



Ashbrook Independent School
French program 2017-18
2nd grade

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Bonne rentrée! I am excited to be back for my fourth year at Ashbrook. This past year was a year of exploration as we used the language to create fun and interesting stories. You all showed enthusiasm and excitement throughout this process. Merci! I look forward to continuing to guide you on your language journey. — Madame Burand

Course Description:

In this course, our goal will be to acquire French language. “Acquiring” a language is very different than “learning” a language. Acquiring is something that happens to you instead of something that you make happen. When you learned how to speak your first language, you acquired it naturally by listening to other people speak it around you for a long time; not by studying it. Therefore, almost all of our class time will be spent using French—not using English to talk about French—and the focus will be on listening and reading instead of speaking and writing. Those skills will come naturally as you take in more and more French by listening and reading.

This is a Comprehensible Input French course which will use methods and strategies that are based on Dr. Stephen Krashen’s Input Hypothesis. In particular, we will use the TPRS (Teaching Proficiency through Reading and Storytelling) method of language acquisition that was developed by Blaine Ray and based on the work of Dr. James Asher.

We will focus our class time on the acquisition of high frequency structures (the most frequently used words in a language); between three and six new target structures each week (you will learn more than this, but will only be assessed on the target structures). We will use these structures in class discussions, stories, and cultural explorations and you will be expected to recognize them when you read or hear them, and in time, be able to produce them in speech and writing.

Materials:

Students will organize their French work in a **three-hole binder** (provided). The **student textbook**, *Raconte-moi encore!* will be used from time to time in class.

Classroom Expectations:

1. Be respectful, *Soyez respectueux*
2. Be responsible, *Soyez responsable*
3. Be safe, *Soyez prudent*
4. Do your best, *Faites de votre mieux*

Consequences:

- Student may need to move to a “quiet work place”
- Student may need to have a conference with the teacher and/or be referred to the office
- In a serious event parents will be involved, but not on a day-to-day basis

Rewards:

- Praise (daily)
- *Le Premier de Fromage* Award (for an awesome cheesy performance)
- *Star Student* Award (for being an awesome citizen: demonstrates kindness, honesty, helpfulness)
- Class Fun day (once per term)