Grades 4-5: French Language
Overview for Parents

Teacher: Kevin Quigley (Monsieur Quigley)

Methodology
TCI (Teaching with Comprehensible Input) is the methodology that I use in every French class here at Crossroads. It is based on the work of Dr. Stephen Krashen who determined that language acquisition is an unconscious process that happens when the learner is focused on the meaning of the message rather than on how the language works. I don’t want Crossroads students just to learn about French; I want them to acquire it.

To that end, I aim to speak French at least 90% of the time in all my classes. It would be useless, however, if I just talked at the students in French without any context. The input they receive needs to be not only comprehensible but also relevant and personalized. Therefore the material that we will use will be generated by the students themselves, based on their interests and subtly guided by the vocabulary and grammar I want them to learn.

Expectations for Students
My primary expectation is that students listen with the intent to understand. By 4th-5th grade, students should be speaking mostly in the target language. That said, using English is acceptable if it allows me to see that they understand what is being said to them.

At all times, students should respect:
- their teacher by being attentive to the teacher’s words.
- their fellow students by being considerate of those around them.
- themselves by being patient with themselves.

Homework Requirements
There will be little to no homework for students in grades 4-5. Students should take advantage of class time to enjoy and soak in the language. Students are always encouraged to try out songs, words and phrases on their families. From time to time, I will send student work home so that parents can see samples of students’ written work.

Contacting the Teacher
I am more than happy to answer any questions or address any concerns. Feel free to email me at kevin.quigley@crossroadsacademy.org and I will get back to you as soon as possible.