

ENGLISH LINK NEWSLETTER

February 2015



Welcome to the 2nd English Link Newsletter from the English Link Association at Le Caousou, Toulouse

The English Link

The English Link Newsletter provides updates of the Association as well as giving parents and children details of work the children will be doing, have done and any events and news.

Aims of the English Link Association:

Working with English speaking children to help them achieve a high level of oral, reading, writing and comprehension. We help the children reinforce their existing English skills with activities that are both enjoyable and challenging. The children have an opportunity to gain pleasure and confidence using the English language, whilst we provide support in areas of weakness.

The Theater Company with Aude

Fridays 4.30-6pm

The aim of this activity is to produce a main play at the end of the year.

We rehearse every Friday with the script and improvisation around the different situations and characters. I make the children experience different feelings for a dedicated situation to wide his range of acting skills.

The last 30 minutes is used to play drama games.

The play will be performed at the Orangerie and we will take part in the FESTIVAL INTERNATIONAL DE THEATRE D'ENFANTS in Théâtre Jules Julien at the beginning of June. This is the opportunity to have a really professional experience and to perform the play in front of an unknown audience.

Two years ago the group performed OLIVER TWIST – Charles Dickens

Last year we did HARRY POTTER and the Philosopher stone – JK Rowling

This year we are experiencing the One hundred tails through one hundred nights! THE ARABIAN NIGHTS where some actors have to create some oriental dances!!



Judith and Matt



In January, the English Link was delighted to welcome two great new teachers to the Association: Judith Morisset and Matt Williamson.

Judith is our Kids Link teacher, on Friday lunchtimes for our Primary school and Matt heads up the English Club with our great Collegians on Mondays.



English Classes with Sophie

All the groups have been hard at work.

The younger ones have been concentrating very hard on their phonics and they are now all reading simple books in English. A few are even reading chapter books. They have discovered the world of Roald Dahl through a shared reading of The Enormous Crocodile.

The older ones finished 2014 off writing limericks. More recently they have been studying the life and career of Roald Dahl, and will be going on to read different novels or poetry written by him.

Did you know....

Roald Dahl measured 6ft 6 in (1m98) and hated going to the cinema or the theatre because he could never fit his legs in!

Roald Dahl always wrote in a hut in his garden, on yellow paper, with a pencil!

Roald Dahl used to be a Royal Air Force fighter pilot. He ran out of fuel and crashed in the Libyan desert!



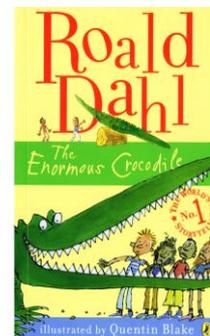
Limericks

There was a young man and his frog
Who lived in a big flying log
But the log flew so high,
They went up to the sky
And then they got lost in the fog.
Ida Wolff

There was once in Canada a man
Who put his shoes in a pan
They swelled up a lot
And when they were hot
He ate them with cheddar and ham.
Thomas Bignolas

There was a young man from Badland
Who liked to walk on his right hand
He slipped on the floor
Not one time but four
So now he only walks in the sand.
Jules Steuperaert

There was a young boy called Tom
He didn't know where he was from
He asked all around
And finally found
By asking on "find me dot com"! *Louis Bouedo*



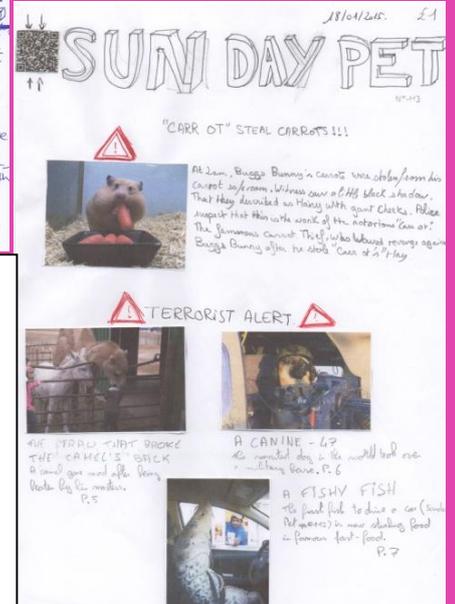
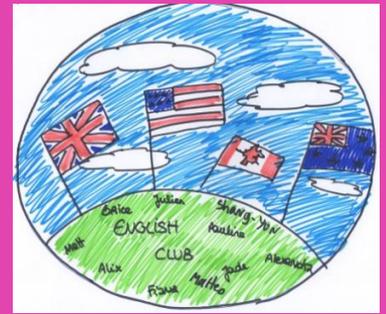
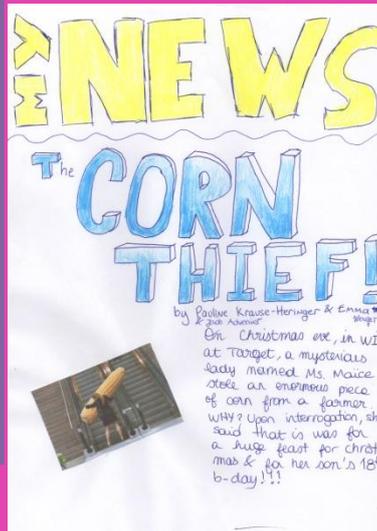
English Club with Matt

(Monday lunchtimes)

My name is Matthew Williamson. I come from Melbourne, Australia and have been living in France since 2011. I am the new appointee of the English Club at Le Caousou.

During my career as an English teacher, I've had (and continue to have) the privilege of teaching English to people of all ages, from many celebrated companies and institutions (Airbus group, Stelia Aerospace, Dierichbourg, BASF, 3m, Thales, Latecoere, Yamaha and many others).

So far in the English Club, we've been working on many diverse projects (designing a dream house, creation of the English Club logo, quizzes, games, etc.) These projects allow the students to express their creativity and practice their English in an informal setting, while having fun at the same time.



Games Club with Kim

(Tuesday lunchtimes)

During one of our sessions this term we had a PICDOKU CHALLENGE.

PICDOKU is a version of SUDOKU except pictures are used instead of numbers.



Two teams challenged each other to be the first to finish. Level 4 was very difficult but not impossible. Level 1 needed a lot of concentration to get it correct!

'There's already a circle in that line.' 'That one's not good.' 'Found one!'

'I've got a star for you.' 'It can't go there.'

'Let's move that one somehow!'

'And the last one?'



Kids Club with Judith

(Friday lunchtimes)

Hi, I'm Judith, one of the newest members of English Link. I left a little village in Leicestershire almost 11 years ago for a working summer in the south of France and have never looked back! I wasn't made for England: I don't drink tea, I like my meat rare and anything less than 25°C and I'm freezing. Needless to say I'm happy and settled. The English Link is a great addition to my English teaching.

The Caousou is like a dream come true and English Link is a great addition to my English teaching.

What do we all make (and generally break!) in January? Resolutions! This was the theme of the first English Link Friday Kids Club of 2015. We discussed last year, their aims for this year, what they were looking forward to and of course the all-important New Year's resolution! Top of the list was stopping biting nails, closely followed by doing the splits and being good at school. Moving up to secondary school is exciting for all of those concerned though "being the biggest then being the smallest is a bit scary". Holidays are also very important, with high expectations: ski trips, Disneyland, speleology excursions to name a few!

Our latest project has been making a board game. The girls all worked together on one big (un-named as yet) game. They put a lot of thought into making pawns, cards and the board itself, full of bright colours. They had a good giggle discussing the truths and dares for their game (that I wasn't always allowed to listen to!) The boys split up and worked in pairs and on individual board and card games. I'm looking forward to hearing the rules of Jules' curiously entitled "Impossible Game"!

They've put so much effort in that we haven't yet played them as they're all working on the final touches but it's something to look forward to.

Their requests for this term are science experiments, science experiments and even more science experiments!

I think that Fridays are going to get quite messy...

Next Workshop

Wednesday 1 April 2015

April Fool's Day

Details coming soon.

Lots of jokes, crafts and a fun morning for all.



English Link Events

Workshop - Wednesday April Fool's Day

1 April 2015 - 8.45-11.45am

Coffee Morning - Wednesday 6 May 2015 - 9am. Venue to be confirmed

Local Toulouse Events

CELTIC LEGENDS. Traditional Irish music and dance. Fri 10 April 2015, Le Zenith, Toulouse
Spring Fair - Saturday 14 March 2015 10am - 5pm, Salle Polyvalente du Trepédé, 31470 Fonsorbes. British goods, English books, tea room and children's craft corner....

Parents - do you remember the HARLEM GLOBETROTTERS? Now coming to Toulouse to show their Basketball skills on Thursday 9 April 2015 at 8pm. Gymnase Compans Caffarelli, rue du Canon d'Arcole, 31000, Toulouse.

