

The Franco "files"

A newsletter published by Madame Bailey for the students and parents of BSHS classroom 400

FEBRUARY 2022



Bonjour! I would like to send a warm welcome to my French 3, French 3 Honors, and AP French students and parents! We've made it to second semester!

Coming up this semester, after some review and practice, students in the French 3 and French 3 Honors classes will discuss different experiences which are available to young people living in a metropolitan area, identify how people in our community and francophone cultures take care of their physical and mental health, and explore how travel experiences shape our understanding and respect for the communities we visit. While using French exclusively in the classroom will take some getting used to, with frequent prompting and reinforcement, the students will be surprised by how much French they are able to use by the end of the semester.

Students in the AP French Language and Culture course have already jumped right into preparing for the AP exam in May. Their coursework this semester will focus around six global themes and will incorporate the study of current events from around the francophone world. With just under four months until the exam, we will be moving through the content quickly.

All classes will be participating in a pen pal exchange with ninth grade students learning English in the city of Toulouse, France. This is a great opportunity for our students to learn first-hand how daily life for French and American teenagers compares. We will use Google docs and Flipgrid to exchange written messages and short videos. [A parental consent form for the exchange can be accessed here.](#) Parents: Please complete the form to grant permission for your child to participate. If you choose to opt your child out, they will still write/record the messages which will only be shared with me.

I am looking forward to a great semester! Please reach out to me if you have any questions as we go through the semester.

Madame Bailey

Grading Categories – AP French

30% - INTERPRETIVE COMMUNICATION

30% - INTERPERSONAL COMMUNICATION

30% - PRESENTATIONAL COMMUNICATION

10% - VOCABULARY/ GRAMMAR QUIZZES

Grading Categories – French 3/3H

30% - INTERPRETIVE COMMUNICATION

30% - INTERPERSONAL COMMUNICATION

30% - PRESENTATIONAL COMMUNICATION

10% - HOMEWORK/ CLASSWORK/PARTICIPATION

TIP FOR SUCCESS IN THE LANGUAGE CLASSROOM

It is natural to experience anxiety when dealing with something unfamiliar like learning a new language that operates with different grammar, vocabulary, and pronunciation, but a small amount of anxiety is actually *healthy* because it elevates adrenaline and improves performance. Students should remember that language learning is an error-prone journey; everybody makes mistakes, and everybody *should* make them because that is how learning takes place. Even native speakers (and teachers like me who have been teaching the language for many years) commit grammar, pronunciation, and usage errors on a daily basis. Students should give themselves the grace to do the same. Practice *makes* perfect but practice won't always *be* perfect, and it is that imperfect practice that is necessary to succeed in a language class!



2/4 – Deadline to [opt in to the National French Exam \(Le Grand Concours\)](#)

2/4 – Deadline to [apply for la Société Honoraire de Français](#) (3 pm)

2/21 – President's Day holiday (no school)

DID YOU KNOW?

There are three modes of language – *interpretive communication* (reading and listening), *presentational communication* (writing and speaking to an audience of readers or listeners), and *interpersonal communication* (engaging in a written or spoken exchange with the opportunity to negotiate meaning). Proficiency in all three modes is what makes a well-rounded language learner which is why these categories are practiced and assessed regularly and serve as the gradebook categories for all classes in the SMSD World Language Department.



How do you say...? (ALTERNATIVES TO USING GOOGLE TRANSLATE)

- **Reference your vocabulary list**
 - Use the chapter vocabulary words being studied in class. Your teacher will be looking for them in your written and spoken responses.
- **Develop a personal vocabulary list**
 - Keep track of additional words that you learn that are not on your vocabulary list already, especially those words that are specific to you (activities/hobbies you like, places you go, etc.)
- **Simplify your message**
 - Your French vocabulary is not as developed as it is in English. Start by getting your point across and then try to develop your message further.
- **Visit wordreference.com**
 - [Wordreference.com](http://wordreference.com) is a great site for looking up new words. Just be sure to take note of the different parts of speech for the suggestions offered. Read through the examples to help you select the right word for what you are trying to say.
- **Ask your teacher**
 - Your teacher can always help you to determine the best way to communicate your message.

Need to contact Mrs. Bailey?

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EXPRESSION OF THE MONTH

