

The Franco "files"

A newsletter published by Madame Bailey for the students and parents of BSHS classroom 400

MAY/JUNE 2022

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WHAT'S HAPPENING IN THE FRENCH CLASSROOM?



It's hard to believe we've made it to May! A traditionally very busy time of year, May at BSHS brings us AP exams, Keystone exams, field trips, and a variety of student celebrations including Prom, Senior Night, and Commencement (see important dates on next page). During these very busy next few weeks, it's more important than ever that students continue to stay focused in their classes and keep up with their class assignments. Please continue to sign into Sapphire regularly to ensure all work is complete and grades are accurate and don't hesitate to reach out if you have a question about an assignment or a grade you see in our class gradebook.

As for what's happening in our French classes, AP French students are in the home stretch, working diligently to prepare for their exam on May 12. They have been mastering vocabulary, transitional structures, advanced verb tenses, complex grammatical concepts, and a variety of exam strategies all semester to help ensure their success on the nearly four-hour exam which includes listening, reading, writing, and speaking.

Students in the French 3/French 3 Honors classes have been engaged for the last 4 weeks in a unit on travel. Through a multitude of classroom games and activities addressing the three modes of communication, they have been learning how to identify and describe different travel destinations, discuss the actions they take to prepare for travel, and express the activities they like to do when traveling. They are also learning some more complex grammatical concepts including how to express future actions, using geographical prepositions to say where people go, and using direct object pronouns to reduce the redundancy in their writing/speaking.

All students continue to engage in a written exchange with their pen pals from outside of Toulouse, France with most classes writing on a bi-weekly or tri-weekly basis. We look forward to receiving a care package from our pen pals in the near future.

As this will be my last newsletter of the school year, I want to say congratulations to all of our Class of 2022 graduates and wish everyone a restful summer. I look forward to working with many of you again in future classes!

Madame Bailey



Congratulations to these graduating members of the Class of 2022 who are enrolled in a French class this semester and/or are a member of *La Société Honoraire de Français*.

Ajla Salkic

Madelyn Steinour



Culture Spotlight – May 1st

May Day, or May 1st, is a public and traditional spring holiday in many European cultures. Each culture has different origins and ways to celebrate the holiday, but in France, the first of May is all about two things: *le muguet*, or “lily of the valley”, and Labor Day. On the first of May, friends and family offer each other little sprigs, bouquets, or whole plants of muguet for good luck. It is the belief that the more bell-like flowers the plant has, the better the luck. May 1st is also a public holiday, which means that just about everything in France is closed to celebrate. It’s considered to be a workers’ holiday.

The tradition of giving muguet on the first of May dates all the way back to the reign of Charles IX, when the young King was gifted a branch for good luck. He liked the idea so much that from then on, he gifted every woman in his court a sprig on the first of May each year. From there, it became a custom to give a sprig of muguet as a symbol of springtime.



IMPORTANT DATES:

MAY 6 – Teacher Inservice Day (No classes)

MAY 12 – AP French Exam

MAY 17/18 – Literature Keystone Exam
*2-hour delay schedule

MAY 18 – Senior Night (6 pm)

MAY 19/20 – Algebra Keystone Exam
*2-hour delay schedule

MAY 20 – Last day of classes for seniors

MAY 23/24 – Senior finals

MAY 25/26 – Biology Keystone Exam
*2-hour delay schedule

MAY 25 – Baccalaureate (7 pm)

MAY 30 – Memorial Day (Schools closed)

JUNE 2/3 – Underclassmen finals

JUNE 2 – Commencement (7 pm)

class of
2022

**BONNES VACANCES
A TOUS!**