



Wherever you go, whatever you do...



Languages Offer The Edge

Good morning, sixth graders. Bonjour! Salvete! Guten Morgen! ¡Buenos días!

Since you will be studying a new language next year, the Department of Languages Other Than English (LOTE) has created this newsletter to help you when it comes time to choose between Latin, German, French and Spanish. It contains great activities and contests for all four languages, and will also show how learning other languages will help you in whatever career you choose. We'll also tell you about some of the exciting things that you will experience in your high school LOTE classes.

So, read on and remember: *Every Language Is A Foreign Language Somewhere!* If you have any questions, ask one of the Middle School LOTE teachers (see list) or you or your parents may contact the LOTE chairman, Mr. Schaefer schagreg@shenet.org. And don't forget the LOTE web site: <http://www.shenet.org/high/hsacaddept/lotte/lotte.htm>.



THE MIDDLE SCHOOL PROGRAM

Some LOTE Fast Facts

¿What are my choices of language?

Students in Shenendehowa Middle Schools have four options:

- German
- Latin
- French
- Spanish

You will study the language you choose in both Grades 7 and 8.

¿What do we do in language class?

You will learn how to speak, understand, read, and write in the language you are studying. You will experience new

sounds and ways of seeing things.

You will learn what it is like to live and work in another country. Topics covered in class include sports, foods, school, family and holidays. You will do a variety of activities in the classroom and computer labs to help you practice the language skills you are learning. Students play games and do projects to practice the language they learn in class and often work with partners to practice new skills. You will hear music and see authentic materials and videos from and about the countries where your language is spoken or originated.

What about High School LOTE?

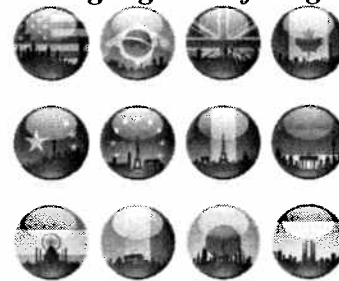
- High School students continue to study the language begun in Middle School and can go on to college level and advanced courses. They also have the opportunity to begin learning other languages.
- There are trips offered to places like Italy, Spain, Ecuador, and Costa Rica
- We have exchange programs in French and German where you live with a family for two weeks. All four languages have clubs which allow you to share the traditions and customs (food!) of other countries.
- Each year during National Foreign Language Month we celebrate LOTE FEST: a day devoted to music, food, dance and other activities.
-

¿Why should I study languages?

- To discover new worlds! You can get an insider's view of another culture when you travel if you "speak the language." People are more open and willing to be of help if you show that you want to be part of their community.
- To give yourself the edge in the corporate world! More and more businesses now work closely with companies in other countries, and they are more likely to hire someone who can communicate in at least one other language.
- To enhance your opportunities in government, medicine, health care, law, teaching, technology, communications, the arts, social services and marketing. Being able to speak another language is recognized as an essential skill in the global marketplace.

- To improve your grades in English and Math. Research shows that the longer you study language, the stronger your skills become in other subjects.
- To take advantage of travel opportunities! Study overseas as an exchange student or work in another country and make use of your language skills.
- To make connections with people around the world using communication technology. As you continue your language studies, you will find more ways to reach new people.
- To help you understand our own language. No matter which language you study, you will learn more about how languages borrow from each other and are connected.

A language isn't foreign

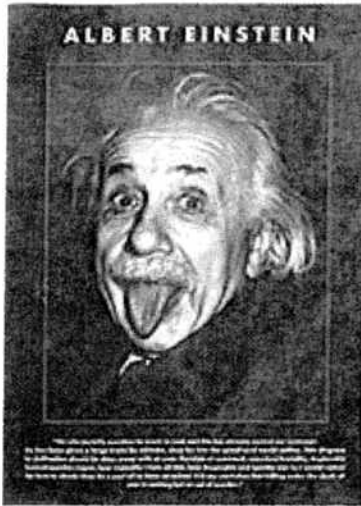


once you learn it.

Who will my LOTE teacher be?

Our Middle School teachers are:

Mrs. Alexander	Mrs. Bird
Mrs. Cisler	Mrs. Bodien
Mrs. Daley	Ms. Griswold
Ms. Helgerson	Ms. Stoddard
Mrs. Paderon	Mrs. Palden
Mrs. Zusman	Mrs. Navarra
Mrs. Pagnotta	Mrs. Canjura



GerMANIA!!!

“Deutsch macht Spaß” Publications

Dezember 2008

Fun Facts About German Did you know...?

I'm still not sure. Does the Shen German program have...?

A rocking German Club with loads of fun and exciting activities?



An exchange program with a German school?



An opportunity to earn college credit in high school?



Courses that look great on a college application?



Opportunities to perform competitively in music or drama with other high schools?



All of the above and so much more?



Need more info? Go to:

* <http://www.shenet.org/high/hsacaddept/ote/german/german.htm>

Check these out for fun:

- <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Oe3FG4EOgyU>
- <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=iNWrfmCCfXw>
- http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=_vwjUy87SJ8
- <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=dtFMylC41VU>

- That there are over 120 million native speakers of German? 24% of EU residents claim German as their native language. 31% speak German as a second language. 55% of all Europeans speak German!
- That Germans are still the largest ethnic group in the U.S. One in five Americans claim German roots.
- That the Declaration of Independence was printed in Philadelphia in German **first**, before it was printed in English.
- That many of our favorite holiday traditions originated in Germany? E.g.: evergreen trees decorated with candles, stockings, gingerbread, advent calendars...
- That German and English come from the same branch of the language tree and share many similar words, particularly family, body parts, and animal vocabulary.
- That you can drive as fast as you want on the German freeway system, known as the *Autobahn*?
- That Germany holds an annual team break-dancing competition?



Arnold says, "Don't be a girly man! Take German!"

Famous Germans, Austrians, & Swiss:

- Arnold Schwarzenegger
- Albert Einstein
- Composers: Bach, Beethoven, Mozart, Strauss, Wagner...
- Sigmund Freud
- Tennis: Steffi Graf & Boris Becker
- The Brothers Grimm

Why learn German?

Business & Technology

Germany is:

- Largest telecomm. market in Europe
- 2nd largest car producer
- A leader in banking and finance in the U.S.
- German is the 2nd most used internet language

German in Science

- Reading knowledge of German is invaluable in chemistry, biology, engineering, medicine, finance, and economics.
- Germany is the world leader in both wind and solar power production and biotechnology firms.

German in the Arts

- 3rd in book production
- Rich tradition in classical music
- 3rd in the world in film production
- Some colleges even have a German for singers program!
- Important to world literature

CONTEST: Can you name the Disney movies these original German fairy tales were based on?

1. On the first anniversary of their wedding, the jealous stepsisters fill her fur slippers with wax so that they no longer fit, and our heroine wanders in exile until her prince, mortally wounded by a wild boar, finds her. Her tears cure his wounds, and the step-sisters are killed when the stone doorframe collapses on them as the prince and his bride return home.
2. The prince's mother is actually an evil ogress who tries to eat the princess and her two children. A kind servant substitutes young animals for them, but the queen finds them and is about to boil them in a huge pot when the prince returns, saves his family, and cooks the ogress instead.
3. The caretakers sell the coffin to a prince, but his servants drop it and the princess revives. At the wedding, the bride's evil step-mother must wear red-hot iron shoes and dance until she drops dead.

The English definitions for the above German cognates are hidden in this word search. Surprised at how similar the two languages are?

German can provide a real edge in your future career. Below are the logos of several German companies. How many do you recognize?



Fantastique French

S H E N E N D E H O W A C E N T R A L S C H O O L S

EXCITING TRIPS EXCHANGE PROGRAMS EXTRACURRICULAR ACTIVITIES

MOVIES TO RENT TO SEE IF FRENCH IS FOR YOU:

1. Ratatouille (Disney)
2. Mr. Bean's Holiday (comedy)
3. Les Choristes (comedy, beautiful soundtrack)
4. The Red Balloon (classic)
5. Au Revoir, les enfants (story of childhood during WW II)
6. Ponette (pulls on the heartstrings)
7. Argent de Poche (childhood story)
8. The Triplets of Belleville (animated)
9. Les Visiteurs (comedy)
10. Funny Face (Audrey Hepburn)

PEACE Program - an exchange program with students from Paris, France offered to students in 9th, 11th and 12th grades. Shen students host French students for two weeks and then have the option to travel to Paris, France and stay in their French correspondent's home for two weeks while touring Paris and Normandy.

10th grade trip to Montreal, Canada. Students explore the Biodome, visit the IMAX theatre and shop in the Old Quarter.

Local visits to Clark Museum and the Albany Institute of History and Art. See famous French works of art right here in our region! Cannes Ouest Film Club in High School West - students are exposed to the world of French cinema in bi-monthly film screenings after school.



La Tour Eiffel
Paris, France

There are French Clubs in Middle School and High School that meet throughout the year.

Clubs are a great way to learn about culture & language!

Fun activities to do with your family to explore French culture:

Go visit Montreal, Canada (only three hours away!) for the Winter Carnival in February.

Go skiing/snowboarding at Jay Peak VT or Mont Tremblant, Canada and ride the lift with French speaking kids your age!

Local Dining:

The Melting Pot restaurant in Crossgates Mall, Albany is where you can try some yummy French fondue. Call for reservations: 862-1292.

Ravenous in Saratoga, 581-0560, or Chez Daisie in Schenectady, 344-7082, are where you can go to eat yummy crêpes and frites. Bon appétit!



Some yummy French foods to try are:

- ★ Mousse au chocolat, ★ Crêpes, ★ Croissants, ★ Tarte aux pommes, ★ Fondue, ★ Baguette, ★ Orangina, ★ Nutella, ★ Bûche de Noël, ★ French onion soup, ★ Brie, Alouette, Swiss, & Gruyère Cheeses! Ooh La La!

12 REASONS TO TAKE FRENCH

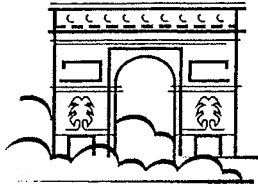
- | | | | |
|--|--|--|--|
| <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Around 50% of English words come from French. 2. France is the leading tourist destination in the world. | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 3. 10 million Americans have French ancestry. 4. 23 African countries speak French as an official or primary language. 5. 44 countries speak French either as an official or primary language. 6. There are 125 million French speakers in the world. | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 7. They speak French in Canada. 8. Students of French have higher SAT scores than students who do not study foreign language. 9. The study of French helps with the understanding of English grammar. 10. French is the language of | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> many great literary masterpieces. 11. France has the 4th largest economy in the world. 12. French is one of the two official languages of the Olympic Games. |
|--|--|--|--|

French Songs to Sing Along to:

"Alouette" - <http://kids.niehs.nih.gov/lyrics/alouette.htm>

"Frère Jacques" - <http://kids.niehs.nih.gov/lyrics/frere.htm>

Napoléon Bonaparte



Arc de Triomphe
Built as a memorial to French soldiers.

Fun French Facts:

The French love to play "le foot-ball" (French for soccer.)

The Statue of Liberty was a gift from the French.

Denim was invented by a Frenchman named **Jean** de Nîmes.

Johnny Depp lives in France with his celebrity wife Vanessa Paradis.

The French are famous for fashion and perfume.

Some French designers you may know are: Chanel, Dior, Yves Saint Laurent, and Louis Vuitton.

★ **Un jeu! = A game!** ★

★ **Can you match these famous French figures, living or dead, with their claim to fame?**

- | | |
|-------------------------|--|
| 1.) Tony Parker | a.) 15th century Catholic saint & heroine of France |
| 2.) Gustave Eiffel | b.) inventor of a reading system, made of raised dots, for the blind |
| 3.) Pierre Curie | c.) what French kids call Santa Claus |
| 4.) Louis Pasteur | d.) actress who starred in "The English Patient" & "Chocolat" |
| 5.) Claude Monet | e.) professional basketball player & member of France's national team |
| 6.) Samuel de Champlain | f.) Nobel Prize winner who discovered radium & radioactivity with his wife |
| 7.) Père Noël | g.) naval officer & co-creator of the aqua - lung or "SCUBA" |
| 8.) Louis Braille | h.) created the vaccine for Rabies & the system of food pasteurization |
| 9.) Napoléon | i.) structural engineer who designed the Eiffel Tower & Statue of Liberty |
| 10) Juliette Binoche | j.) explorer who "discovered" Lake Champlain |
| 11) Jacques Cousteau | k.) military leader who crowned himself King of France |
| 12) Jeanne d'Arc | L.) painter and a founder of a style of painting called "Impressionism" |

Where can French Possible Careers take you??

International Work: Doctors Without Borders, United Nations, Teacher, Amnesty International, charity work in Africa, NGOs

Careers in the USA: Teacher, Tour Guide, Travel Agent, Interpreter, business & trade with Canada, Europe, & Africa

Each logo represents a French company. Can you tell 1 product each company produces?



Look! There are French words below that you may already recognize! See if you can find these words in the word search!

t r o p s g m t n	
n s e o s u e o u	chef
a o s t y g i e g	restaurant
r e i r a s t r o	gourmet
u h h y r l t t u	rose
a s o u v e n i r	violet
t v c c l c h o m	hockey
s x n o k h s a e	sport
e t i r o e t s t	souvenir
r v e t s f y r g	excursion
	voyage

Italia



Lively Latin

Look at all the Latin you already know!

superior	actor	animal	honor	dictator
victor	MAXIMUM	minimum	fungus	interim
census	circus	EXIT	bonus	MAJOR
labor	trivia	tuba	odor	

What do Latin students learn?

Animals Food Colors Numbers Families
 Roman history Gladiators Soldiers Gods
 Goddesses Mythology Daily Life School

and so much more...

Top Ten Reasons to take Latin:

10. If you hate sitting up straight at dinner, the Roman Banquet is for you!
9. Gladiators!
8. Toga! Toga! Toga!
7. People think you're really smart.
6. You'll actually become smarter – higher SAT verbal scores.
5. Roman house projects
4. HS trip to Italy
3. Be able to use the ATM machine at the Vatican.
2. Carpe diem isn't a fish-learn common Latin phrases in English.
1. Understand where the spells in Harry Potter come from.

Did you know

About 67% of all English words came from the Latin language.

Lingua Latina, the Latin Language, was spoken by the Ancient Romans, was the official language of the Roman Empire, was the common language of scholars and historians for hundreds of years, and continues to be the official language of Vatican city and the Roman Catholic Church. Although the Latin language is no longer spoken as a native language, more and more students are choosing to take Latin every year in the USA.

First of all, Latin is USEFUL. Learning Latin will help you learn English. Since so many Latin words came into English, learning Latin increases your English vocabulary as well. Year after year, students who take Latin score higher

on the verbal part of the SAT's than students of all other languages. Also, you may want to take a Romance language someday. Up to 80% of all words in French, Spanish, Italian, and Portuguese come from Latin.

But don't discount Latin as just being for language buffs! Latin is MORE THAN JUST A LANGUAGE! In Latin class, you will travel through time, to learn about gladiators, soldiers, poets, emperors, slaves, generals, and wars. We study the culture, history, mythology, ideas and beliefs of the ancient Romans. Cross the Alps with Hannibal and his elephants, conquer Gaul with Julius Caesar, design a Roman house for a wealthy noble family, wear the toga of the Roman citizen, and in the process learn about the origins of

the American way of life (government, architecture, art, literature all have elements that can be traced back to the Romans!)



You failed your Latin exam!
 But Sweetie, it's important to learn Latin:
 All your friends' names have Latin roots...

Roman Numeral Sudoku

	I	IX		VI		V	IV	
VIII	II		IX	VII	IV		III	VI
		I	V		III	VIII		
		II	VII		I	VI		
VII	V		I	III	VIII		IX	II
	VIII	III		IV		VII	I	

1 = I 4 = IV 7 = VII 10 = X
 2 = II 5 = V 8 = VIII
 3 = III 6 = VI 9 = IX

CAREER ZONE

Learning Latin can help you in your future – take a look at these careers:

- **Medicine:** Doctors, nurses, and pharmacists use Latin every day in medical terminology. There are 208 bones in the human body and most are named after Latin words. Prescription and other medical shorthand are in Latin. *Stat!* = immediately, now! As in, "Take Latin, stat!"
- **Lawyers:** Lawyers, judges, paralegals, and legal copy editors use Latin phrases everyday. *Amicus curiae* = friend of the court. Are you a *Amica Latinae* – friend of Latin?
- **History:** Archaeologists, Ancient historians, Medieval historians, college professors use Latin to read the primary sources (i.e. those written in Latin!)
- **Art, Literature, Drama:** Artists, musicians, dramatists, writers have used countless references to the worlds of Greece and Rome in their works. A Latin student learns the history and myths of these worlds and will be better able to interpret and appreciate the great works of the masters!
- **Computer/Video games:** Latin and technology are not strangers! Many computer and video game creators must have a classical background. Think of *Age of Mythology*, *Titan Quest*, and *Spartan: Total Warrior*.
- **Teaching:** There is almost always a shortage of certified Latin teachers!
- **Journalism:** If you want to write for TV, internet, or print news, you will need to be able to communicate with a large vocabulary and an excellent knowledge of grammar. Study in Latin greatly improves these skills.

FILES SET IN ANCIENT TIMES

Spartacus (1960)
 Ben Hur (1959)
 Gladiator (2000)
 Clash of the Titans (1981)

FILES WITH LATIN DIALOGUE

King Arthur (2004)
 The Da Vinci Code (2006)
 The Passion of the Christ (2004)
 Van Helsing (2004)
 The Sixth Sense (1999)

Best of all, Latin is FUN! There is an active Latin club at both the middle school and high school level. Every year in May the Latin Clubs, with the support of the Latin teachers and the LOTE department put on a fabulous Roman Banquet with food, entertainment, and fun. In middle school some of the projects and activities we've done in the past:

- Food experience – try authentic Roman recipes!
- Design and build a model of a Roman house.
- Thanksgiving turkeys with English derivatives from Latin words.
- Animal PowerPoint presentations, where you write crazy sentences in Latin to go with the crazy animal clip art you find.
- Make a personal coat of arms with a Latin motto of your choice.
- Skits and plays in Latin and in English about the Romans.

Contest: Use the Contest Sheet to submit your answers to have a chance for prizes!

Give the English meanings for the signs of the Zodiac.

All of the signs come from Latin words!

1. Aries _____
2. Taurus _____
3. Gemini _____
4. Cancer _____
5. Leo _____
6. Virgo _____
7. Libra _____
8. Scorpio _____
9. Sagittarius _____
10. Capricorn _____
11. Aquarius _____
12. Pisces _____

Oh the places you'll go...

In the past few years, high school Latin classes have gone to:

- Metropolitan Museum of Art in NYC
- Clark Institute in Williamstown, MA
- Cloisters in NYC
- Rome, Florence, and Pompeii in Italy



¡ESPAÑOL!



YOU ALREADY KNOW SOME SPANISH!

Can you figure out these words?

piñata béisbol inteligente tren tenis fabuloso

rodeo burrito salsa taco magnífico carro

bicicleta elefante cómico autobús profesor mapa

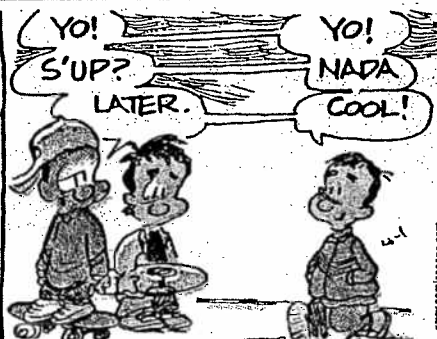


INTERESTING FACTS

- There are **25** countries in the world who speak Spanish as an official or primary language.
- Spanish is spoken by approximately **377,600,000** people all over the world.
- **39.5 million** people in the USA speak Spanish!

Career Areas

- ❖ Business
- ❖ Communication
- ❖ Education
- ❖ Government Service
- ❖ Health Care
- ❖ Humanities and Arts
- ❖ Law Enforcement
- ❖ Science
- ❖ Technology
- ❖ Travel and Tourism



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TOPICS

School Weather House and Home Food Travel

Family Sports Greetings

Leisure Activities Health and Welfare Hispanic Culture

Projects Games Music Clothing FUN!

FOOD(S) FOR THOUGHT

Do you know what these Hispanic foods are in English?

- | | |
|----------------------|---------------------------------|
| 1. flan | A. fried dough |
| 2. palomitas | B. ice cream |
| 3. paella | C. popcorn |
| 4. guacamole | D. lollipops |
| 5. panqueques | E. rice with chicken |
| 6. helado | F. custard |
| 7. churros | G. potato omelet |
| 8. chupas | H. pancakes |
| 9. tortilla española | I. avocado dip |
| 10. arroz con pollo | J. rice, chicken & seafood dish |

CONTEST!

EL FÚTBOL AMERICANO

How many NFL teams can you identify?

- | | |
|----------------|---------------------|
| 1. Leones | 6. Halcones Marinos |
| 2. Delfines | 7. Santos |
| 3. Gigantes | 8. Viquingos |
| 4. Vaqueros | 9. Cardenales |
| 5. Empacadores | 10. Patriotas |



¿Cómo te sientes hoy?



Confundido



Alegre



Triste



Enojado



Sorprendido



Cansado

Contest Answer Sheet

- Return your Contest Answer Sheets to the box in the Main Office of your school in order to be eligible for a drawing for contest prizes! Each language is a separate contest for four chances to win!
- Entries must be in by December 23.
- Be sure to put your Name, School and Team on each entry form.

Name _____ School _____ Team 6- _____

Deutsch/German - Disney Movies

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____

Name _____ School _____ Team 6- _____

Français/French - Famous Persons Match-up

- | | | | |
|----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|
| 1. _____ | 2. _____ | 3. _____ | 4. _____ |
| 5. _____ | 6. _____ | 7. _____ | 8. _____ |
| 9. _____ | 10. _____ | 11. _____ | 12. _____ |

Français/French - Logo/Product Match-up

- | | | |
|----------|----------|----------|
| 1. _____ | 2. _____ | 3. _____ |
| 4. _____ | 5. _____ | 6. _____ |
| 7. _____ | | |

Name _____ School _____ Team 6- _____

Lingua Latina/Latin - Signs of the Zodiac

- | | | |
|-----------|-----------|-----------|
| 1. _____ | 2. _____ | 3. _____ |
| 4. _____ | 5. _____ | 6. _____ |
| 7. _____ | 8. _____ | 9. _____ |
| 10. _____ | 11. _____ | 12. _____ |

Name _____ School _____ Team 6- _____

Español/Spanish - El Fútbol Americano

- | | |
|----------|-----------|
| 1. _____ | 6. _____ |
| 2. _____ | 7. _____ |
| 3. _____ | 8. _____ |
| 4. _____ | 9. _____ |
| 5. _____ | 10. _____ |

10