

AUTUMN TERM 1 SEPTEMBER 2022 EDITION 1

LANGUAGES DEPARTMENT NEWSLETTER

DE ASTON SCHOOL
WWW.DEASTONLANGUAGES.COM



Bienvenue! Willkommen! ¡Bienvenidos!

Welcome to the first edition of the De Aston School Languages department newsletter 2022-23! We hope you find the information in this newsletter helpful and please visit our department website for more information.

Click here: www.deastonlanguages.com

Languages department update

At the end of the last school year we said farewell to Mrs Bibby who had worked in the De Aston School languages department for an incredible 30 years. We would now like to introduce to you the new member of the team, Miss Brooks, who joins Miss Johnson, Ms Oliver and Miss Inkster to teach German, Spanish and French! Spanish teaching will begin with the current Year 7, with a view to expanding it across the other year groups from the current Year 7 cohort onwards.

DEASTONLANGUAGES.COM
BELIEVE STRIVE ACHIEVE

- FRENCH, GERMAN AND SPANISH PAGES FOR ALL YEAR GROUPS USING DOWNLOADABLE SENTENCE BUILDERS
- LINKS TO USEFUL WEBSITES INFORMATION FOR PARENTS/GUARDIANS, 'MEET THE LANGUAGES TEAM' AND FORMER STUDENTS.
- INFORMATION ABOUT EXTRA-CURRICULAR ACTIVITIES, REVISION SESSIONS AND HOUSE COMPETITIONS.
- LINKS TO FRENCH SPANISH AND GERMAN MUSIC, PODCASTS, BOOKS, SPORT, FILMS AND CULTURE.

@DEASTONLANGUAGES MFL DE ASTON

What are we learning this year?

Year 7 students will be studying French, with taster lessons of German and Spanish for the last half term of the year.

Students in Years 8 and 9 will be studying French/German. Students in Years 10 and 11 continue with their French studies.

For more information and to view our curriculum maps, please go to the Parent/Guardian information page of our website (click [here](#)) to find out what we will be learning in French and German lessons during the Autumn 1 term, including homework and assessment information. On this page you can also find information on how you can support your child with their language learning.

Language lessons- What to expect!

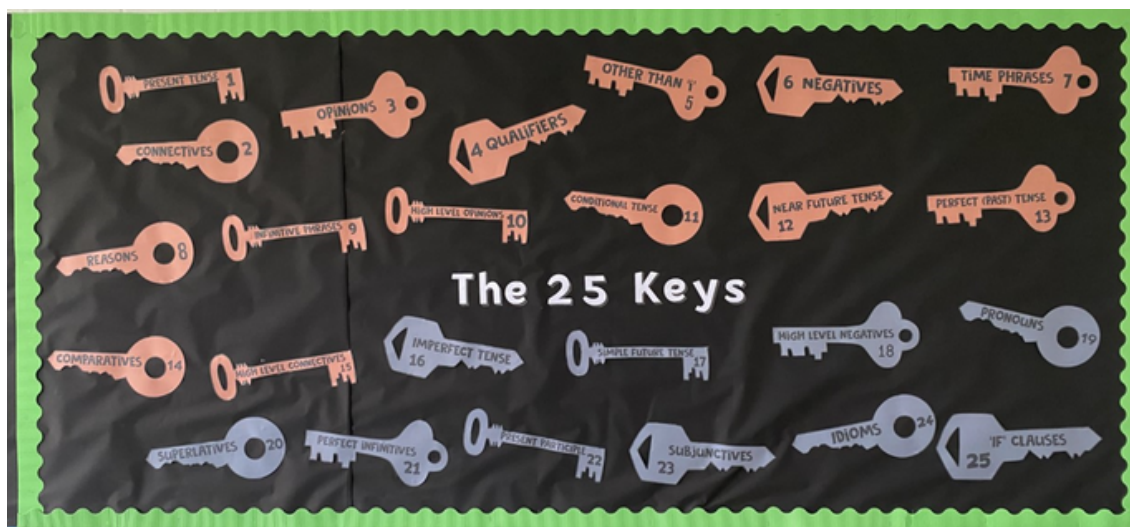
All students will receive an exercise book as well as vocabulary presented as 'Sentence Builder' tables which form the foundation of their language learning journey for each new sub-unit and enable students to learn useful 'chunks' of language rather than only individual words.

In lessons, students can expect to begin each sub-unit by playing lots of listening and speaking games to develop their pronunciation and understanding of the new vocabulary, moving onto listening, reading and translation tasks and supported writing in which they practise all of the new 'chunks' of language (and re-practise all previously learnt 'chunks'). This intensive cycle will end with students being able to complete speaking and writing tasks independently- without the aid of their 'Sentence Builders'. Throughout the year students will be able to use language with increasing confidence and spontaneity.

This is called the E.P.I approach (Extensive Processing Instruction) and is the innovative methodology developed by Dr Gianfranco Conti, a highly respected languages teacher.

The 'Keys'- Unlock your potential!

As well as their 'Sentence builders', students will also be given a 'Keys' booklet. The 'Keys' (formally called 'Root Phrases') are the high frequency key words/chunks of language that once introduced, will be recycled and reused from lesson to lesson, unit to unit, year to year and have been carefully selected and sequenced throughout our new 5 year curriculum to build up our students' knowledge and skills to achieve success at the end of Year 11!



Homework

Homework will be set regularly for all teaching groups. Homework will primarily be for students to practise vocabulary from their 'Sentence Builders' and their 'Keys'.

Homework will likely be set to complete interactive activities on Languagenut and/or Quizlet.

Students are encouraged however to revise their vocabulary and 'Keys' regularly even if it is not set as homework! All vocabulary and 'Keys' can be accessed independently on Quizlet and Languagenut- please see our department website for bespoke pages for each year group and language.

In addition, please keep an eye on Classcharts for Miss Johnson's weekly 'Head of department challenge' homework tasks! This may be a video to watch, a song to listen to or a news article to read!

Ask your class teacher for a booklet and more information.

**HEAD OF DEPARTMENT
HOMEWORK
CHALLENGE BOOKLET**

**STRETCH +
CHALLENGE**

Scan to access more french stories,
music, films, sports + podcasts!

Nom _____
Classe _____
Target _____

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ASPIRATIONAL • HARDWORKING • RESILIENT • RESPONSIBLE • KIND

Aspirational - Hard-working - Resilient - Responsible - Kind

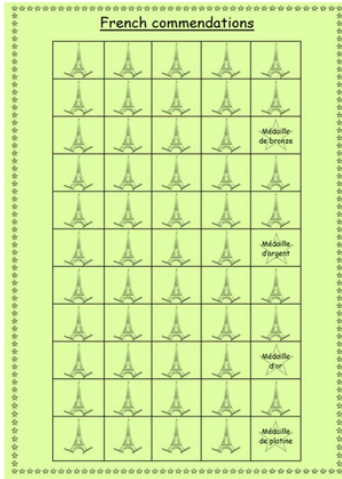


Language nut

Students will soon be given their login for 'Language nut', a language learning website where students can complete homework and independent activities to practise vocabulary, their 'Keys', listening and reading comprehension tasks, writing and phonics!

Students earn points for themselves, their class and the school!

Starting next week, Miss Johnson will reward the top 5 students in the school each week with a certificate and house points!



Languages rewards

We have high expectations of all of our students' behaviour and effort in our lessons and will award positive and negative behaviour points on Classcharts for you to monitor. In language lessons, students also collect commendation stamps for their effort in class and homework. Students will be awarded with badges and certificates (bronze, silver, gold) for every 15 stamps that they earn. Effort, a growth mindset and participation in language lessons are so important in developing pronunciation and confidence! Each member of staff also chooses one student each week to be their 'Linguist of the week' and a certificate is posted home.



Extra-curricular

We will be celebrating the 'European day of languages' the week commencing 26th September, please keep an eye on our Instagram account @deastonlanguages for more information as well as information about other upcoming extra-curricular events and house competitions, including a GCHQ spy challenge for some of our Year 9 students!

Student and Parent/Guardian feedback

We really value feedback from our students and parents/guardians. If you have a spare minute, we would love for you to complete a very short form to give us some feedback on our newsletter! Please click [here](#).

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to get in touch with us!
Miss Johnson (Head of department) jamielee.johnson@de-aston.lincs.sch.uk

Aspirational - Hard-working - Resilient - Responsible - Kind