



Modern Foreign Languages

At Thorntree Primary School we believe that the learning of a foreign language provides a valuable educational, social and cultural experience for our pupils. It helps to develop their communication skills and extend their knowledge of how language works. Learning another language gives children a new perspective on the world, encouraging them to understand their own cultures and those of others.

The focus language at Thorntree is French, although we do provide further opportunities for pupils to experiment in different languages whenever the opportunity arises. For example, during the year six topic '*Jumping into Japan*', children learnt how to count to 20 in Japanese, whilst also learning some Japanese greetings.

Throughout school we foster a problem-solving approach, giving children opportunities to work out language use for themselves in a supportive context where risk-taking and creativity are encouraged: there is a strong emphasis on having fun with the new language! Throughout Key Stage 1, pupils will learn French through Dinocrocs: a programme in which pupils speak and act exclusively in French. The two little Dinocrocs, Hocus and Lotus, experience fantastic and exciting adventures alongside the children. From Years 3 to 6, we make use of the La Jolie Ronde scheme to support the teaching and learning of French. Pupils will have opportunities to develop their skills in reading, writing, speaking and listening using the target language. Across both Key Stage 1 and Key Stage 2 there will be opportunities for pupils to learn more about French culture and traditions.

More information about the exciting adventures of Hocus and Lotus can be found at: http://www.hocus-lotus.edu/1_chi_siamo_eng.asp

