UN MOT DE LA COORDONNATRICE -
A WORD FROM THE COORDINATOR

Un coup d’oeil derrière le rideau - A Peek Behind the Scenes

Bonne Année!

We welcome you back to the Spring semester and thank you for re-enrolling your children through May! We are thrilled to have 100% of the students from the fall come back for the spring semester! Language learning is a life-long endeavor that enriches the brain. We aspire to keep those language learning pathways open and either help your child develop a thirst for learning about other cultures or nurture the existing desire.

A reminder to all parents that the ideal class-room time is from 3:00 to 4:45. To try and create a better end-of-class experience, I have set the end time as 4:45 p.m. If you can try to pick up your child between 4:45 and 5:00, that would help to make the end of the class-time better defined. IF YOU ARRIVE BEFORE THAT TIME, PLEASE SIT DOWN AND WAIT AND WATCH OUR FINAL ACTIVITIES! The end of the day tends to be pretty fluid, and once parents start arriving, it is difficult to keep the students’ focus. Obviously we all have other obligations, so if you need to pick up your child before then, we will accommodate and try to make it as seamless as possible!

We have finished up our Theme on Holidays and Traditions and have started with Theme 3, which is Partageons la Nourriture ("Let’s share food"). We are lucky to have Julia Schulz, founder of the Penobscot School of Language in Rockland and who has been involved with MFHLP since its inception, help us with curriculum development and writing for these next 8 weeks! This theme continues to explore different Francophone countries and cultures as students learn about table manners, how to set the table, and what kinds of foods people in different countries and regions eat! I have a Lexique for each family so that you can learn some of the vocabulary together!

The Franco-American Day at the legislature will take place this year on March 19th and we are hoping that some of you will be able to participate with your children. Cindy Larock will be demonstrating traditional Franco-American dancing, which the students learned in early December when she came to our class. Once we have a time set for the dancing, I will let you know. You would need to transport
your child to the State House for the dancing and bring them back to school. This is a great opportunity for your children to see the state house and to be a part of something much larger than the French class! There are people visiting and displaying items from Franco-American organizations all around the state, and many of them will also be speaking in French. The more exposure they have to other people who have a link to the French language, the more meaningful the overall language learning experience will be. Please join us if you can!

I would like to extend a big thank you to the Augusta After Care program for joining us for dancing with Cindy Larock in December. The After Care Program split the cost of her performance with the MFHLP, and there were several eager students who joined in the dancing fun in the gym. Students learned how to Chasser, Peel the Banana, dos à dos and all kinds of interesting traditional dance moves.

Merci beaucoup,

Karen Foust

LE COIN DES ENSEIGNANTS - TEACHERS’ CORNER

Lincoln School - We finished up Theme 2 with a parade and a game similar to Family Feud where each student was responsible for answering a question, with the help of their team. The questions were based on the holidays and traditions that we covered in Theme 2, and it was great to see the kids working together to try to answer their questions. The team was given a point for the correct answer and 2 points if they answered with a full sentence. We covered quite a bit of territory: from Canada to Vietnam, learning about traditions in many countries with roots in French history!

I am in need of some more items for the end of the day prize box. I use the prize box to help students monitor their behavior during class, and it does provide an incentive for better listening and participation. Some favorite items have been chewing gum, chocolates, life savers and little novelty items that are relevant to the season. Although I try to keep the end of the day sugar at a minimum for you, anything small that you can donate would be appreciated. We have 15 students total, which means that there are up to 30 items needed per week! Please be aware that we have several nut allergies in our class, so anything you bring in should not have nuts in them.

LES DEVOIRS SUGGÉRÉS - SUGGESTED HOMEWORK
Alternative activities:
Listening to music and looking at the links to the youtube videos that we use is a great way to reinforce what students know or have been exposed to. There are lots of great links to French songs that I will share with you:
Je suis une pizza-  http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=5rmZRWCwRDE
Meunier Tu Dors -  http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=P_-LTIrkJ5S
Savez-Vous planter des choux -  http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=iAGV2pcLaAg

Please take a copy of the Lexique for Theme 3 home with you. This one has LOTS of great foods, expressions for the dinner table, and telling time. Labeling items, reinforcing the table manners in French, asking them the time, etc. are all great ways to keep them exposed to the language and teaching you what they know - kids LOVE to be better at something than their parents!

LE CALENDRIER DES ÉVÉNEMENTS - CALENDAR OF EVENTS
March 19th - Franco Day at the Maine Legislature. Cindy Larock will be inviting people to dance, and we would love to have a group from our class attend this event and show what they have
learned. Please be aware that this activity is during the school day and we would need parents to transport their kids there.

**ACTIVITÉS RÉCENTES - RECENT ACTIVITIES**

Dancing with Cindy Larock in December

Caroling at Chateau Cushnoc
Eating Crepes together to celebrate La Chandeleur

EN PARTENARIAT AVEC - IN ASSOCIATION WITH:

EN COLLABORATION AVEC - IN COLLABORATION WITH:

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Pour plus de renseignements sur le programme à Augusta: - For more information about the program in Augusta:  
http://www.uma.edu/mflhp.html

Pour plus de renseignements sur le programme à Auburn: - And the program in Auburn: 
http://www.francocenter.org/aboutmflhp/