

# LES NOUVELLES FRANÇAISES

(French News)

Salut tout le monde,

There is a lot happening next term, with building work beginning and relocations etc, however we are going on with our big breakfast **Le Grand Petit Déjeuner** on Wednesday 4<sup>th</sup> November. Over the page you will see the information sheet. This year we are charging a little more as I think our expenses will be higher. We will all have to cross our fingers for good weather too. I plan to organize the sale of tickets differently this year with a couple of ticket sales tables. I would welcome any advice from parents on improving this service.

Next term the children will once again be working towards their **French Certificates**. I will be sending home the vocabulary sheet again and practice CDs will be available from the French Room (more information about that next term).

We are SO lucky at the moment because we have **Karine**, our assistante and **Mademoiselle Vanessa Thillard** helping in the French Room. Mlle Thillard is an experienced teacher from France and will be working with us until June 2010. I expect to see a lot of progress with so many "professeurs" on hand.

**"Les vers de soie" (Silkworms)** In my fridge I have hundreds of silkworm eggs just waiting to hatch. France has a long history of silk-weaving. In fact the little marionette Guignol was originally a silk-weaver from Lyon (centre of the silk industry in France). I find silkworms very hard to raise these days due to pollution, insecticides, chlorinated water and sunscreen on handlers' hands. They are like canaries in the coalmines. Mine usually come to a sticky end. If you have any suggestions on a foolproof way of getting them to the moth stage, please let me know; or if you have a mulberry tree with nice clean leaves (beware of mulberry trees in the parks at the moment. Leichhardt Council has been spraying insecticides. Also trees near busy roads have traffic soot on them and need to be washed) Different classes will try to raise them and I may have a few eggs left over to give to a family that think they can raise them to the moth stage. Come and see me if you are that family.

À bientôt

*Susie Newman*

# LE GRAND PETIT DÉJEUNER

(The Big French Breakfast)

WEDNESDAY 4th NOVEMBER

8.00 – 9.45am

Everyone will need to bring:

- \$5.00 (This covers pastries, cereals, choc. milk (Coffee costs extra. SORRY ADULTS ONLY!))
- *un bol* (a bowl)
- *une cuillère* (a spoon)
- *un sac en plastique* (a used plastic bag to carry rinsed bowl & spoon)
- *un sourire* (a smile) WEAR BLEU, BLANC ET ROUGE (red, white and blue) or come dressed in a 'FRENCH' manner. Bicycles, accordions, berets and fake moustaches are welcome and fun.  
Or come as a famous French person or character eg: Monet, Marcel Marceau, Napoléon B.

French phrases you will need:

- "*Bonjour!*" "*Salut*" (Hi!) *Ça va?*
- "*Comment vas-tu?*" "*Je vais très bien merci.*" "*Et toi, comment vas-tu?*" (How are you?)
- "*Je voudrais un croissant, s'il te plaît.*" (You can use "*s'il vous plaît*" to be very polite.)
- "*Je voudrais du lait au chocolat, s'il te plaît.*"
- "*Je voudrais, un bol de céréales, s'il te plaît.*"
- "*Merci*" (This can also mean "that's enough thank you" when someone is filling your bowl or glass. If a French person is pouring you a drink and you say "merci" before it is full, you are likely to receive half a glass.)
- "*Merci beaucoup!*" "*Au revoir*"

Other useful vocabulary you may need:

*du/un café* (a coffee)

*du/un café noir* (a black coffee)

*du/un café au lait* (a white coffee)

*du sucre* (some sugar)

*du lait* (some milk)

*de la pastèque* (some watermelon)

*un pain au chocolat* (choc. croissant)

*du pain aux raisins* (snail pastry/escargot)

*des Choco Pops, Flocons de Mais* (Cornflakes)

*une tasse du thé* (a cup of tea)

*de l'eau chaude* (some hot water)

*du jus d'orange, des céréales*

Lots of helpers will be needed on the day, to set up, starting at about 7.00 am as well as lots of help to clean up afterwards. We will need to put out tables, chairs, tablecloths, umbrellas (if you can lend an umbrella, please let me know), cut up watermelons, wash up. If it rains, we move everything into the hall.

Let's try to make this a "green" event, by rinsing bowls etc and taking them home again and putting as little paper and plastic in the bin as possible. This means we rinse all milk containers and recycle them into the red bins.

Coffee will be available from the canteen and a barista or two. *Merci à* Dina, Martin and everyone else who I know will help out in the kitchen on that morning. Any milk or food left over on the day will be sold to parents. If any profit is made, it will go into French funds to be spent later on French resources etc.

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*À bientôt* Ms Newman