

French Program: Bonjour! Parlez-vous Français?

Dear Parents:

Bonjour! Welcome! Our French teacher is Madame Baslé. She teaches all students in the school, from Pre-school through 8th grade (ages 2½ - 14). Here is a brief overview of our French Program.

Preschool French Program

Ages: 2½ - 5

Madame Baslé visits each Preschool class once a week. The children absorb the following information audio-visually:

- Numbers from 0 to 30
- Days of the week
- Body parts
- Food
- Songs
- Colors
- Little poems

PrePrimary French Program

Grades: Pre-K & Kindergarten

Ages: 4½ - 6

Madame Baslé visits each PrePrimary class 3 days a week. Students learn the same information as the Preschool classes, plus:

- Vocabulary covering everyday living
- Songs
- Poems
- Plays

1st & 2nd Grade French Program

Ages: 6 - 8

1st grade and 2nd grade classes have French 4 days a week. Just as the students are progressing in English, they are progressing in French:

- Start reading French
- Conversational French
- Numbers up to 100 and above
- Poems
- Plays

2nd graders have:

- Additional reading
- Conversational French
- Enlarging vocabulary
- Homework

3rd & 4th Grade French Program

Ages: 8 - 10

Students at this level have French class 4 days a week. We continue with the same program from 2nd grade, with the addition of:

- Grammar
- Studying conjugation of the verb "to be" and "to have." These are very important verbs because they are employed as auxiliary verbs in the past tense.
- Additional vocabulary
- Conversation
- French culture, geography, and history of France

5th Grade French Program

Ages: 10 - 11

Students at this level have French class 4 days a week.

- Continuation of the previous programs
- Reading
- Conversations
- More homework expected

6th - 8th Grade French Program

Ages: 11 - 14

At this level, students must be able to read, write, and understand French. And, of course, there will be more daily homework and study of art, history, culture, and drama.

Grading for 5th through 8th grades:

- 40% Test
- 30% Homework
- 15% Quiz
- 15% Participation

FRENCH TRIP INFORMATION

Statistics show the best time to learn a 2nd language is during the early years (ages 1 - 6). Spring Valley offers an intensive French program: Pre-school - 8th grade.

Older children (1st grade and older) have the opportunity to go on a 2-week French trip with their parents and French teacher deepening their language skills, as well as cultural understanding. The French trip is offered every other year. Each trip itinerary is different, so that families may be interested in joining us more than once. We hope we've tempted you, so that you're thinking about coming with us!

If you are going on the French Trip, here are some things to work on and gather:

- Passports and other paperwork.
- You may want to get some French CDs for the car to work on important phrases, like "Where is Starbucks?"

This is an exciting trip that students (and parents) remember for the rest of their lives.

