

## Cultural Literacy

Bienvenue à l'école St François Xavier et bonne année scolaire à tous les enfants.



The Cultural Literacy Teacher, Mademoiselle Helen Meerleveld takes the children from Years 3-6 for one 40 minute lesson every week. The children will learn about New Caledonian and French culture as well as develop some skills for learning the French language.

### Why would you encourage your children to learn another language?

This is one important reason.

“Language skills and cultural sensitivity will be the currency of this new world order.”

— General Peter Cosgrove, 30 May 2002.

### The aims of learning languages

- Communicate in the target language. This means using language for communicative purposes in interpreting, creating, and exchanging meaning.
- Understand language, culture, and learning and their relationship, and thereby develop an intercultural capability in communication. This is an integral part of developing global citizenship and is a lifelong endeavour.
- Understand oneself as a communicator. This provides learners with an understanding of their own language(s) and culture(s) in relation to an additional language and culture.



## Why French?

In 2004 St Francis Xavier began a sister school relationship with Sacré-Cœur, Noumea (New Caledonia). This has been a most enjoyable relationship, with correspondence between Yr 5 students in both schools. The Yr 5 students from Sacré-Cœur visit us annually and spend time at school, sharing the cultural experience.



New Caledonian students spend time engaging with children from a variety of year levels.

French is one of the most widely spoken languages in the world. With French, you can be understood in 55 countries across 5 continents by over 200 million people. French provides the base for more than 30% of modern English vocabulary.



*Never stop  
dreaming.*