

Modern Foreign Languages

“One language sets you in a corridor for life. Two languages can open every door along the way”

Frank Smith

Intent

We believe that learning a language enriches the curriculum and is a necessary part of being a member of a multi-cultural society, as it provides an opening to other cultures. A high quality languages education should foster children’s curiosity and deepen their understanding of the world. Starting French early, helps to create enthusiastic learners with positive attitudes towards languages learning throughout life. Through learning French, our pupils will develop skills and knowledge to enhance their oracy and literacy within their own language, whilst deepening their understanding of the language and culture of others.

Implementation

We teach French as part of the curriculum across Key Stage 2, although younger children are given the opportunity to join our French club (La Jolie Ronde) as an extra-curricular activity from as early as year 1.

A specialist teacher leads weekly sessions, using resources and units of work from Twinkl’s Plan It French and other resources. These sessions comprise of a range of the following:

- Games – in order to develop vocabulary through repetition, reading, writing, speaking and listening skills.
- Role-play – these should relate to the situations the children may find themselves in the future.
- Action songs and rhymes – to develop phonetic skills, memory skills and to further vocabulary.
- Reading and writing quality materials.
- ICT programs and websites; the use of ICT to develop communication skills.
- In Forest, children acquire basic skills and understanding of French with a strong emphasis placed on developing their speaking and listening skills. In Spring and Mill, these are further developed and embedded, alongside reading, writing and gradually progressing onto more complex language concepts and greater learner autonomy.

We build children’s confidence through praise for any contribution they make in the foreign language, however tentative.

Impact

By the end of KS2 our pupils will:

- Be able to communicate with each other in French.
- Become aware that a language has a structure, and that the structure differs from one language to another.
- Develop their language through the four key skills of speaking, listening, reading and writing.
- Have an understanding of the French culture.
- Begin to understand how language skills can be applied to a range of languages.
- Transfer to KS3 effectively and successfully and will be well prepared to continue and develop their language skills.