

# MFL NEWSLETTER

Honiton Community College • May 2022 • Issue 7

## Welcome



Welcome to the seventh 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

### MAY

- 05.05.22 - L4:  
Short French Film(s)
- 12.05.22 – L4:  
Quiz
- 19.05.22 – L4:  
Writing to French Pen Pals in Reunion Island
- 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 13<sup>th</sup> 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

### JULY

- 09.06.22 – L4:  
Presentation on travel and culture by year 7 students
- 14.07.22 – L4:  
Quiz
- 21.07.22  
Learn some useful holiday French/Spanish/Italian /German

# Tales of Staff Travels

Mrs Jones  
interviewed  
by Amduscia  
Gregory (Language  
Leader, year 11)



me an insight into the German language for a short while but serving tasty food to some wealthy Brits didn't culturally educate me the same as Africa did!

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

I have travelled some of the East Coast of Australia, and Western Canada on 2-4 week road trips. I have been to Spain, France, Austria and Switzerland. I would like to explore much more of Europe, Asia and some more remote parts of the world. My brother has travelled much more than me and having heard his adventures and watching some documentaries on tv, I'd love to experience some remote cultures such as those in Mongolia.

**What is your favourite foreign country and why?**

Australia and Canada were beautiful countries for English speaking travelling. I don't think I have found my favourite foreign country yet... I think I need to experience some more once I have saved up enough money...

**What is your favourite foreign food/drink?**

I am quite a fan of Sangria and paella and when in Africa it was incredible to taste fresh Mango bought from a stall next to where it was picked. I would love to try more native dishes cooked in middle/eastern countries.

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

Absolutely! Even if I combine my languages and end up speaking to a French host in Spanish resulting in my other half regularly laughing at me when he remembers the occasion. 😊

**Do you feel this effort makes a difference?**

I always think it is respectful to at least try, effort counts for a lot. However, I have realised that some nations are a little more helpful if they see that you are struggling!

**Have you ever been surprised by a cultural difference?**

I think I am always fascinated by cultural differences. What we think is normal or polite in our own country is irrelevant once you enter another country. I think that having to reevaluate where you are and to adapt to other cultures is an amazing skill to learn. Taking a moment to pause, observe and to understand is a quality that will benefit you through life.

**Do you speak another language?**

I am disappointed to say that I have not exercised the languages I learnt enough over the past few years. I studied French and Spanish at school, continuing with Spanish and doing well. More recently, with raising young children we have encouraged counting in other languages up the stairs. By 3 years old they could count up the stairs in German, French and Spanish. We have also been reading 'Peppa va al acuario' (Which is much harder than I thought it would be!) and 'Petit Ours Brun'. Children are like sponges with languages, and they certainly push you on when you realise how quickly they learn. I definitely feel I need to get my act together as they will overtake me very soon!

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

I have only lived abroad for weeks or months at a time. I spent two months living in Kenya whilst volunteering. I had wanted to volunteer in Africa for many years and it was one of the most educational, emotional and inspiring experiences of my life. During my time there I taught some English in a school, completed Malaria surveys and handed out mosquito nets and supplies to a local village of mud huts, built a well, dug and built a basic toilet block and hand washing facilities, and constructed guttering to harvest rainwater for a local school. We also visited an orphanage and saw the challenges faced in extreme poverty. I could write so much about this experience. I kept a diary at the time and recorded the things I observed, felt and achieved. I still have the diary and I hope to continue it one day and make a difference to another community.

I spent a few months in Austria during a ski season where I was a chalet host for some skiers. It gave



Kenya



Maasai tribe (Kenya)



Austria



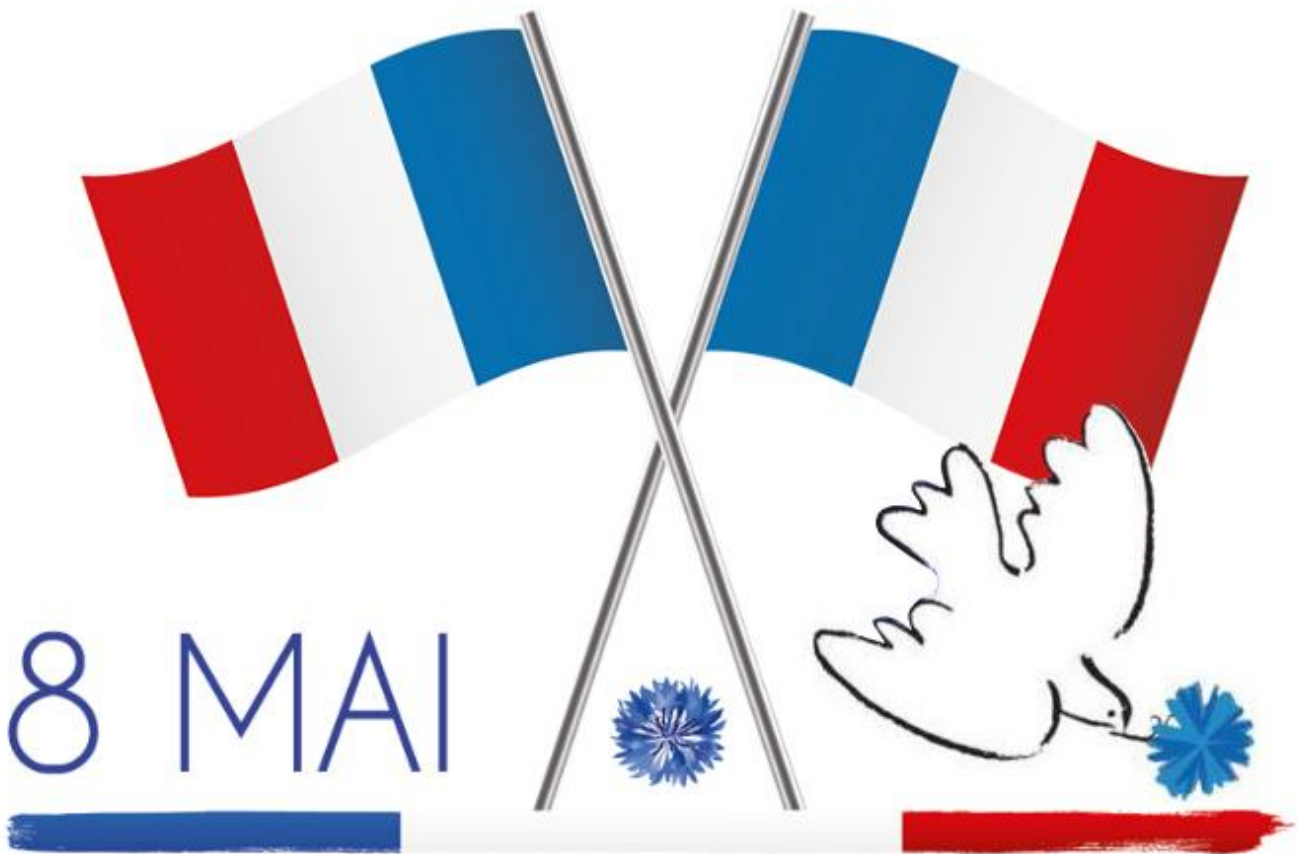
East Coast of Australia



West Coast of Canada



Spain



ANNIVERSAIRE  
DE LA VICTOIRE  
DU 8 MAI 1945

VE Day celebrates the end of World War Two in Europe on May 8, 1945, and 'VE' stands for 'Victory in Europe'. It was the day Nazi Germany gave the Allied forces, of which the UK was a major part, their unconditional surrender

# DID YOU KNOW?

By Poppy Gryman - year 8

## ALL ABOUT VICTORY IN EUROPE DAY IN FRANCE!

In France, on the 8th May it is a day of celebration and remembrance with church services, ceremonies and parades. French flags fly from the tops of poles everywhere and the air force thunders overhead in dramatic flyovers. Wreaths are laid during the ceremonies at monument aux Morts in each village, town and city.



### *In Flanders Fields*

In Flanders fields the poppies blow  
Between the crosses, row on row,  
That mark our place; and in the sky  
The larks, still bravely singing, fly  
Scarce heard amid the guns below.

We are the Dead. Short days ago  
We lived, felt dawn, saw sunset glow,  
Loved and were loved, and now we lie  
In Flanders fields.

Take up our quarrel with the foe:  
To you from failing hands we throw  
The torch; be yours to hold it high.  
If ye break faith with us who die  
We shall not sleep, though poppies grow  
In Flanders fields.

Victory in Europe Day takes place on the 8th of May 1945.

The public holiday in France commemorates the victory of the Allies over Germany.

The date also marks the end of Adolf Hitler's Third Reich and the Second World War.

VE Day proclaims the unconditional surrender of the armed forces of Nazi Germany.

### **Braves Soldats**

Braves soldats, braves soldats,  
À la guerre, à la guerre,  
Vous avez eu froid, vous avez eu chaud,  
Pour la paix, pour la paix.

Braves soldats, braves soldats  
À la guerre, à la guerre,  
Vous avez eu faim, vous avez souffert  
Pour la paix, pour la paix.

Braves soldats, braves soldats  
Aujourd'hui, aujourd'hui  
Nous voulons vous dire, nous voulons vous  
dire,  
Un merci, un merci.

(Author unknown)

### **Brave soldiers**

Brave soldiers, brave soldiers,  
To war, to war  
You were cold, you were hot  
For peace, for peace

Brave soldiers, brave soldiers  
To war, to war  
You were hungry, you suffered, for  
peace, for peace

Brave soldiers, brave soldiers  
Today, today  
We want to say, we want to say  
Thank you, thank you.

# MFL READING TIPS

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

<https://www.defense.gov/v/Multimedia/Quizzes/Quiz/Article/2154880/>



## Top reading tips

- Read each piece of text once, then read the questions and then read each piece of text again.

- Read the questions carefully.

- Read for specific details as well as main points in the different passages.

- Use the introduction to the question to help you think about what particular words might mean.

- Use cognates (words that are similar to English ones) or near cognates to help you work out the meaning of some words.

- Use your knowledge of grammar to help you.

- Make sure you know the different time markers to help you spot the different tenses.

- Don't worry if you don't understand every word in the text. Concentrate on what you do understand.

**Q1: Who announced the end of the war in London?**



Clement Attlee



Winston Churchill



Tony Blair



Margaret Thatcher

**Q2: Which U.S. president was celebrating his birthday on V-E Day?**



Franklin D. Roosevelt



Woodrow Wilson



Harry S. Truman



Herbert Hoover

**Q3: About how many U.S. troops served in World War II?**



**Q4: Technically, World War II hasn't ended because Russia and Japan didn't sign a peace treaty to end a dispute over what island(s)?**



Gilbert Islands



Kuril Islands



Iwo Jima



Solomon Islands



# Student Voice

# MFL Breakfast

By Freya Hill - yr 11

I chose to take a language for GCSE because having a language GCSE looks good on your CV, making you more employable.

I enjoy the paired work in the language lessons and the fact that you learn new things every lesson.

I find that revision websites like Seneca, Quizlet and Kerboodle work best but flashcards help too.

By Finlay Lowman - yr 11

I chose to study French because it allows me to connect with others and it opens more doors for me in the future. I enjoy studying French because it gives me a perspective of other culture.

I use revision cards as I believe this is the best technique for me.

By Freya Clutton - yr 11

I chose to study a language because I wanted to learn a language and expand my knowledge of French culture. I enjoy learning new words and phrases.

Using flashcards and speaking French outside of lesson is the best revision technique for me.



Years 7 and 9 have been studying about food in the first half of the summer term.

Students enjoyed a taste of France by taking part in a French breakfast where they tried foods such as croissants, pains au chocolat, snails, hot chocolate, waffles, crêpes and baguette.



# MFL Spelling Bee

Year 7 students proudly hold up their bronze certificate for getting through into the second stage of the French spelling Bee. .



# Why Learn a Language?

1. Makes You Smarter.
2. Boosts Academic Achievement.
3. Provides Professional and Career Advantages.
4. Provides Broader Access to Education and Information.
5. Gives You More Social and Global Skills.
6. Increases National Security.
7. Life Is More Interesting.

Research has shown that knowledge of more than one language is associated with better reasoning, problem-solving skills, and creativity. It also helps people deal with unknown and unfamiliar situations. Use of another language tends to delay the onset of dementia.

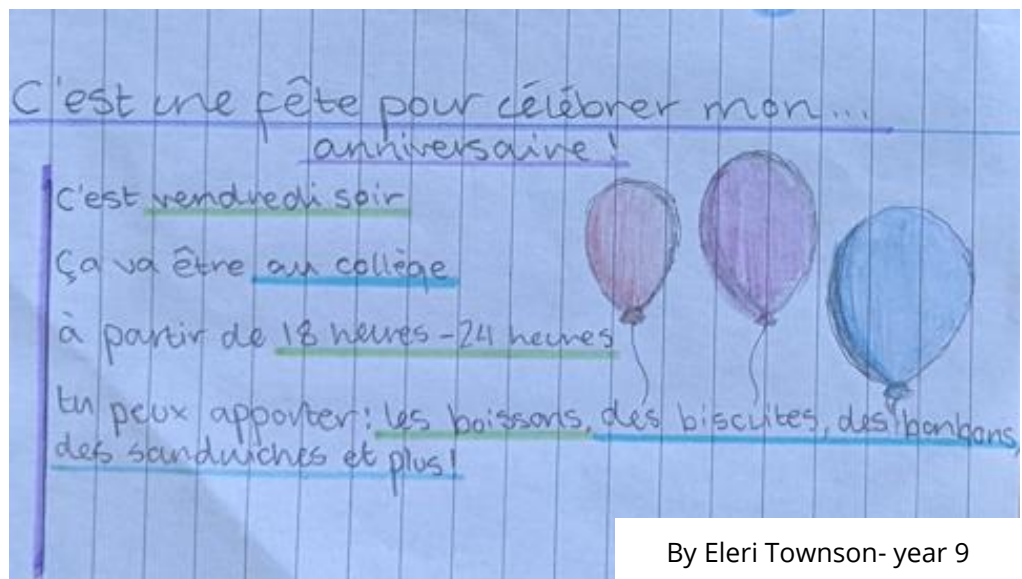
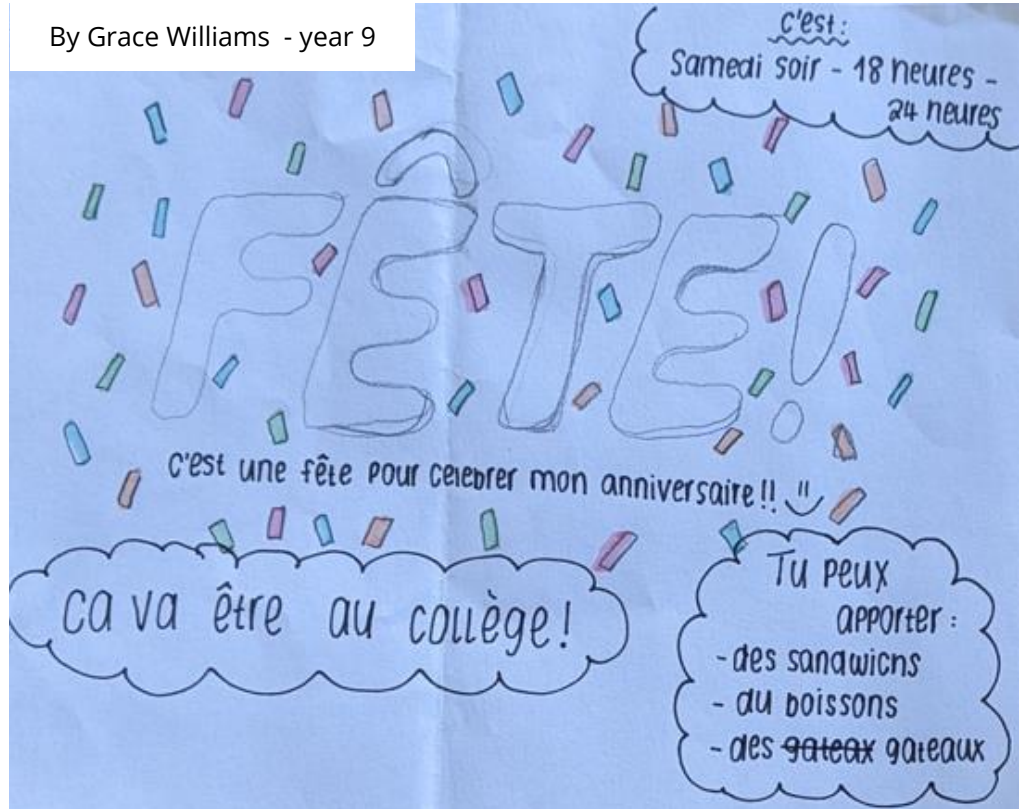
Language learning supports academic achievement. This is true for English-speaking students studying a foreign language, as well as English language learners in bilingual and immersion programs. It also boosts academic outcomes at college level.

<https://fee.org/articles/7-reasons-to-learn-a-foreign-language/>

# MFL Student Work

Year 9 have been learning about organising a party. Here are some examples of invitations they have created including information on when, where, why, what time and what food and drink guests can bring..

By Grace Williams - year 9



By Eleri Townson- year 9



## Student voice



Joe Evans –  
year 13

I currently study French at A-level because I believe it will be beneficial later in life when travelling or working abroad as it will allow me to communicate and connect with the local people. Whilst learning the language, you also get to learn about new cultures and new ways of living - this is something that I have found interesting and eye-opening.

Next year I have chosen to study French alongside business at university, I chose this course because it allows me to visit other countries whilst studying so I can either choose to improve my French if I want to study in France or even learn a new language if I'm studying in another country.

Having a degree, A-level or even a GCSE in a language is a highly valuable skill to have when applying for any job as employers look especially for bilingual candidates. These skills could land you a job as a translator, interpreter, travel agent or a journalist abroad but there are many more.

Another reason to learn a new language is the cognitive benefits it brings with it. People who speak more than one language have improved memory, problem-solving and critical-thinking skills, enhanced concentration, ability to multitask, and better listening skills.

## Amazing benefits of learning a language

(By Summer-Sky Horrell – year 9)

*If you learn a foreign language ....*

- . YOUR BRAIN WILL GROW** – *Learning a new language can help with everyday life things!*
- . YOU WILL HAVE BETTER LISTENING SKILLS** – *Having better listening skills improves your focus which means you will find it easier to learn!*
- . YOU WILL HAVE BETTER MEMORY** – *(It has even been proved that Learning another language can slow down Alzheimer's and Dementia!)*
- . YOU COULD BECOME MORE CREATIVE** – *Being more creative could change your perspective on life and could make you more positive!*
- . YOU WILL START TO UNDERSTAND YOUR OWN LANGUAGE ALOT BETTER** – *And your own culture!*
- . THERE ARE SO MANY MORE CAREER OPPORTUNITIES** – *knowing another language means your bilingual. This will look good on your job applications!*
- . YOU CAN MAKE NEW FRIENDS** – *Your new friends may even know more languages and could teach you!*
- . YOU CAN ENJOY CULTURES OTHER THAN YOUR OWN AND LEARN TO UNDERSTAND THEM**
- . IT WILL GIVE YOU SOMETHING TO DO IN YOUR SPARE TIME** – *This could make your life more positive as you will not be bored, and it would give you a Challenge!*
- . ONCE YOU HAVE LEARNED TWO OR MORE LANGUAGES YOU WILL FIND IT EASIER TO LEARN OTHERS /**
- . IT WILL BENEFIT ACADEMIC PROGRESS** – *This can help a great deal in the future!*

**WHY NOT? START TO LEARN A NEW LANGUAGE TODAY AND YOUR FUTURE SELF WILL THANK YOU!!**

Students of  
the month

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 – Hailie-Brooke Davenport

Year 8 – Amelie Gowman

Year 9 - Charlie Manley-Shute

Year 10 – Emily Garman

Year 11 – Mia Kirsch

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.