



French Speaking at Hanwell

Intent

At Hanwell we teach children the skills needed to learn to learn another language. This also enables smooth transition to secondary school language learning, in particular the NOA French program. MFL teaching at Hanwell consolidates children's understanding of grammar terms which in turn helps with literacy skills.

Furthermore, learning another language provides our children with a wider view of the world; an appreciation that things are done differently in other places.

Implement

- Focus on speaking French and using all available means to communicate or understand
- Written work consolidates grammar and teaches spelling/reading with very specific aims; phonemes, accents, word order, agreements

What

- Start to pick up strategies for language-learning.
- Exchange simple greetings.
- Understand simple stories
- Learn basic vocabulary.
- Grammar; start to be aware of gender.
- Learn common phonemes.
- Culture; Learn facts about French life.

How

- French lesson one hour per week,
- Broadly following iLanguages Y3 lesson plans 1-18, using mainly iLanguages resources.

Being more specific...

- General language learning strategies.
- Talk about how to aid understanding of foreign language – uses visual clues (raised eyebrows, question in tone of voice, pointing, sad/happy face, hand gestures). Explain what a cognate is.
- Introduce 'ez' sound as likely to be an instruction word – a bossy verb.
- Games – Simon Dit, Marchez a cloche pied...

Following stories, learning Vocab and gender

- Listen to short story, use visual clues, start to pick out some familiar words, look for cognates, make sensible guesses to help give a sense of success.
- Learning by heart, repetition. Say simple sentences about own likes and dislikes after story watching and with scaffolding and many examples.
- Games; matching animal cards, touch the colour.

Phonemes.

- Further stories introducing et, mais, voici, stressing different pronunciation, specifically targeting a phoneme each time, e.g., 'oi'. Sentence writing based on words with the phoneme. Pick up incorrect spelling of phoneme when marking.

French culture

- Powerpoint; photos and other images of places, foods, landmarks, famous products (and their pronunciation). Compare to English. Practice saying some of the words in exaggerated accent. Use globe or map. Pass round some French food packaging. Discuss holidays. Christmas traditions; make a Christmas card with a French greeting, sing a Christmas song.

Impact

Through learning another language, children will have a deeper understanding and show tolerance towards others in our school and wider community for whom English is not their first language. Children feel undaunted by the prospect of learning languages and are prepared for a secondary curriculum. They have a range of vocabulary (including numbers to 100), grammar knowledge and their pronunciation is developing. Hanwell children can write in increasingly complex sentences, with an ability to make agreements.