MFL at Lambourne Primary School: An Overview

Introducing the Subject Leader:

Tina Carter - I have been teaching at Lambourne for over 25 years, currently I work two days a week job share in Year 5. I have been MFL subject leader for 3 years. I am enthusiastic about leading MFL at Lambourne as I feel it is opening up the world to our children. I feel we can show them that there's a huge, exciting world outside their local area and we are helping them become more curious and understanding of others.

Our Vision for MFL

Our vision is that the children are inspired to develop an interest and enjoyment in learning other languages. We intend to develop children's curiosity about the French language. Our goal is for them to feel confident and passionate about their language learning abilities when they finish Primary school and to enhance their awareness of different countries and cultures and to strengthen their own sense of identity as a result.

Our Informed Research on Science

Working memory has a very limited capacity (often cited as being able to handle only a small number of items at once). In teaching French, this means we must be highly strategic about how new material is presented. Language Angels has a strong focus on developing long-term memory skills with pedagogy and methodology based on solid research – particularly in the Early Learning units. All lessons are carefully planned, sequenced and scaffolded so all pupils are able to participate with varying levels of support. This support can be used as and when required. Previous knowledge is always revised and recycled prior to new knowledge being introduced.

The Teaching of French

We use Language Angels, a fully online resource.
Teachers follow our curriculum map, plan their lessons using Language Angels scheme of work - they are able to supplement this with their own ideas and experience. The lessons have clear, achievable objectives and incorporate different learning styles.

- PowerPoints and interactive whiteboard materials
- Interactive games
- Songs and raps
- Worksheets - three levels of challenge
- Supporting resources- word cards,vocabulary lists and visual vocabulary lists

French is taught through discrete weekly lessons in Key Stage 2

How we Assess Progress in MFL

Assessment automatically occurs in each lesson due to the nature of the materials. Summative and formative assessment is always provided in week 6 of every unit.

The Impact of MFL

The impact of our French curriculum is measured by the extent to which children:

- Feel excited and curious about learning another language, which encourages them to be lifelong learners.
- Show confidence in tackling new, unknown words and phrases (being resilient).

- Understand and appreciate the culture, traditions, and lives of people in the countries where the language is spoken. This helps them become global citizens and show tolerance and respect for others.
- Know why learning a language is a valuable skill for their future, opening doors to future careers and opportunities to study or travel abroad.
- Develop better skills in listening, memory, and problem-solving, which helps them in all their other subjects, including English.
- Make good progress in their language skills as they move from year to year, ready for the next step of language learning in secondary school.