K-3: French Language

Overview for Parents

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 want my students to acquire the French language, rather than learn about it.

A typical K-3 class might include one or more of the following activities:

- a greeting and a song.
- some TPR (Total Physical Response) which involves the students interpreting commands in the target language and responding to them with their bodies.
- creating and developing a story/image using vocabulary suited to their grade.
- reading/writing activities based on stories they have created (grades 2-3).

Using comprehensible and contextualized language allows me to speak French 90% of the time. I purposefully limit my vocabulary to words that the students understand, adding to it as they learn more.

K-3 students will also learn about Francophone culture and traditions. We will mark the seasons and holidays with pertinent games, crafts and activities.

Expectations for Students

My only expectation is that students listen with the intent to understand. I do not require them to reproduce the language at this point. But they should always be listening, both with their eyes as well as their ears. Our class rules are respect for:

- their teacher by being attentive to the teacher’s words.
- their fellow students by being mindful of those around them.
- themselves by being patient with themselves.

Homework Requirements

There will be little to no homework for K-3 students. At this stage, I want them to enjoy and engage with the language in class with me.

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.