

Grade Eight French

Overview for Parents

Teacher: Kevin Quigley

Content Goals

This is the year that students put it all together! The goal for Grade Eight French is to do more of everything: reading, writing, listening and speaking. Students will prepare for placement tests for high school and for the annual National French Contest, known as Le Grand Concours. The year will include reviews and deepening of grammar structures (the imperfect past tense and the conditional) and vocabulary (foods, marketing and eating out). Students will turn their eyes to Africa, and will learn about many African francophone countries and their cultures. They will seek out current event articles about their countries and share them with each other. Grade Eight will also be a time to do some independent work on French culture, with an emphasis on cooking and poetry recitation.

Grade Eight students will use “Discovering French: Blanc” by Valette and Valette as their textbook. Early in the year, students will watch the famous Louis Malle film, “Au revoir les enfants” and learn about World War II in France. Students will write about a topic presented in the film as their culminating exercise. Students will try their hand at being a teacher, and use the App “Explain Everything” to demonstrate their understanding of the difference between the two past tenses studied: le passé composé and l’imparfait.

Expectations for Students

Students meet three times a week for 50 minutes a class. Speaking French in class continues to be an important component of the French classroom. Students will be expected to respond to questions in French and to converse in French as much as possible. Quizzes are given after each chapter in the textbook; and more comprehensive tests will be given regularly. Students are expected to participate in all exercises, activities and projects designed to strengthen their understanding of the French language. Students are also expected to come to class with all required supplies and their completed homework.

Homework Requirements

Homework is assigned each time we meet, and most assignments will be graded. Careful and thorough completion of homework is an important part of Grade Eight French. Homework assignments should take about 30 minutes to complete. Over the long weekend breaks from French, students will often have more than one French assignment. Students who miss class will be expected to complete assignments in a timely fashion.

Contacting the Teacher

I am more than happy to answer any questions or concerns. Please feel free to call me at Crossroads Academy at (603) 795-3111, ext 123, and leave a message. I will return your call as soon as possible. You may also e-mail me at: kevin.quigley@crossroadsacademy.org.

