



SCHOLÉ ACADEMY
CLASSICAL ACADEMIC PRESS

French for Children A

Mrs. Kate McSharry

Yearlong Course

2023-2024

ELIGIBLE STUDENT:

Grades 6–7; 5th graders welcome with instructor permission. This is an introductory French course; no prior knowledge of French is required. Join us as we take our first step into the world of French language and culture! This year, we will focus on nouns, verbs, and adjectives while we read stories, learn songs, write dictations and practice speaking with one another.

REQUIRED TEXTS:*

[French for Children Primer A](#) (Student Edition) by Joshua Kraut

*Required texts are not included in the purchase of the course.

Optional Course Texts:

- [French for Children Primer A Answer Key](#)
- English/French Dictionary

Note: Students should be prepared to regularly print files supplied by the instructor.

COURSE SCHEDULE

ORIENTATION SESSION:

The date and time of the student/parent orientation will depend on the particular section in which you are enrolled, but all orientation sessions will be scheduled during the week prior to the start of the class.

CLASS SESSION DATES: The dates of your class depend on the particular section in which you are enrolled. Consult the Scholé Academy [academic calendar](#) for details concerning scheduled, school-wide breaks.

OFFICE HOURS: Your teachers are available outside of scheduled class times! During “Office Hours” students may raise questions, seek assistance, or review class material. This can happen via email or a meeting in the Zoom classroom. Your teacher will do their best to respond within 24-48 hours; please keep in mind that they likely will not respond immediately to messages after 5 p.m. EST.

COURSE DESCRIPTION

French for Children A is intended for middle school and upper elementary students. Students will not only begin their study of the fundamentals of French grammar, syntax, and vocabulary, but will study elements of the history and culture of the French.

The course map highlights the key points of grammar to be covered each semester.

French for Children A students will have a list of 10 vocabulary words each week, meaning that students will be required to memorize and consolidate vocabulary. Speaking the language will be practiced and encouraged through practices such as reading aloud, responding to questions in French where possible, and engaging in simple conversation. Lessons will be supplemented with readings in French to put the language in context.

Homework will consist of written exercises, memorization of vocabulary and review for assessments. We will cover the whole book.

COURSE MAP

Semester 1

Verbs

Subjects; verbs—number and person Infinitives

Subject pronouns

Pronouns

Nouns—gender

Articles

Irregular verbs

Semester 2

Plurals

Forms of De

Adjectives

Adjective agreement

Tricky adjectives

Possessive adjectives

STUDENT EXPECTATIONS: EXECUTIVE FUNCTION SKILLS

Students enrolling in Scholé Academy’s French Program will be expected to show development of Executive Function Skills throughout the year. Executive Function Skills speaks to a set of qualities and skill sets students can develop and hone the better to approach the courses, lectures, readings, and teachers they will encounter in their future academic coursework.

Since we are learning a language together and will be using French to answer questions and engage in simple dialogue, it is of utmost importance that students come to class with a courageous willingness to make attempts without worrying about making mistakes. In this spirit, the classroom will be an environment of respectful, joyful, and friendly learning, which will facilitate the study of a foreign language.

This disposition is that of an ‘engaged student’. Scholé Academy commends four other important skills which ought to be observed by students.

1. **An Engaged Student:** One who is willing to step into the arena of class discussion, ask questions, supply answers, and consider how the discussion at hand applies to oneself.
2. **Note Taking:** A student must be engaged with the class by taking notes on important and relevant content in an organized fashion. They should then independently consult those notes for assignments and in preparation for assessments. It is essential that all students acquire a notebook for use during the class, as this will keep them organized by subject.

3. **Attention to Detail & Preparedness:** These students are ones who consistently adhere to deadlines, submission requirements, adhere to style guides and codes, confirm technology is working prior to the start of class, are responsible to determine how to proceed after an absence, are responsible for consulting their course syllabus and adjusting as the class proceeds, etc.
4. **Critical Reflection:** These students are ones who receive feedback to their submissions, and then apply that feedback to future assignments rather than repeating mistakes. These students also glean information from the live class critiques of fellow students and learn from others what mistakes to avoid.
5. **Initiative/Maturity:** This student will be proactive in listening to the teacher's comments, assessing how they apply to his/her work, taking the initiative to schedule office hours with the teacher if necessary.

STUDENT EXPECTATIONS IN ACTION

Students will be following the sequence of study contained in *French for Children A*. **The primary goal for the student will be to acquire the foundations of French grammar, syntax and vocabulary and put these into practice through speaking and comprehension exercises.**

Some student work will be completed in the textbook. However, a large portion of the class will involve regular classroom participation, taking notes on grammar and vocabulary, and reading selections chosen outside the textbook. Students will receive homework derived from exercises in the textbook and supplementary exercises designed by the teacher. Students will also be encouraged to use some online tools.

In this class, students will be expected to listen attentively and participate actively in class discussions and practices. This includes active use of French when reading aloud, relaying answers, and engaging in simple teacher-led conversation. Students are expected to arrive at class on time with all assigned material completed. The instructor will facilitate learning for the student, but the responsibility for staying up-to-date with classwork and assignments is ultimately the responsibility of the student.

All assignments will be due prior to the start of class each day. Students turning in late work will not be able to receive full credit. Students will submit their work by scanning their homework pages and uploading it into Canvas. **Photographs of completed assignments will not be accepted as they are incredibly difficult to read.**

STUDENT GRADING AND EVALUATION

Pursuing French for Children A through Scholé Academy will be restful and enjoyable. It's a delicate balance to achieve both restful learning and excellent academic performance and earning a specific grade should not overshadow achievement goals for mastery of this discipline. The teacher will assign the following grades to your student's level of achievement: *magna cum laude* (with great praise); *cum laude* (with praise); *satis* (sufficient, satisfactory) and *non satis* (not sufficient).

Ideally, every average student working diligently should do praiseworthy work (*cum laude*). Those who excel beyond this expectation will receive *magna cum laude* for their efforts. Work which demonstrates minimal but sufficient mastery will be designated *satis*. *Non satis* designates work that demonstrates insufficient mastery; a student with a consistently *non satis* grade will not be recommended for continuation to the next level of French. Additionally, we will provide a transcript with a traditional percentage grade to the requesting parent at quarterly intervals. All students will receive both a Scholé evaluation and a percentage grade at the end of the year.

STUDENT EVALUATION: ASSIGNMENTS, TYPES & WEIGHTS

The teacher will communicate with students regarding assignment feedback and grading through Canvas. The teacher will provide students with more detailed information and access to the French for Children A course page.

Students' grades will have the following weight (out of 100):

1. Class Participation: 30
2. Homework assignments: 40
3. Regular Quizzing/Testing: 30

The incremental nature of the assessments is in place to ensure that students are continually reviewing previous material.

Typically Speaking:

- magna cum laude is the grade range of 94% or above.
- cum laude is the grade range of 85-93%
- satis is the grade range of 75-84%
- non satis is any grade lower than a 75%

This reflects the student's mastery and ability to move on to the next level.

Students and their parents will receive quarterly feedback from their teachers in the form of a quarterly update.

STUDENT EVALUATION: ACADEMIC INTEGRITY

Students will often take tests and/or quizzes privately at home. Students are on their honor to abide by Scholé Academy's Learning Philosophy which assumes the personal cultivation of Student-Virtues described in the Student-Parent Handbook. **We ask that parents proctor quizzes and tests to help keep their children accountable.**

Specifically, cheating and plagiarism are punishable offenses. Copying the work of other students is prohibited and proper citation of all sources is essential.

THE VIRTUAL CLASSROOM:

We will be using the free online "virtual classroom" software provided by Zoom. The live, interactive nature of our courses is foundational and we require cameras to be on during all class sessions. The virtual classroom will provide students with interactive audio and an interactive whiteboard in which texts, diagrams, video and other media can be displayed and analyzed. We will provide students with a link (via email) that will enable students to join the virtual classroom. Courses will be managed through our learning management system, Canvas.

Specific information regarding the technology used by Scholé Academy (including required technology) can be found by visiting the [Technology in the Classroom](#) section of the Student Parent Handbook.

ABOUT THE INSTRUCTOR



Kate McSharry holds a BA in French from Western Washington University and studied history, art, and literature at the Centre International D'Etudes Françaises in Angers, France. Her love for

France and French led her to spend three years living in Nice, France where she taught English to French middle, high school and college students. In her free time, she volunteered tutoring Moroccan and Algerian immigrant children using their common language of French. During this time, God placed in her a desire to see all nations, tribes, and tongues know and confess Jesus as Lord. Since returning to the US, she has taught in a variety of settings, including several years as a middle school teacher at her church. Teaching French with Scholé Academy allows Kate to combine her love for the French language with her desire to see young people passionate about Jesus and his mission.

Kate lives in the Pacific Northwest with her husband and two kids. She enjoys hiking, skiing, camping, paddle boarding and reading. She has traveled extensively and has been to 5 different continents. France will always be her favorite place to travel!

Please note: While this syllabus addresses details specific to this course, it is not extensive. Parents should also read the Student-Parent Handbook located on scholeacademy.com and be familiar with the ideas, policies, and procedures outlined.