Helping parents help their daughters in languages

An Information evening for parents of Year 7 students
Year 7 – Content and methodology

- Talking about themselves
- Leisure and hobbies
- Intercultural understanding
- Language learning in a different context
- Language for real situations
- Using computers
- Phonics
- Songs and rhythm
Homework rationale

- Why do homework?
- Types of homework – learning, reading, writing, preparing for speaking, listening, Activelearn
- Organisation for homework
- Strategies for success
- Using dictionaries
- Never use google translate!
Humpty Dumpty

Humpty Dumpty sat on a wall  
Humpty Dumpty had a great fall  
All the king's horses and all the king's men  
Couldn't put Humpty together again

Humpty Dumpty s’est repos sur un mur  
Humpty Dumpty a eu une grande chute  
Les chevaux de tout le roi et les hommes de tout le roi  
N’a pas pu remonter Humpty encore
Humpty Dumpty is rest on a wall
Humpty Dumpty had a great fall
Horses of all the king and men of all the king
Could not still make up Humpty
Learning styles and tips

Helping your daughter with vocabulary learning
Teaching vocabulary

- **Modelling** (teacher, recording) the words for accuracy of pronunciation before the student repeats. A variety of teaching games to avoid boredom!
- Noting words using dots.
- Using the words in **context**, learning genders.
- Speaking tasks in pairs or groups.
- **Writing** the words with **accuracy**.
- Leading to **independent use in written tasks**.

Revisiting the vocabulary regularly and encouraging independent extension of vocabulary with dictionary use.
Repetition - spaced

![Graph showing how repetition affects correct recall over time.](image-url)
The support you can offer

• Let them post words around the house (on the fridge, in their room, in strategic positions)
• Test them regularly (English into foreign language) orally, asking them to spell the words out.
• Encourage them to self-test in writing (whiteboard)
• Encourage them to make flashcards (English on one side/MFL on the other, also just one language on card) to test themselves. They can play games (pairs) with the cards.
• Encourage them to listen to vocabulary in their Studio book online.
• Encourage them to revisit the Task Magic games, and Studio 1 activities online.

Little but often for long-term memorising
Learning tasks - strategies

- Look, say, cover, write, check
- Colour coding
- Cognates
- Mnemonics
- High frequency words
- Letter and sound patterns
- Teach someone at home / mirror work
- Make a recording
- Post-it notes – dump it down
- Get someone to test
Equipment

- Dictionaries – useful but care needed
- Online dictionaries – wordreference.com
- Whiteboard markers / eraser – whiteboard markers available from languages for 50p
- Glue sticks
- Textbooks
- Revision guides at KS4
Online resources - for students and parents!

- [www.pearsonactivelearn.com](http://www.pearsonactivelearn.com)
- [www.languagesonline.org.uk](http://www.languagesonline.org.uk)
- [www.mdlsoft.co.uk](http://www.mdlsoft.co.uk) (Task Magic)
- [www.languageskills.co.uk](http://www.languageskills.co.uk) (available outside school hours)
- [http://www.memrise.com](http://www.memrise.com) free website for creating your own image links and revising vocabulary.
- [www.bbc.co.uk/languages](http://www.bbc.co.uk/languages)
Opportunities beyond the classroom

- Mary Glasgow Magazines
- Spelling Bee
- Have Your Say
- Vocab Express championships
- Penfriends
- Language Clubs
- Latin – offered as a lunchtime club
- Japanese – offered as a lunchtime club Y8 and then after school for Years 9 upwards
Visits abroad

- Year 8 French trip
- Year 8 Black Forest Trip
- Year 9/10 Spanish Exchange
- Year 9 Paris trip
- Year 9 German exchange
- Passports and EHIC – please check these are in date. EHICs can be ordered from ehic.org.uk.

Please check contact page in passport has been filled in, in case of loss.
Curriculum Days

- Year 7 – Learning about Languages and communication
- A French play
- Year 8 – St Omer
- Year 9 - Languages and the world of work
Language Learning is Fun!