



This new school year is a new start for all of us, with some children already mastering French and others starting their discovery of this language. Since last year, two french groups were set up at the primary level, one lead by Agnès, gathering children who follow the French school curriculum, and the other one handled by Christine, for the ones who follow the special curriculum of French for foreigners from beginner to advanced level.



In preschool we started the year with the colors of objects, nature, animals surrounding us. This way, they learned colors as well as the names of what surrounds us at school. Children discovered pet animals with very strange colors in « *Lili la petite grenouille rose* », an album specifically elaborated for young children starting to learn French as a foreign language. Through the first part of this book we entered the magical world of the frog with pet animals doing human actions, with unusual colors. Our lessons start with songs and are usually followed by a story, games and physical and/or manual activities depending on the weather, as we always give priority to outdoor activities when the weather allows us to do it. At this age, children enjoy expressing themselves and learn a lot through movements. We want to make the most of the exceptional surroundings of the school. After the holidays, a special attention will be given to the house and its rooms, and to the activities we may do in each one. During winter time, one of these activities is the house's decoration for Christmas, which will be the other main topic of this period.





Just as for Maple class, Christmas - through the preparation of the show- will be one of the topics of the Primary classes after the break. The main focus will remain the objectives of the national French curriculum for Agnès' group and the study of French for foreigners for Christine's group.

For Birch class, Agnès will continue on the same path she took since September. In the first period, with « *Nounours et ses amis* » (a syllabic approach) children discovered the way of reading words as well as the relationships between phonemes and graphemes. Frequent words have been memorised. Moreover, the children listened to stories on a regular basis so as to work on their verbal comprehension and expand their vocabulary.



Christine's group will continue with Zig Zag 1, so as to further verbal and writing comprehension, and expression through the topic of The Farm. They will have to describe shapes, count, see masculine and feminine of the nouns. In the first period, we mainly worked on self-presentation, on the alphabet, on the recognition of specific words, on starting to count, on learning all the useful vocabulary of the class, the colors... Songs, reading stories, manual activities (the puppets, paper flowers), educational games are always present, and are a very good support of their learning.



Games are also part of the teaching in Christine's Oak class when for example we use the « *loto de la journée* » to make the more advanced able to say the right form of the verbs or for the beginner to start learning new verbs of action. Large range of games are at our disposal to make them progress at their own level and speed. Games, stories, manual activities, songs come in support of Alex et Zoé II, the book and exercise book we will follow during all this school year. With this method, we saw or reviewed the basics words for self-presentation in a simple or more developed approach according the level of each child. On this occasion, each child made his own presentation book. In order to speak about colors, material of the class, some verbs of action, they realised paper flowers, the more advanced were able to explain how to do it. We worked on verbs, numbers and the time which will be developed further during the next period. We will also be focusing our attention on the activities children do at school, speak about weather as we started to do it when we do calendar every day. The calendar and time are the first exercises we do every day as it makes the children learn and speak about the days of the week, months, numbers and activities. We will continue working on the verbal comprehension and expression but also on the writing comprehension and expression, with different objectives depending on the level of each pupil. Agnes' group revised and strengthened its knowledge in grammar, spelling and conjugation taking into account individual levels of the pupils. In order to do so, every week, new short texts are worked on to make the lesson more interesting. In addition, they studied 2 books : « *Le buveur d'encre* » (by Eric Sanvoisin) and « *Le petit prince* » (by Antoine de Saint Exupery) with their questionnaire to practice the written comprehension and expression. After the break they will continue working following this pattern.

