

Purpose

French is a subject where we learn how to communicate in a different language to our own and appreciate the different culture.

Intent

At Frimley, teaching and learning in French aims to instil a love of language learning and an awareness of other cultures. We want pupils to develop the confidence to communicate in French for practical purposes, using both written and spoken French.

We aim to give pupils a foundation for language learning that encourages and enables them to apply their skills to learning further languages, developing a strong understanding of the English language, facilitating future learning at KS3 and opening opportunities to study and work in other countries in the future.

Our French curriculum enables children to meet the end of Key Stag 2 attainment targets in the National Curriculum.

Implementation

- We use a mastery-based curriculum that is progressive and broken into modules.
- Teachers deploy the Rosenshine principles to support the teaching and learning process: reviews of previous learning, new information is presented in small steps, high-level questioning, carefully considered models, guided practice, checks for pupil understanding, obtainment of a high success rate, scaffolds for difficult tasks, opportunities for independent practice and reviews of learning over extended periods.
- Our French curriculum is designed with three knowledge strands that run throughout each unit with knowledge building cumulatively. The three strands are phonics, vocabulary and grammar.
- The knowledge can be applied within the skill strands, which also run throughout each unit. These are language comprehension (listening and reading) and language production (speaking and writing).
- The French curriculum gives pupils opportunities to communicate for practical purposes around familiar subjects and routines. There are balanced opportunities for communication in both spoken and written French, although in Year 3 the focus is on developing oral skills, before incorporating written French in Year 4 onwards.
- Key skills and vocabulary are revisited repeatedly with increasing complexity, allowing pupils to revise and build on their previous learning.
- Cross-curricular links are incorporated into each unit, promoting the importance of making connections across different areas of learning.
- Teaching and learning approaches in French are varied to ensure lessons are engaging and meaningful: lesson activities include independent tasks, paired and group work including role play, language games and language detective work.
- Lessons focus on developing 'language detective skills' and developing an understanding of French grammar and key vocabulary rather than on committing to memory vast amounts of vocabulary. There is a strong emphasis on pronunciation with plentiful modelling and opportunities to practice.
- Lessons will provide opportunities for children to make connections to a big picture or previous learning, to encounter new knowledge and skills, to demonstrate understanding by applying new knowledge and skills and to consolidate their learning.
- French is delivered by a specialist teacher in three-week blocks (with one lesson a week).
- End of unit assessments are used to assess the children's understanding of crucial learning; this informs future teaching and areas of focus for retrieval.
- Links to careers in the French field are made to show how children's learning links to the wider world of work.
- As well as learning walks to observe teaching and learning, the Book Study approach is used to monitor the effectiveness of the French curriculum, teaching and learning, to identify strengths and areas for development in provision and to garner pupil voice.

Impact

Children will:

- Leave Frimley equipped with a range of language-learning skills to enable them to study French, or any other language, with confidence at Key Stage 3.

- Be able to engage in purposeful dialogue in practical situations, such as ordering in a cafe or following directions and will be able to express an opinion.
- Make increasingly accurate attempts to read unfamiliar words, phrases and short texts.
- Speak and read aloud with confidence and accuracy in pronunciation.
- Demonstrate understanding of spoken language by listening and responding appropriately.
- Use a bilingual dictionary to support their language learning.
- Be able to identify word classes in a sentence and apply grammatical rules they have learnt.
- Have developed an awareness of cognates and near-cognates and be able to use them to tackle unfamiliar words in French, English and other languages.
- Be able to construct short texts on familiar topics.
- Demonstrate a secure understanding of a unit's crucial learning, skills and knowledge in the end of unit assessment.
- Understand how their learning in French links to the wider world of work.
- Meet the relevant end of key stage expectations outlined in the National curriculum for languages at the end of Key stage 2.

| | Autumn | Spring | Summer |
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| Year 3 | <p>French greetings</p> <p>Using puppets, children learn a variety of French greetings and introductions and learn to choosing the correct greeting based on the time of day. They also begin to ask and answer questions about feelings and perform finger rhymes in French.</p> | <p>French playground games- numbers and age</p> <p>Children learn to count in French from one to twelve, how to ask how old someone is and how to answer the same question. They also learn how to read French numbers and begin comparing sentence structures in French and English.</p> | <p>French transport</p> <p>Using detective skills, children will spot cognates and work out the meaning of the words whilst learning new transport-related vocabulary. They will learn and use simple phrases, questions and answers and will construct sentences using parts of the verb 'aller' – to go.</p> |
| | <p>French adjectives of colour, size and shape</p> <p>Children will describe shapes using adjectives of colour and size, learning the position of adjectives relative to the noun. They also identify cognates - similar sounding words in English and French and follow instructions in French in work linked to the French artist, Matisse.</p> | <p>In a French classroom</p> <p>Children learn to respond to common classroom instructions through games. They learn vocabulary for classroom items and how to ask and answer questions for something they do or do not have. They will also begin to develop their understanding that French nouns are either 'masculine' or 'feminine.'</p> | <p>A circle of life in French</p> <p>Using dictionary skills, children will research nouns and will determine their gender. They will develop animal vocabulary and habitat names and apply this vocabulary to create sentences and to describe food chains.</p> |
| Year 4 | <p>Portraits - describing in French</p> <p>Children will learn adjectives for describing people's physical appearance and their personality. They will also learnt to create, read and write simple descriptive sentences ensuring that the adjectives agree with the gender of the noun.</p> | <p>French numbers, calendars and birthdays</p> <p>Building on their year 3 knowledge of numbers to 12, children will learn to recall and use numbers up to 31. They will learn to say the days of the week, months of the year and the seasons in French and to select vocabulary to discuss the date.</p> | <p>French food – miam, miam!</p> <p>Children will learn food vocabulary and how to order food and drink in a French café. The will revise numbers to 100, this time in the context of money and prices. Developing their language detective skills, children will work out the meaning of unfamiliar words and will also develop confidence with practical conversational French.</p> |
| | <p>Clothes- getting dressed in French</p> <p>Using vocabulary relating to clothing and colours in French, children will apply their understanding of noun and adjective agreement. They will also learn where adjectives go in sentences and how to express opinions for what they like and dislike.</p> | <p>French weather and the water cycle</p> <p>Children will learn various phrases to describe the weather and how to do so using the compass points in French. They will count from 1-100 in multiples of ten and combine this knowledge to make statements about the temperature. They will also create their own water cycle (cycle de l'eau).</p> | <p>French and the Eurovision Song Contest</p> <p>Revising vocabulary from Year 3 and 4, children will write original songs in French. They will also learn additional musical vocabulary and expand their knowledge of the French names for European countries.</p> |

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| <p>Year 5</p> | <p>French monster pets</p> <p>Children will revise noun gender and use the correct article to go with nouns. They will learn vocabulary for body parts and make adjectives agree with the noun in descriptive sentences they construct, placing the adjectives in the correct place.</p> | <p>Shopping in France</p> <p>Children will learn to construct high numbers and will develop food-related vocabulary, building on understanding of sentence structures, questions and phrases. They will also work as language detectives to explore and understand an authentic French text.</p> | <p>Verbs in a week</p> <p>Children will learn to identify the infinitive form of verbs and subject pronouns. They will group French verbs and learn that there are regular and irregular verbs and will choose and use a range of action verbs in their work.</p> |
| | <p>Space exploration – in French</p> <p>Using figurative language, children will develop sentence structure skills by adding adjectives, using prepositions and making simple adjectival comparisons. They will learn French vocabulary for the solar system and will make comparisons of the planets.</p> | <p>French speaking world</p> <p>Children will learn about French speaking countries and how to give and follow directional language. They will discuss climate in the French-speaking world and use comparative language.</p> | <p>Meet my French family</p> <p>Children will develop family and relations vocabulary and will name different family members on a family tree. They will use the possessive adjective 'my' and will express likes and dislikes. They will also learn to compose a written composition by recycling and re-ordering known words and phrases.</p> |
| <p>Year 6</p> | <p>French sport and the Olympics</p> <p>Focusing on French sport and the Olympics, children will be conjugating the verb 'aller' - to go, identifying correct prepositions, learning sports vocabulary and how to express preferences. They will use familiar language to construct sentences and will use a range of vocabulary and grammatical structures.</p> | <p>In my French house</p> <p>Children will learn how to describe a house - the different rooms and who lives there. They will learn about prepositions to explain where items are arranged in their bedrooms and will write a letter describing a house in French.</p> | <p>Visiting a town in French</p> <p>Building on their previous knowledge, children will learn directional and transport vocabulary to describe their route to school. They will also use prepositional phrases and practise giving opinions when discussing transport, sightseeing and tourism in France.</p> |
| | <p>French football champions</p> <p>Children will develop and practise French football vocabulary using a variety of language learning strategies. They will also develop their reading, speaking and listening skills through responding to questions about footballers and will apply their knowledge to create a footballer profile.</p> | <p>Planning a French holiday</p> <p>Children will learn to use a combination of present and near-future tenses whilst becoming familiar with holiday-related vocabulary around packing a suitcase and planning a journey. They will describe which clothes to pack for a holiday and will plan a holiday to France.</p> | <p>Revision</p> <p>Children will revise previous learning during this half term.</p> |