

MFL (French) Cultural Capital at Hillmead Primary School

Cultural Capital is the accumulation of knowledge, behaviours and skills that a student can draw upon and which demonstrates their cultural awareness, knowledge and competence.

It is one of the key ingredients a student will draw upon to be successful in society, at secondary school and further education and eventually their career and the world of work.

At Hillmead Primary School, we believe that the learning of a language provides a valuable educational, social and cultural experience for our pupils. The core language taught at Hillmead in Key Stage 2 is French.

Where possible, we encourage EYFS and Key Stage 1 children to join us in participating in French activities and do this through assemblies, use of a scheme of work which has songs and games for younger children. We aim to hold French experience day in July (Bastille Day) in school to further enrich learning. We do this as we wish to promote an interest in foreign languages in our school and community and sharing ideas with them on how this can be supported at home.

Our planning is based on the Language Angels scheme of work which covers all areas of the Programme of Study. It is the intention that all children in Key Stage 2 will access quality first teaching in French in order to prepare them for their future language learning in Key Stage 3. Through this scheme of work children experience interactive teaching materials using a native speaker as well as specific lessons in French culture (see below).

We believe that it is essential for our KS2 pupils to develop an interest in learning another language that is enjoyable and stimulating as well as developing their confidence and creativity.

As a school we strongly feel that learning another language gives children a new and broader perspective on the world, encouraging them to understand their own cultures and those of others which feeds into our focus on developing cultural capital throughout the school.

By definition, the learning of a foreign language (in our case French) provides almost limitless opportunities to develop cultural capital for children. Set out below is a selection of examples from our curriculum for each year group.

Year 3

- Le Carnaval de Nice, February
- Children learn correct pronunciation of the French phonemes.
- Children sing songs and play games in French.
- Children learn to locate France on a map, identify the countries around it as well as other French speaking countries in the world
- They learn to:
 - count and identify colours in French
 - say and discuss the seasons in French
 - learn the French words for various instruments, fruits, vegetables, ice creams

Year 4

- La Galette des Rois (Epiphany) 6th January
- Children continue to learn correct pronunciation of the French phonemes.
- Children sing songs and play games in French.
- Children develop their ability to count in French
- Children learn to say simple greetings, discuss nationality and their family. They develop their understanding of French grammar
- Children learn the vocabulary and language to discuss animals, habitats, the classroom, their home

Year 5

- Le Poisson d'Avril (April Fool's Day) 1st April
- Children continue to learn correct pronunciation of the French phonemes.
- Children sing songs and play games in French
- Children develop their ability to count in French
- Children learn the vocabulary and language to discuss animals and pets, days of the week, months of the year, the weather, the Olympics past and present and clothes.

Year 6

- Le Bleuets de France (French Remembrance Day) 11th November
- Children continue to learn correct pronunciation of the French phonemes.
- Children sing songs and play games in French
- Children continue to develop their ability to count in French
- Children learn the language and vocabulary to discuss school and school subjects, the time, hobbies and activities, the planets and a healthy lifestyle.
- Children learn about the many countries in the Francophone world, different festivals in French speaking countries and about protecting the planet