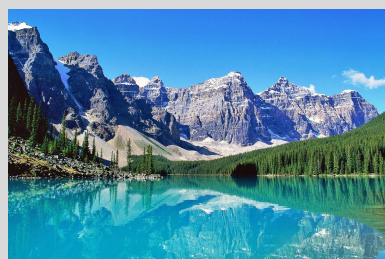
Turkey



Corsica



USA



Canada



Russia



France



Ireland



Spain

Joyeuses Pâques!

In France, Easter weekend is an important weekend. A religious one but also a traditional gathering for families, who enjoy Easter feasting and festivities, much like in the UK.

Good Friday, however, is generally NOT celebrated in France. It is part of the Holy week of Easter and commemorates the sacrifices Jesus-Christ made and his crucifixion at Calvary some 2,000 years ago.

In France, the religious holiday is referred to as 'Vendredi Saint' (Holy Friday), and is not a public holiday, except in the northeastern provinces, Alsace and Moselle. They had been days off when the territory was under German rule and when it returned to France in 1918, the locals refused to give them up.

Easter Sunday in France is a time for many Christians to celebrate Jesus-Christ's resurrection. People may attend special church services, eat a festive meal and search for Easter eggs.



By Poppy Gryman Y8

Les Traditions de Pâques!

Legend has it that on Good Friday, the bells of every church in France fly to Rome. They carry with them the grief of those who mourn Jesus's crucifixion on that day. In keeping with the tradition, French church bells do not ring from Good Friday to Easter Sunday morning when the bells are said to return.

Similar to the UK, classic Easter foods, could be herby roasted lamb, served with gratin Dauphinois, or navarin d'agneau, (lamb stew).

Pate de Paques de Limousin, is a dish of modest origins that uses ingredients symbolizing new life and a fresh growth - young spinach and nettles. This is usually a more rural dish at Easter in France. The leaves are cooked down, added to cream and encased in pastry with hard boiled eggs.

By Poppy Gryman Y8

French Easter Vocabulary



“Pâques” (Easter in French) is an important holiday in France: a religious one of course, but also a traditional gathering for families, religious or not. For Easter, France enjoys a three day weekend, as Easter Monday is a national holiday in France.

During the traditional Easter family reunion, kids go egg hunting (you can see our daughter Leyla in action in the picture below), but our egg providers are a bit different: magic bells!!

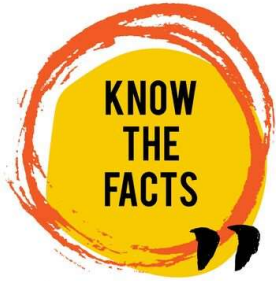
The French traditionally cook a large Easter meal with a leg of lamb, and set a lively table to honour the coming of spring time.

<https://www.frenchtoday.com/blog/french-culture/french-traditions-easter-egg-lamb-meal-traditional/>

- 1.Pâques : Easter.
- 2.La Pâque (Juive) : Passover
- 3.Le Carême : Lent
- 4.Le Jeudi Saint : Maundy Thursday
- 5.Le Vendredi Saint : Good Friday
- 6.Le Dimanche des Rameaux : Palm Sunday
- 7.La Semaine Sainte : Holy Week
- 8.Un Défilé Pascal : Easter Procession
- 9.Pascal(e) : adjective “of Easter”.
- 10.Un oeuf : an egg, pronounce it “un neuf”, F pronounced.
- 11.Des oeufs : eggs, pronounce it “dé zeu”, F and S silent.
- 12.Un gigot d’agneau: lamb roast
- 13.Les cloches de Pâques : Flying Easter Bells
- 14.Des oeufs en chocolat : chocolate eggs
- 15.Le chocolat blanc / noir / au lait – white / dark / milk chocolate
- 16.Un coq : (say the q, sorry, it sounds bad in English but that’s how we say it in French!) a rooster
- 17.L’agneau pascal : Easter lamb
- 18.Un lapin : a rabbit
- 19.Un agneau : a lamb
- 20.Un poussin : a chick
- 21.Une poule : a hen
- 22.Un poisson : a fish
- 23.Une asperge : asparagus
- 24.Une fraise : a strawberry
- 25.Une jonquille : a daffodil
- 26.Une tulipe : a tulip



DID YOU KNOW?



What Does “Pâques” Mean?

The French word “Pâques” derives from the Latin “pascha”, meaning “Passover”, which comes from the Hebrew “Pesah” meaning “passing way” (hence the word “passage”) and is the Jewish name for the Passover celebration, which remembers the Exodus out of Egypt. According to the Gospel, it was during this Jewish celebration that Jesus rose again.

Les Vacances De Pâques = Spring Vacation In France

In France, spring break is called, the spring vacation “les vacances de Pâques” and they differ according to 3 geographic Zones through France (the French system that staggers school holiday dates per region so that not all French people are on the roads at the same time).

The “vacances de printemps” are 2 weeks long and fall sometimes between April and May.

No Easter Bunny But Flying Easter Bells

The Catholic tradition dictates that Church bells don’t ring between Good Friday “Vendredi Saint” and Easter Sunday, to commemorate the death of Christ and his resurrection.

The oral tradition then said that the bells were flying to Rome during that time (they then grow 2 little wings and dress up with a lovely ribbon) to be blessed by the Pope, and then come back from this trip loaded with presents. They randomly drop these treats for the great joy of children. In France, these are called “les cloches de Pâques”.

On the other hand, the rabbit is a more Germanic tradition: “Astra” for Saxons and “Ost Ara” for Germans were goddesses of the spring whose symbol were bunnies and hares. The Easter bunny being so common among our neighbours, and sometimes even adopted by culturally Germanic region like Alsace, it’s quite usual to see rabbit shape treats around Easter.

Easter Egg Hunt In France “La Chasse Aux Oeufs”

Traditionally, the bells fly back on Saturday night. So, Sunday morning is the opening of “la chasse aux oeufs” in France!

Someone usually shouts “les cloches sont passées” and all the children run outside (or inside) to collect chocolate or sugar eggs, hens, roosters, chicks, bunnies and lambs... and flying bells of course, all symbolic of Easter, spring and renewal.

In the old days, the eggs were real eggs, boiled and then decorated by children, colored in red with onion juice, pink with radish, green with ivy...

Treats are higger more or less well depending on the age of the children.

Some easter egg hunts are organized by cities and other communities (you can usually find details on the web).

Quick Revision Tips

Watch foreign films

Put the subtitles on in the target language for an extra level of challenge.

Listen to music

Search for current music in the charts from France, Spain, Germany (not ones sung in English though!)

Conjugate quickly

For a quick, regular MFL boost, get into the habit of conjugating verbs while brushing your teeth in the morning and evening (in your heads, obviously!).

Label and look

Placing key vocabulary around the house on Post-Its and labelling furniture and objects in the target language offers helpful reminders even between revision sessions.

Record revision

Record themselves on your phones talking for 30 seconds on a topic and listen back to it and check your accent and pronunciation.

April MFL Competition

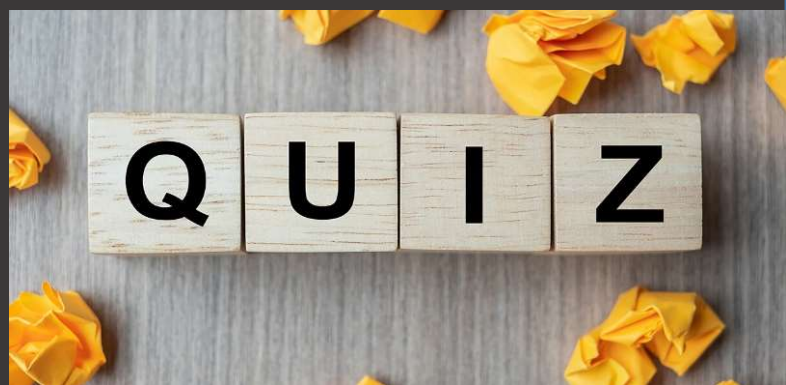


Languages open doors: poster competition

For pupils aged 7-18. Create a compelling poster, which explains to other learners why it is important to learn another language. Certificates and P2 for all entries, P3 for winning poster and printed versions of prize winning entries.

Deadline: Thursday 28th April 2022

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



Chucking a bucket of water over your mate (while dressed as a scarecrow) may not sound like an Easter tradition, but it's what the boys do each year in which country?

- a. Poland b. Hungary c. Slovenia

In Norway, books in which genre are published specifically for the Easter market?

- a. Romance b. Science fiction c. Crime

In the grounds of which famous US building do they hold an annual Easter egg roll on the south lawn?

- a. The Smithsonian Institution b. The White House c. Madison Square Garden

Who made the first Easter egg in the UK?

- a. Cadburys b. J. S. Fry & Sons Limited. c. Hotel Chocolat

Student Voice

By Amelie Gowman
year 9

"I chose to study French next year because I find languages very fascinating.

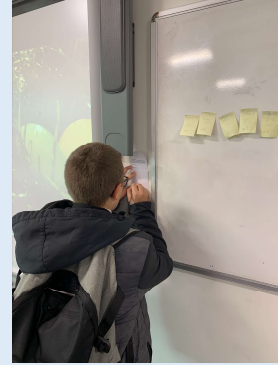
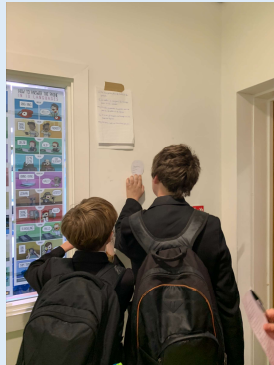
Learning a language allows my brain to develop more; it also allows me to connect to my side of the family who are French along with other French speakers.

I think this will benefit me in the future because learning a language gives you a higher chance of employment furthermore I want to communicate with the international world as well. I want to discover a wider range of different people who come from different backgrounds, culture, ethnicities and countries.

I revise best by watching a movie with French subtitles or using basic French activity books.

Languages allow you to have a connection with more people who are different to you; it's why I chose to study languages."

MFL Easter Egg Hunt

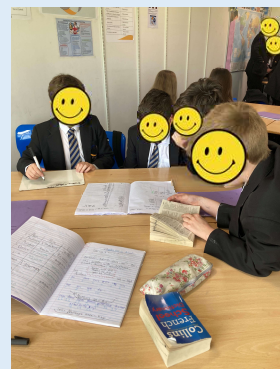
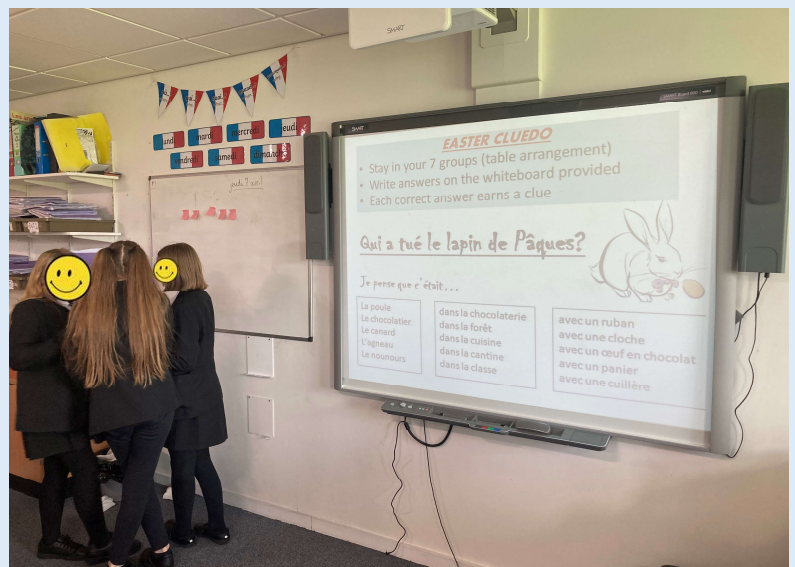
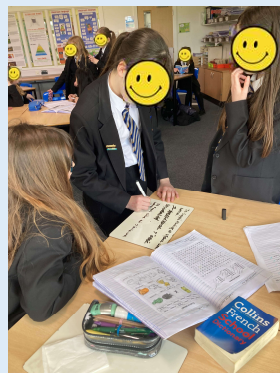


On Thursday 7th April, the Modern Languages department organised a French Easter Egg hunt for Year 7 and 8 pupils.

The eggs were hidden around the MFL/Create block for pupils to find in their groups. Each egg had a quiz relating to Easter traditions around the world on the back of it. Pupils were required to find all 27 eggs and answer the corresponding quiz questions to earn a chocolate egg! Well done to everyone for their superb enthusiasm and energy.



MFL Easter Cluedo



In the lead up to Easter, KS3 students took part in a MFL Easter Cluedo. To be given clues on murder suspects, murder weapons and murder location, students had to solve tasks targeted at helping them revise their language skills and the work covered in the Spring term. Students were very enthusiastic and competitive!

Why Learn a Language?

1. It improves your memory

The more you use your brain to learn new skills, the more your brain's functions work. Learning a new language pushes your brain to get familiar with new grammar and vocabulary rules. It allows you to train your memory to remember new words, make connections between them, and use them in contextual situations.

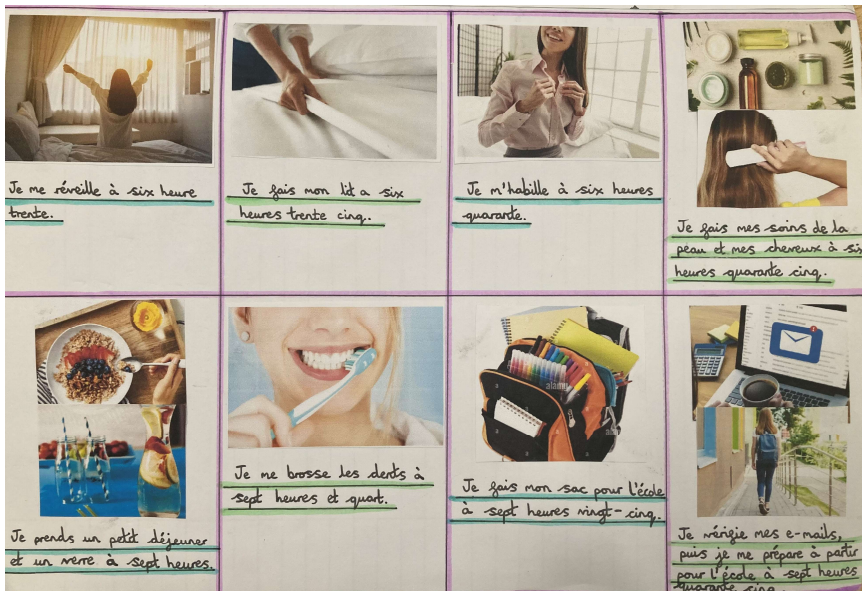
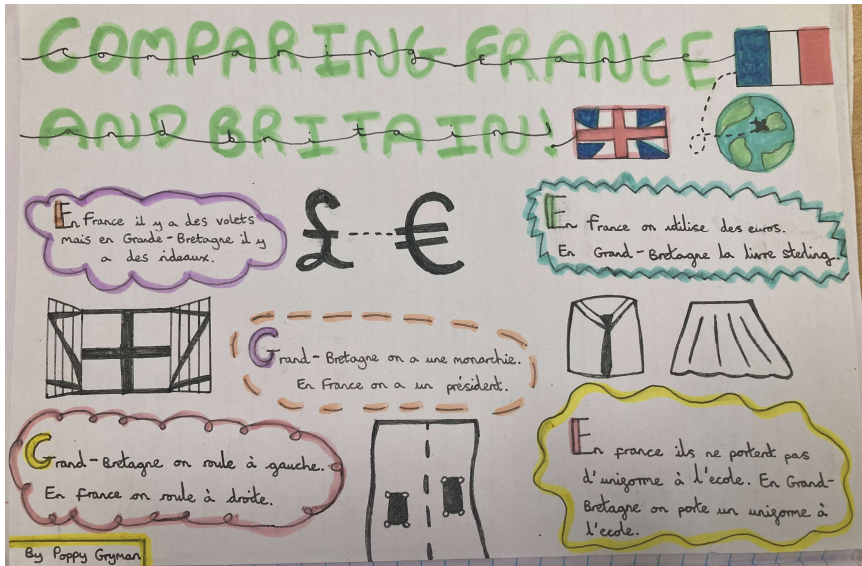
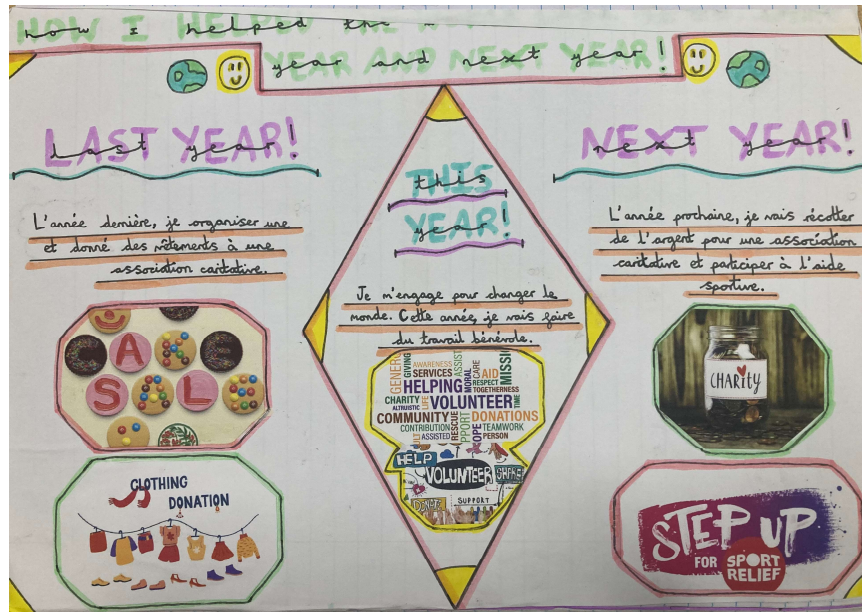
2. Enhances your ability to multitask

Time management and multitasking are two skills that will always help you. Multilingual people have the ability to switch between languages. Their ability to think in different languages and be able to communicate in more than one language helps with multitasking.

3. Improves your performance in other academic areas

Fully immersing yourself in a language learning environment means not only learning the basics of that language. It means learning how to communicate in another language with your peers or in extracurricular activities in that specific language.

Student Work



all three pieces of work are by Poppy Gryman (year 8)

MFL TALENT FESTIVAL

**Friday
29th of
April**

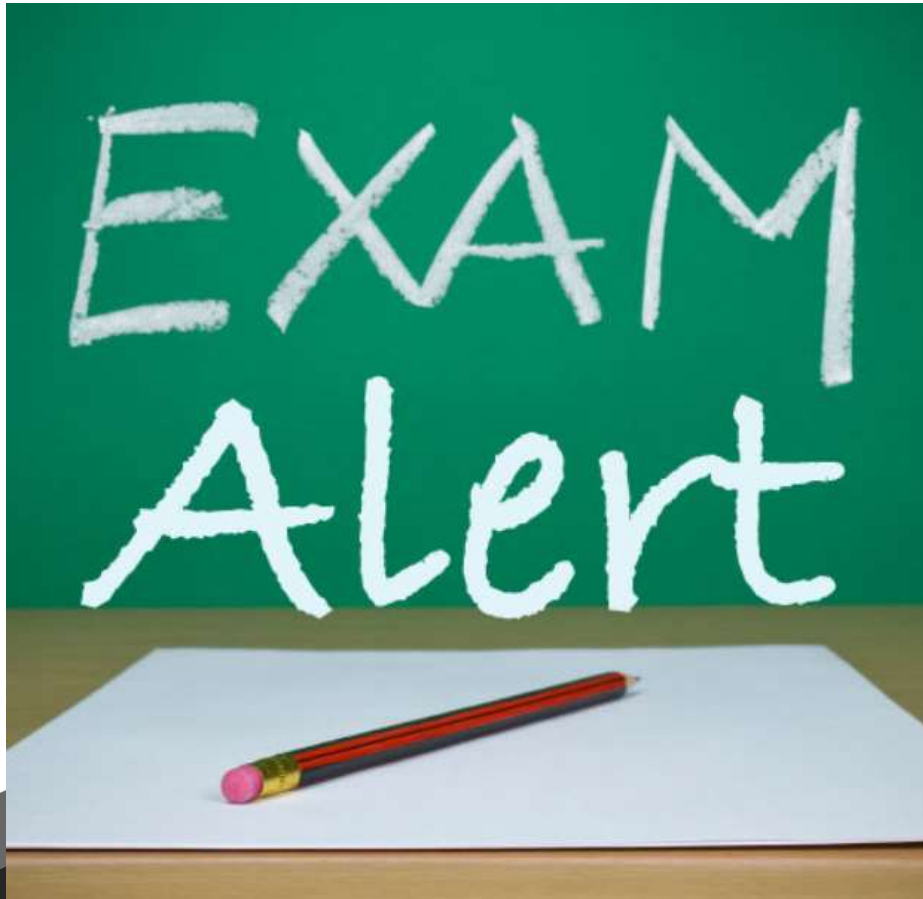
Lunch time
in the drama hall

All students are welcome to take part. Simply fill in the application form that has been emailed to all students and email it back to MTH (email MTH if you need it sent again)

**Deadline for entry:
Monday 25th April 2022**

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.

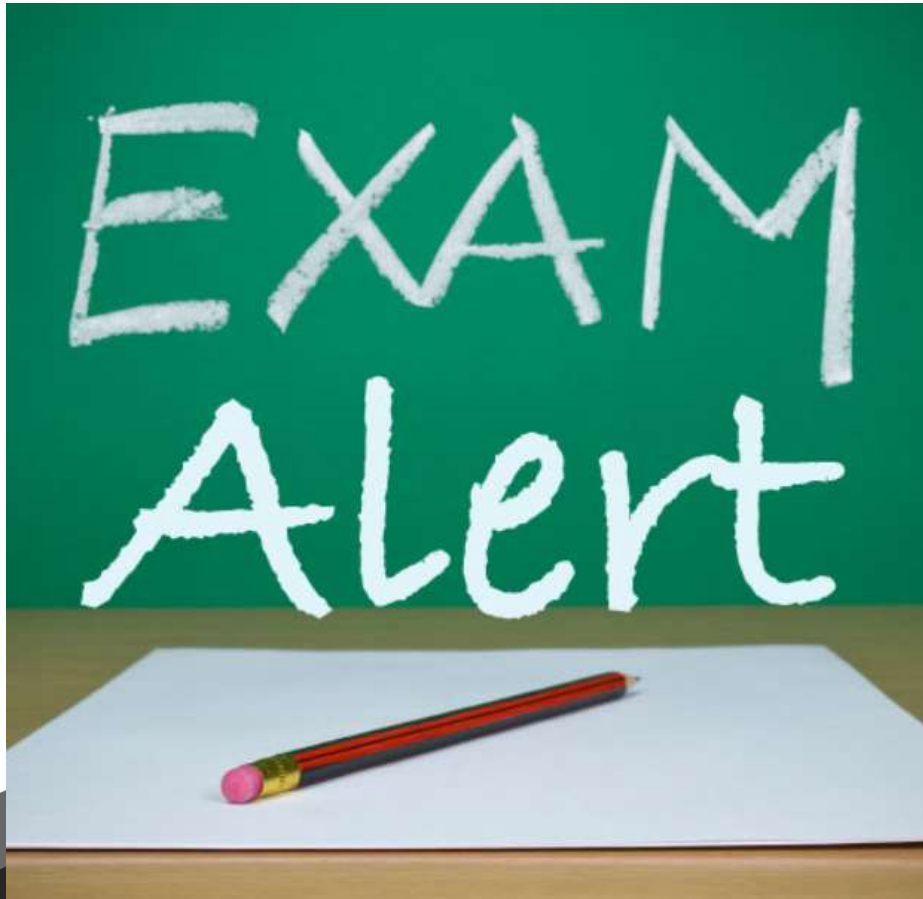


Listening and Reading

- ALWAYS read the question first carefully and highlight the question word so that you know the information that you are listening for. Use any visuals to help you to predict what you might hear.
- Try to anticipate the answer and note down possible words to listen for.
- Check numbers, dates and times very carefully.
- In the **Listening test**, do not attempt to write phonetically, i.e. what you have just heard! Some candidates find this very confusing and ultimately end up writing about a completely different set of events.
- In the **Reading examination**, read the questions before you read the passage.
- Some words look like English words: you should try to work out their meaning.
- It pays to think LOGICALLY in both the reading and listening papers. Sometimes you have to use your common sense to work out the answers from the information given.
- Examiners will also test your knowledge of synonyms and related families of words. (eg. *Susanne aime bien lire* may become *Susanne adore la lecture*.)
- Ensure that you know synonyms and families of nouns and verbs.
Make a list of synonyms, near-synonyms and word families and learn them carefully (e.g. *le voyage = le trajet*.)

Spelling

- It is important to spell accurately.
- If you are in any doubt about the spelling of a word, leave it out and find another way of expressing the idea.
- Always check carefully for accents and capital letters.



Writing

- In the Writing tests you will be able to use and extend a great deal of the material prepared for the speaking examination.
- You must be able to write accurately and to structure your work logically and coherently.
- It is also important to note that at least 20% of the marks are allocated to knowledge and accurate application of grammar.
- There will be an emphasis on using appropriate structures and on achieving a high degree of accuracy.
- You need to learn your verb tables thoroughly: just as you learned your times-tables in mathematics!.

Speaking (Oral)

In the Speaking examination, there are two distinct test types.

- Firstly, role-play tasks – remember that your listening skills will also be tested here. In the role-play do NOT use complicated language structures: simple is best!
- In the conversation you will be able to discuss matters of personal or topical interest. You must also be able to justify opinions and discuss facts.
- You need to use present, past and future tenses. This is the time to use as many complicated structures as possible.
- Use a variety of verbs each time: try to use at least ten different verbs.
- Remember to speak clearly and to pronounce the words as well as you can.

Meet a Language Leader



*Kaitlyn Worthington –
year 8*

“I wanted to become a Language Leader because I thought it would help me in the future and not only help me with my French but other people. I also wanted to become a Language Leader to help and encourage other people to learn an amazing skill, learning French!”

MFL Career Options

Government Public Service
Diplomacy
Foreign service
Immigration/naturalization
Intelligence
Law enforcement

Arts, Media Entertainment
Advertising
Journalism
Broadcasting
Publishing/editing
Public relations

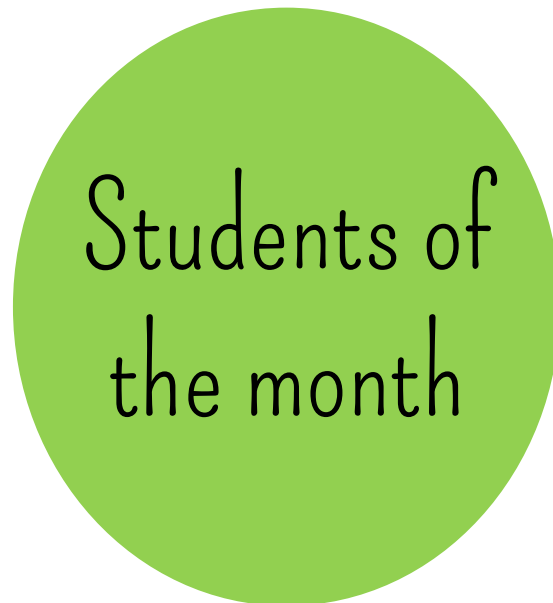
Industry and Commerce
Sales/Marketing
Banking/finance
Customer services
Imports/Exports
Consulting

Travel and Tourism
Airline services
Travel services
Travel guidance
Booking/reservations
Management

Interpretation and Translation
Simultaneous interpretation
Consecutive interpretation
Court interpretation
Medical interpretation
Literary translation

Service and Education
Teaching
Linguistics
Library science
Social work
Health services

Where Will World Languages Take You?



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

Well done for all your hard work and effort - you have earned a P2!

Year 7 – Freya Cowling

Year 8 – Yelena Stevens

Year 9 - Charlie Manley-Shute

Year 10 – Penelope Cregan

Year 11 – Finley Lowman

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.