



Thursday 14th September 2023

MARIA'S NOTES :



The school **photographer** will come to school on Tuesday 3rd and Wednesday 4th October. He will take class photos and individual photos. Can I ask all parents to be sure that their child is wearing **perfect uniform** (polo shirt, sweat shirt, trousers or skirt, grey or white socks and dark leather brown or black shoes) from Reception to Grade 11. Grade 12 & 13 should wear nice, appropriate clothes. Many thanks.



In your child's bag, you will find the **subscription form** from the famous French publisher **ÉCOLE DES LOISIRS**. Choose the 'abonnement groupé' as it is less expensive and will be given to your child at school.

It's very useful to be able to read French books if you want to improve your French skills.

On Monday, we had our second weekly assembly of the year. The focus of the assembly was '**volunteering**'. We talked about what it was to be a volunteer - to do something for free, without payment. We realised that when you volunteer, it is something that helps others in some way. We then discussed whether we had ever been a volunteer, and quickly realised that we have opportunities to volunteer every day at school. We can of course volunteer to be a student councillor, or for other jobs around the school, but we can even volunteer our answers in class by putting our hand up.

We can volunteer to play with others that look lonely, we can voluntarily make sure that we haven't left any litter after we've eaten, we can volunteer to help at home. In fact the opportunities to volunteer and make a positive difference to others and ourselves, are endless. This week, we have been trying hard to volunteer wherever we can!

During the assembly, the class teachers introduced their **representatives for the student council**, for this term. These esteemed students will meet with Mr Hanrahan once a week to discuss important matters and in fact, have already had one important meeting, leading to our first fundraising event of the year, which you can read about further down!



Miss Nairac then introduced us to **the house captains** for the term. The house captains will have to collect the house points from around the school every two weeks and try to motivate their team members to participate in inter-house events, in order to win as many house points as possible.



On Tuesday, the student council met for the first time this year. After organising some of our weekly jobs, such as emptying the paper bins, we started to think about what charity we would like to support this year. The amount of money raised from the summer fayre, in June, was **344.96 euros** which means that in total last year we raised a whopping **1099.79 euros** for our charity '**Helping Refugees in Jordan**'. This year, we would like to choose a local charity, in order to help those less fortunate than us, that live in Pau and the surrounding area. If you have any ideas of charities that we could help, please let us know. In the meantime, the student council decided to collect apples from the garden, which they will be selling for 20 cents each at the end of school next Wednesday. The money raised from this sale, will be given to help relief efforts in Morocco, following the earthquake there. The student council are also planning another exciting fundraiser based around an enormous pumpkin that is growing in the school garden...



On Tuesday afternoon, Miss Murielle and the French team presented the students that took the DELF French exams, last year, with their official diplomas! Mr Hanrahan and the French team were so proud to see the Grade 6s from last year, and a few older ex-primary pupils, receive their awards! Well done everyone!!



IMPORTANT DATES:

Wednesday 27th September to Thursday 28th September – Grades 1-3 residential to Socoa

Wednesday 27th September to Friday 29th September – Grade 4-6 residential to La Camieta – Hendaye

Thursday 5th October (15.30 -17.15) - EYFS & Primary school Open Evening

Monday 16th October (1435) – Grade 6 assembly (Grade 6 parents welcome)

Friday 20th October – LAST DAY OF SCHOOL - MUFTI DAY (Non-uniform)

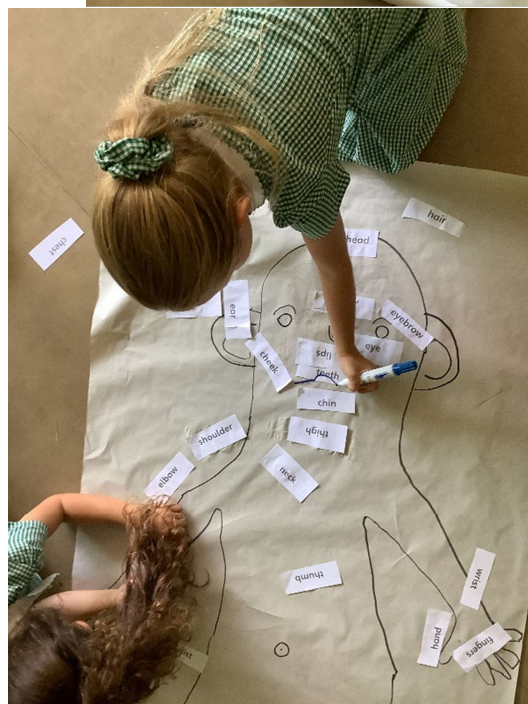
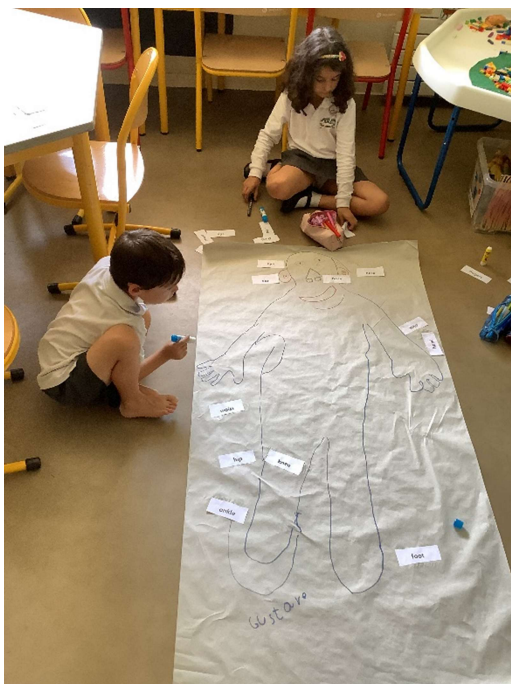
Early Years have settled in very well over the last two weeks. As you can see from the pictures below, we have enjoyed various activities such as painting, playing circle games and sensory play with foam to name a few.



Reception have been enjoying the traditional tale “The Three Little pigs”! The children have been recounting and retelling the story, joining in the repeated refrains using their very best wolf voices! We are looking forward to having some parents come in and tell us the story in their home languages!



Grade 1: Great team work in science making body maps.



Grade 2: The first Homework. Science investigation : Alive or not alive ?



Grade 3 enjoyed discovering the new upper primary library during Guided Reading. There's nothing better than relaxing with a good book!



Grade 4 have started their new topic in Geography: Rivers and Lakes, and have been making presentations about the journey of a river 🏡



Here is the lovely **Grade 6**



We had great fun in **Biology** this week. **Grade 8** have been studying joint and muscles. We made our own model hand and also dissected a pigs tail!





Grades 7, 8 and 9 went 3 days on a trip to the seaside, in Seignosse (Cap Ocean)

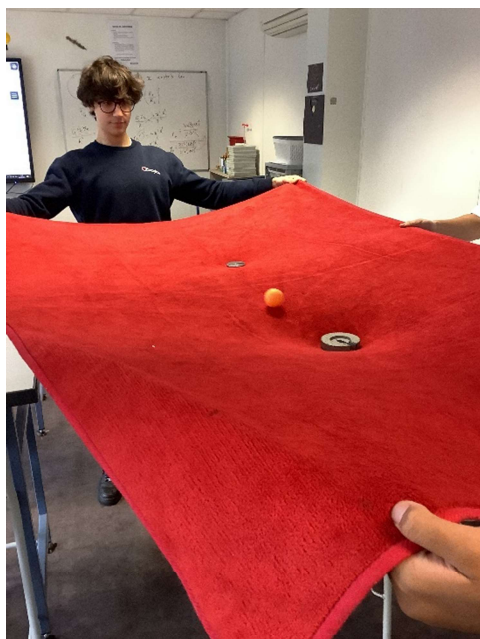






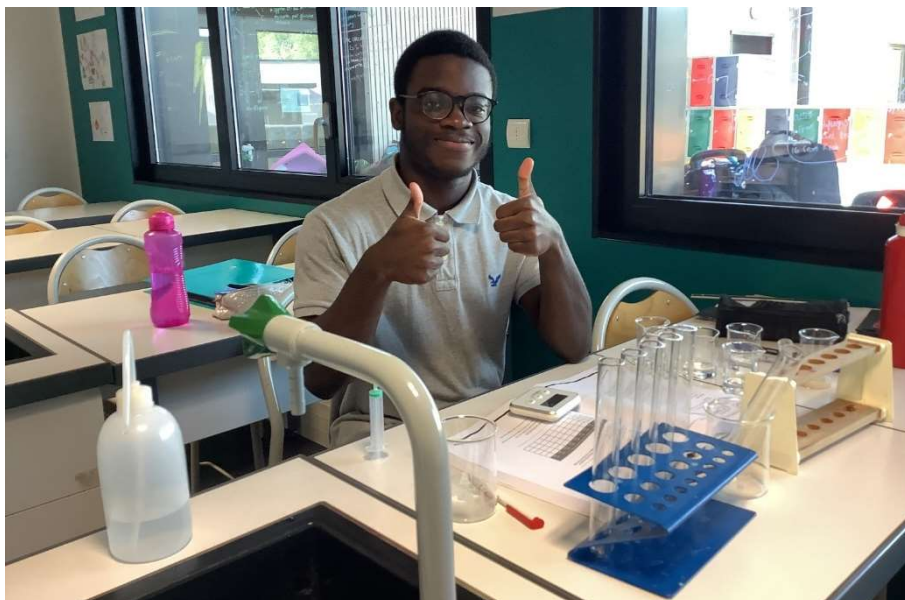


Grade 12 in Physics lesson, when they took measurements of a Fortnite gun's bullet. Later on they calculated maximum height and some other physical quantities due to angle and measured time.



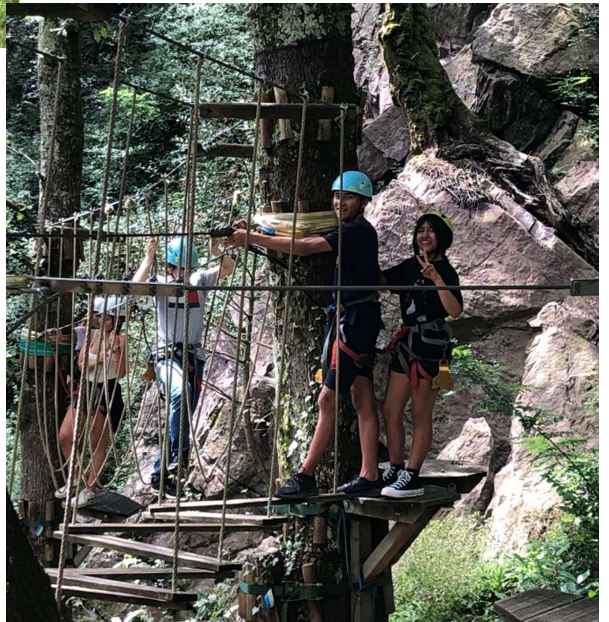
Grade 13 physicists, where they proved and demonstrated that heavier objects (Stars) have enormous gravitational force and can easily attract lighter objects near by.

Grade 13, in Biology, did a respiration experiment, testing the respiration rate of yeast in different sugars.



Grades 10, 11, 12 and 13 went three days on a River trip to Bidarray (centre Arteka)





SECONDARY UPDATE

14 September 2023

Ann Byrne is writing this week's Secondary Update from our Gite in the beautiful Basque Country. The students are amazing, and groups of students have taken turns to prepare a meal each day, and to clear away, wash-up etc at the end of the meal. Teachers and students really have the opportunity to see a different side of each other on these trips.

Thanks to Maria for organising our trip, and to all of the teacher's who have made both the River trip and Beach trip possible, and of course, thanks to you, the parents for supporting this trip.

Dates for your Diary

Tuesday 26 Sept: Key Stage 4 (Grades 10 and 11) Parents Information Session

Tuesday 10 Sept: Key Stage 3 (Grades 7, 8 and 9) Parents Information Session

Both sessions will start in the Hall at 16:00 with a general presentation about our curriculum in that Key Stage, and any key points for parents. This will be followed by time to speak to subject teachers in their classrooms for KS4, and for Key Stage 3, each Head of Departments will give an overview of the key information about their subject(s)

I'll keep this week's info brief!!! As my phone battery is dying..... Au revoir from the Basque Country!!
Ann Byrne



*Have a nice week
Très Bonne Semaine
Maria*