

# MFL NEWSLETTER

Honiton Community College • December 2021 • Issue 2

Welcome

hello!

shalom!

hola!

salut!

welkom!

namaste!

bienvenidos!

ciao!

Welcome to the second 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.



## Christmas in France

<https://www.expatica.com/fr/lifestyle/holidays/christmas-in-france-871680/>

The evening of December 24th is when French families sit down together to celebrate Christmas and enjoy festive French foods and wines. If you've heard about French people eating long and slowly, this dinner is the greatest example of this French custom. The meal can go for up to six hours.



# Advent in France

The four weeks before Christmas are dedicated to preparations for Christmas. On 1 December children open their first 'window/door' in the Advent calendar. This French Christmas tradition makes kids even more excited about upcoming Christmas events.

## Midnight Mass

A church service is held on Christmas Eve. It is actually an important Christmas tradition in France for many people who try to attend the mass, although more and more people prefer services on Christmas Day.

<https://www.expatica.com/fr/lifestyle/holidays/christmas-in-france-871680/>

Email answers to MTH  
P1 for taking part  
P2 if 100% correct



### Christmas Quiz Questions

1. What is Santa/Father Christmas called in France?
2. What is "bonhomme de neige" in English?
3. What colour (in French) was Rudolf's nose?
4. What is the name of one of Santa's reindeer in French?
5. What are Santa's workers called in French?
6. What is "sapin de Noël" in English?
7. What December in French?
8. What is the sentence "have a merry Christmas!" in French?
9. What is present in French?
10. Why do French children leave a shoe out on Christmas eve?
11. When do French children usually open presents?
12. What is the 'Réveillon de Noël'?

## French Fact: Le Réveillon

This is the name of the French Christmas Eve meal, which is a big and long feast. The name comes from the verb *réveiller*, to wake up or revive. Increasingly more families start this French Christmas tradition on Christmas Day, when it is easier for the whole family to gather together.

Food is a big part of French Christmas traditions. It depends on the region but some common French Christmas foods include:

- smoked salmon and oysters with bran bread and (real) butter
- foiegras (goose or duck liverpate)
- goose
- capon or turkey stuffed with chestnuts
- Servings of vegetables such as green beans cooked with garlic and butter and provincial herbs sautéed potatoes.

To finish the feast you will get the amazing looking and tasting *La bûche de Noël* (yule log), a sponge cake decorated like a yule log, traditionally made of chocolate and chestnuts.





# Meet a Language Leader



'Hi, my name is Emily Greenland. I'm a year 8 student and a Language Leader.

My top three subjects are P.E, French, and English. The main reason I wanted to become a Language Leader was to help others and try new things.

So far, I have really enjoyed taking part in many activities and planning new ones for the future!

My favourite way to revise would be to make the facts, information or whatever I need to learn into something creative or colourful, I find this helpful because I like how it looks therefore, I take in the information better!

I think learning language is a great skill to have, because it can help you get more/different jobs, and it can make traveling much easier"

# MFL and Children in Need



To help raise money for Children in Need in November, the MFL department organised a 'Guess where the teacher went abroad' quiz.

# November Competition Winner

Congratulations to Scarlett Shepherd 7NSN who won the MFL Christmas Card competition this year!



# Tales of Staff Travels



*Mrs Stacpoole (MFL and Beliefs and Values teacher)*

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

Although I spend a lot of time in both Ireland, and France I also like to get back to Italy. I'm really interested in foreign cities as I find they are a great way to appreciate different cultures. My two favourite cities are Rome and Madrid, though Florence is also a gem! Seville in southern Spain is now on my wish list!

***What's your favourite foreign country?***

It's tough to choose my favourite foreign country as I love both France and Italy. I think I just love the Mediterranean way of life – the food, the sunshine, the history...!

***If you could live in any country, which one would it be?***

I fully intend to go back to France to live!

***Do you speak another language?***

When I left school, I could speak Irish (Gaeilge) fluently – however, now, I fear it's a bit rusty. I tune in to Irish radio when I go back to Ireland which helps me keep in touch. I also speak French and a little Italian.

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

Technically speaking, I'm currently living abroad! When I finished university, I lived in Milan and taught English as a foreign language. This was a fabulous experience as I got to immerse myself in Italian culture, whilst also learning a little bit of Italian. Living in Milan also made other European countries easily accessible – from there it's possible to do day trips to France and Switzerland. Later, as a family we moved to France and stayed for 5 years, during which time we totally renovated a 300-year-old stone house - we still try to spend as much time there as possible. It was a baptism of fire and one that holds amazing memories for our family.



*Ireland*



*Milan, Italy*



*France*



*Switzerland*



*Rome*



*Madrid*



## Student Voice

"I chose to study a language because it improves chances of getting into university. I enjoy learning about different cultures and understanding others. I revise using key words and Seneca Learning."

(Amber - year 11 )

## Resource of the month

Duolingo is the most popular language learning platform and the most downloaded education app in the world, with more than 300 million users.

It makes education free, fun, and accessible to all.

Duolingo is designed to feel like a game and scientifically proven to be effective.

Even when measured against paid programs, Duolingo still ranks among the best software for learning a language.

## French Fact

The 6th of January is 'l'Epiphanie' or 'la journée des rois' and commemorates the visit of the three wise men to baby Jesus. It's traditional in France to eat 'la Galette des Rois'. French people will go to the bakery to buy this king's cake or make it themselves.



## December MFL competition

MOTHER TONGUE  
OTHER TONGUE

**Mother Tongue:** Pupils whose first language is not English, or who speak another language at home, are encouraged to submit a poem or song in their Mother Tongue.

This can be an original or a 'remembered' piece. It can be written in any language, except English. Entries will be judged on a short paragraph in which pupils will explain the piece and its significance to them.



**Other Tongue:** Pupils learning another language are encouraged to get creative with their 'Other Tongue' and submit an original poem for the competition.

Entry deadline: Friday 14th January 2022

# Revision ideas

Use a model answer which achieved the grade you're aiming for and find out what makes it a great piece of work. Note down all the features and use it as a model for your own work. Then you'll have a good idea what teachers/ examiners are looking for. Make sure you can show off these skills in your own exam

Grammar can be one of the hardest things to learn and recall, as it can be so complex. **You don't only have to know it, but you also need to understand how to apply it.**

One of the best things for grammar is just to keep practising. Make posters, write the rules down on post-it notes and stick them around your room, or use flashcards.

**Make sure you know all your tenses very well, especially if you are doing the higher tier!**

In some cases, your **marks will be capped if you don't use at least the past, present and future.** The more tenses you use, and the better you know them, the more marks you will get for accuracy and content.

# MFL Revision Tips

## Useful Internet Resources!

Kahoot      Duolingo      Kerboodle  
Seneca      Babble      Mango Languages

## Recommended Tips!

- Regular revision
- Extend your vocabulary
- Revise in the same place
- Use music when studying vocabulary
- Practice exam style questions
- Avoid distractions
- Create a plan
- Be organised

## Key Revision Tips!

Science tells us the ideal time to revise what you've learned is just before you're about to forget it. A couple of minutes last thing at night and first thing in the morning.

## Your can't go wrong guide to learning vocabulary...



**Colour code!**  
By gender / tense / difficulty level / however you like!



Write your words on post-its and stick them up around your room.



Write a mnemonic to help you with difficult spellings. Running Helps Your Two Hips Move (RHYTHM)



Play word association or "last letter first letter"



Make flash cards – print out a blank table from Word and cut out the rectangles. Write the French on one side and the English on the other.



Break long words down into smaller parts to make them more manageable.



# 5 WORK SKILLS LANGUAGES WILL GIVE YOU



## 1 COMMUNICATION



LEARNING A LANGUAGE ALLOWS YOU TO BETTER UNDERSTAND SOMEONE'S CULTURE AND AS A RESULT, THEIR POINT OF VIEW. COMBINE THIS WITH YOUR NEW ABILITY TO ANALYSE SITUATIONS AND SOLVE PROBLEMS, YOU WILL BUILD GREAT RELATIONSHIPS WHEREVER YOU WORK.

## 2 CRITICAL THINKING



LANGUAGES HELP IMPROVE YOUR DECISION MAKING AND PROBLEM SOLVING SKILLS, IMPROVING YOUR ABILITY TO THINK ANALYTICALLY SO NOT ONLY WILL YOU LAND YOUR DREAM JOB, BUT YOU'LL BECOME A MASTER AT DECIDING WHERE TO EAT.

## 3 OPPORTUNITIES



NOT ONLY CAN A SECOND LANGUAGE IMPROVE YOUR CHANCES OF GETTING CERTAIN JOBS, IT CAN LEAD TO JOBS YOU DIDN'T EVEN KNOW EXISTED. WHEN YOU SPEAK ANOTHER LANGUAGE YOU MEET LOTS OF NEW PEOPLE, EXPERIENCE NEW CULTURES AND EXPLORE NEW COUNTRIES.

## 4 ADAPTABILITY



THE ABILITY TO SKIP BETWEEN LANGUAGES ALSO IMPROVES YOUR ABILITY TO SKIP BETWEEN TASKS. BEING BILINGUAL INCREASES BRAIN FUNCTION, IMPROVES MEMORY AND MAKES IT EASIER TO MULTI-TASK AND PRIORITISE INFORMATION.

## 5 CREATIVITY



WHEN YOU LEARN A SECOND LANGUAGE, YOU ARE OPENED UP TO NEW IDEAS AND WAYS OF DOING THINGS. THIS NEW ABILITY TO THINK OUTSIDE THE BOX WILL IMPROVE YOUR CREATIVITY AND ORIGINALITY OF YOUR IDEAS.



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# MFL Job Options

**11 careers that bilinguals and multilinguals will excel in:**


- Translator/Interpreter
- Customer Service Representative
- Hospitality Manager
- Human Resources Specialist
- Flight Attendant
- Teacher
- Writer/Journalist
- Healthcare Professional

**Important languages for business other than English:**

- CHINESE
- SPANISH
- ARABIC
- GERMAN
- PORTUGUESE
- RUSSIAN
- FRENCH

**Language degrees are worth studying at university:**

Contrary to popular belief, many people who have a degree in languages go on to secure high-paying jobs in various fields around the world. Pairing a language degree with another mainstream degree will prove to be highly useful

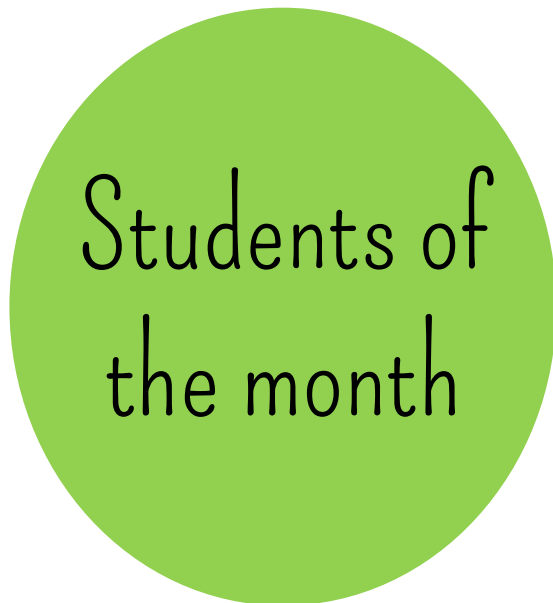


## Careers in Foreign Language

**If you like Foreign Languages, consider one of these careers.**

Flight Attendant	Nurse
Hospitality Worker	Peace Corps Worker
International Business	Social Worker
International Lawyer	Teacher/Professor
Interpreter	Tour Guide
Linguist	Translator
Military Personnel	Travel Agent

WOODBURN PRESS



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!

Yr7 – Joshua Lane

Yr8 – Freya

Yr9 – Eli Salmon

Yr10 – Hannah

Yr 11 – Mia

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.