





Threshold concepts for French

Thresholds Concepts – These need to be explicitly taught and explained each time they are covered. The symbol in the planning will inform you which concept is being taught. Retrieval – you must refer to previous examples of when the threshold concept was taught when you teach new knowledge to support children in developing their concept schemas and make links in their learning. MFL is taught from Year 3 through to Year 6.

Threshold concept symbol	Threshold concept title	NC aim it links to
D »	Listening	 listen attentively to spoken language and show understanding by joining in and responding explore the patterns and sounds of language through songs and rhymes and link the spelling, sound and meaning of words
	Grammar	understand basic grammar appropriate to the language being studied, including (where relevant): feminine, masculine and neuter forms and the conjugation of high-frequency verbs; key features and patterns of the language; how to apply these, for instance, to build sentences; and how these differ from or are similar to English.
•	Intercultural Understanding	 To know that in French there are formal and informal greetings and when it is appropriate to use each one To know the names of some Parisian landmarks To know some French playground games To know that there are French speaking countries around the world
(1)	Speaking and Pronunciation	 listen attentively to spoken language and show understanding by joining in and responding explore the patterns and sounds of language through songs and rhymes and link the spelling, sound and meaning of words engage in conversations; ask and answer questions; express opinions and respond to those of others; seek clarification and help*
	Reading and Writing	 speak in sentences, using familiar vocabulary, phrases and basic language structures develop accurate pronunciation and intonation so that others understand when they are reading aloud or using familiar words and phrases* present ideas and information orally to a range of audiences* read carefully and show understanding of words, phrases and simple writing appreciate stories, songs, poems and rhymes in the language broaden their vocabulary and develop their ability to understand new words that are introduced into familiar written material, including through using a dictionary write phrases from memory, and adapt these to create new sentences, to express ideas clearly describe people, places, things and actions orally* and in writing

Otters Cycle A	Unit of Work Title	Threshold Concept Symbol	End Point - Key concepts, knowledge / skills specific to this unit/	Retrieval of Previous Learning	Key vocabulary
Autumn 1	Portraits – describing in French		This unit is about describing someone's appearance, including eye and hair colour and characteristics such as how happy or serious they are. The unit teaches the position of adjectives in a sentence and how the adjective changes to 'agree' with the noun it describes (masculine, feminine, singular, plural). Starting with the subject of painting and the Louvre in Paris to build cultural awareness, the children complete the unit by writing a description of one of their friends in French.	French adjectives, colour and shape. (If Cycle B has proceeded Cycle A)	heureux/heureuse - happy sérieux/sérieuse - serious le Musée du Louvre - the Louvre museum l'entrée - the entrance un tableau - a painting une statue - a statue il a - he has elle a - she has les cheveux - hair les cheveux châtains - brown hair les cheveux blonds - blond hair les cheveux noirs - black hair les cheveux roux - ginger hair les yeux - eyes les yeux bleus - blue eyes les yeux marron - brown eyes
Autumn 2	Clothes – getting dressed in France		In a topic about 'les vêtements' children learn to recognise several items of clothing, understand the different forms of the indefinite article and possessive adjective as well as practice using the correct adjectival agreement and describe what people are wearing.	Last half term, you described different portraits in French. We will now use this knowledge to describe different items of clothing.	un T-shirt - a T-shirt un short - shorts un pantalon - trousers un chapeau - a hat un maillot de bain - a swimsuit une culotte - pants une chemise - a shirt une veste - a jacket des chaussettes (f) - socks des bottes (f) - boots des lunettes (f) - glasses des baskets (f) - trainers
Spring 1	French numbers, calendars and birthdays	D »	Children learn French numbers 1-31, the days of the week, months of the year, dates and seasons through maths and songs and class surveys; they research of dates of French	French Playground, games, number and age if Cycle B	un nombre - number un numéro - number un chiffre - digit les mathématiques - maths



		festivals and revise the unit by having a traditional French birthday celebration in the classroom.	has proceeded Cycle A.	les opérations - the operations égale - equals plus - add/plus moins - minus/take away multiplié par - multiplied by divisé par - divided by un - one deux - two trois - three quatre - four cinq - five six - six sept - seven huit - eight neuf - nine dix - ten
Spring 2	French weather and the water cycle	Learning phrases to describe the weather and vocabulary for the compass points; counting from 1-100 in multiples of ten; combining this knowledge to make statements about what the temperature is in different parts of France and to deliver a weather forecast. The unit culminates in a French science lesson, where the children explore the water cycle and recognise scientific cognates.	Last half term, you learnt about French numbers, calendars and birthdays. You will need this knowledge to count to 1000 in multiples of 10.	uel temps fait-il aujourd'hui? - what's the weather like today? il fait beau - it's nice weather il fait mauvais - it's bad weather il fait chaud - it's hot il fait froid - it's cold il pleut - it's raining/it rains il neige - it's snowing il y a du soleil - it's sunny il y a du vent - it's windy il y a des nuages - it's cloudy
Summer 1	French Food – Miam, Miam!	French food, cafés, ordering and menus -'Yum Yum'- or 'Miam, Miam'! This unit introduces food vocabulary and revises numbers to 100, this time in the context of money and prices. The unit encourages children to develop their language detective skills and confidence with practical conversational French.	Last term you learnt about numbers and this half term we will apply that to money.	le restaurant - the restaurant le café - the cafe le menu - the menu une boisson - a drink une entrée- a starter un plat principal - a main course la soupe - the soup la pizza - the pizza Bonjour je voudrais une table pour un - Hello, I would like a table for one voilà le menu - here is the menu Je voudrais - I would like

				Vous désirez une boisson? - Would you like a drink?
Summer 2	French and the Eurovision Song Contest.	This unit uses the concept of the Eurovision Song Contest to get pupils to work in groups writing their own original songs in French, using vocabulary largely drawn from years 3 and 4, including paying attention to rhyming sounds. The children learn additional musical instrument and musical genre vocabulary and expand their knowledge of the French names for European countries. They learn new sentence constructions to say that they play an instrument and live in a particular country and learn how to express likes and dislikes about different styles of music. The focus of lessons 4 and 5 provide opportunities to expand the learning over additional teaching time, to revise all vocabulary and grammar learning from years 3 and 4 and combine the unit with lessons in Art, Music and Geography.	This unit will require knowledge of numbers from the spring term. You also learnt about describing clothes and paintings in the autumn term, which you will build upon this half term.	le piano - the piano le violon - the violin le saxophone - the saxophone le clavier - the keyboard la guitare - the guitar la flûte - the flute la flûte à bec - the recorder la clarinette - the clarinette la batterie - the drums la trompette - the trumpet

Otters Cycle B	Unit of Work Title	Threshold Concept Symbol	End Point - Key concepts, knowledge / skills specific to this unit/	Retrieval of Previous Learning	Key vocabulary
Autumn 1	French Greetings with puppets		In these introductory French lessons for KS2, puppets are used to help pupils learn how to introduce themselves, use appropriate greetings to say hello, good-bye and good night, and to ask and answer the question, 'how are you feeling?'.	Introduction to French. Children will have come with different experiences from any previous learning.	bonjour - hello/good morning (formal) salut - hi (informal) je m'appelle My name is comment tu t'appelles ? - what's your name? comment t'appelles-tu ? - what's your name? au revoir - goodbye et toi ? - and you? bien - good très bien - very good super - super un, deux, trois - one, two, three regardez-moi - look at me
Autumn 2	French adjectives of colour, size and shape.		Describing shapes using adjectives of colour and size, learning the position of adjectives relative to the noun; noting cognates, practising language skills and developing confidence through games and creating animal and Christmas artworks inspired by the cut-outs of French artist, Henri Matisse.	Introduction to French. Children will have come with different experiences from any previous learning.	rouge - red bleu - blue jaune - yellow vert - green blanc - white noir - black orange - orange rose - pink brun - brown violet - violet et - and c'est - it is c'est de quelle couleur ? - what colour is it? marron - brown
Spring 1	French Playground games, numbers and age.		This KS2 unit sees children count in French from one to twelve, recognise the written number words, ask how old someone is and answer the same question, comparing sentence structures in French and English, and practising all the vocabulary by playing counting and some traditional French games.	In Autumn 1, you learnt greetings which you can apply in these lessons. You also learnt different adjectives and shapes last half term, which you could use in your games.	un - one deux - two trois - three quatre - four cinq - five six - six sept - seven huit - eight neuf - nine

Spring 2	In a French Classroom		This unit introduces the imperative mood with classroom commands and the concept of noun gender, which determines the form of the indefinite article to be used. The children learn to respond to <i>and</i> give simple instructions, learn and use vocabulary for items commonly found in a school bag, and begin to build simple sentences using, 'I have a' and 'I don't have a' constructions and simple connectives, 'and' and 'but' . By the end of the unit, the children use all they have learned, including rules on adjectival position, to write short descriptions in French and to give a presentation on what is in their school bag.	In Autumn, you learnt how to describe different shapes and objects.	dix - ten onze - eleven douze - twelve plus (or you can use 'et') - plus moins - minus fait (literally 'makes') - equals égale - equals combien ? - how many?/how much? écoutez - listen regardez - look parlez - speak écrivez - write lisez - read ouvrez - open fermez - close asseyez-vous - sit down levez-vous - stand up faux - false vrai - true répétez ! - repeat silence - silence Jacques a dit - Jacques said qu'est-ce qui manque ? - what's missing? un crayon - a pencil
Summer 1	French Transport	D))	Using their detective skills to spot cognates and working out meaning, children learn new transport-related vocabulary and construct sentences using parts of the verb 'aller' – to go, and prepositions to express going on holiday to a different country or going to school by a particular mode of transport. The children discover that French is spoken in many countries around the world other than France.	French Playground games in the Autumn term.	un autobus - a bus un avion - an aeroplane un ballon - a balloon un bateau- a boat un ferry - a ferry un hélicoptère - a helicopter un sous-marin - a submarine un train - a train un vélo - a bicycle une voiture - a car à pied – on foot
Summer 2	A circle of life in French	9» }	Using their dictionary skills to develop their animal vocabulary and habitat names. Building sentences and completing food chains to apply this vocabulary in writing.	In the Spring term, you learnt how to write a description of what was in your school bag.	Les animaux - the animals un lapin - a rabbit un loup - a wolf un oiseau - a bird

This unit has cross-curricular links with Science.	un poisson - a fish un serpent - a snake
	un singe - a monkey
	un ver - a worm une baleine - a whale
	une grenouille - a frog
	une tortue - a tortoise

Foxes Cycle A	Unit of Work Title	Threshold Concept Symbol	End Point - Key concepts, knowledge / skills specific to this unit/	Retrieval of Previous Learning	Key vocabulary
Autumn 1	French Sport and the Olympics		Pupils conjugate the verb 'aller'- to go, identify correct prepositions, learn sports vocabulary, how to express preferences plus the infinitive. They expand their knowledge of country names and develop their cultural knowledge of Pétanque, the Tour de France and the Olympics, consolidating their learning by writing a magazine article about participating in the Olympic Games.	In Otters, you learnt about how to use adverbs and phrases to describe different items of clothing and transport.	je joue - I play je fais - I do le basket - basketball le football/le foot - football le hockey - hockey le tennis - tennis le rugby - rugby le ski - skiing c'est quel sport ? - what sport is it? c'est le it's tu aimes le sport ? - do you like sports? j'aime - I like j'adore - I love je n'aime pas - I don't like
Autumn 2	French Football Champions		In this football-themed unit, pupils develop and practise many important learning strategies that they can use in their future learning of other languages and subjects. Children develop their reading, speaking and listening skills, responding to questions about footballers, building to writing their own football player profiles in French based on research of a chosen player.	Last half term you learnt about how to describe different sports. In Otters, you learnt how to describe different items, such as vehicles.	le ballon - the ball le but - the goal le terrain - the pitch le sifflet - the whistle mi-temps - half time un match de foot - a football match un joueur de foot/un footballeur - a footballer (male) une joueuse de foot/une footballeuse - a footballer (female) les Bleus - the Blues (French team) une équipe - a team un gardien de but - a goalie/goalkeeper (male) une gardienne de but - a goalie/goalkeeper (female)

Spring 1	In my French house		Pupils learn how to describe a house, the different rooms and who lives there. They also learn about prepositions to explain where items are arranged in their bedrooms and consolidate the grammar and vocabulary they have learned by writing a letter to describe their family, home and bedroom.	In Otters you learnt how to describe items in the classroom and last half term, how to describe sports.	habiter - to live j'habite - I live j'habite dans - I live in un appartement - an apartment une grande maison - a big house une petite maison - a little house une maison jumelée - semi-detached house une ferme - a farm la salle à manger - dining room la cuisine - kitchen le salon - lounge room la chambre de mes parents - my parents' bedroom
Spring 2	Planning a French Holiday		The children learn to use a combination of present and near future tenses, and become familiar with holiday related vocabulary around packing a suitcase and planning a journey. They explore which countries they might visit and why and ultimately research and plan a holiday to France.	In Otters you learnt how to describe different modes of transport and different greetings.	L'Angleterre (f) - England L'Écosse (f) - Scotland Le Pays de Galles (m) - Wales L'Irlande du Nord (f) - Northern Ireland L'Irlande (f) - Ireland (Republic of Ireland) la France (f) - France la Belgique (f) - Belgium L'Allemagne (f) - Germany L'Italie (f) - Italy L'Australie (f) - Australia
Summer	Visiting a town in France.	D)) ((())	Learning directional, transport and town vocabulary together with prepositional phrases, the children describe their journey to school, plan a trip to France and become tourist guides, giving reasoned opinions on which places in town to visit; finally the children create a tourist leaflet, in French, for their own local area.	In Otters you learnt how to describe different modes of transport and different greetings.	comment vas-tu à l'école ? - how do you get to school? je vais à l'école - I go to school en voiture - by car en autobus - by bus à vélo - on a bicycle à pied - on foot sur - on sous - under derrière - behind devant - in front of

		dans - in entre - between à coté de - next to près de - near to loin de - far from il y a there is
		il y a aussi - there is also
		un parc - a park

Foxes Cycle B	Unit of Work Title	Threshold Concept Symbol	End Point - Key concepts, knowledge / skills specific to this unit/	Retrieval of Previous Learning	Key vocabulary
Autumn 1	French Monster Pets		Looking at animals, monsters and hybrids, children use their 'detective skills' to extract information from an authentic French text, identify and sort nouns by their gender and make adjectives agree. This helps develop understanding of sentence structure and culminates in the children writing a paragraph to describe their own monster pet creation.	You learnt how to describe animals in Otters when you described transport and clothes.	un Varan de Komodo/un dragon de Komodo - a Komodo dragon un carnivore - a carnivore un prédateur - a predator un reptile - a reptile un insecte - an insect un mammifère - a mammal la tête - the head les épaules (f) - the shoulders
Autumn 2	Space Exploration in French		This unit transports children into space, developing their scientific vocabulary as well as their grammar. Pupils develop their listening and language detective skills, use figurative language and develop their sentence structure by adding adjectives, using prepositions and making simple adjectival comparisons. Links can be made with English as they use figurative language and write poems.	In Otters you learnt how to describe different modes of transport and last half term, you learnt about different adjectives in French.	le système solaire - the solar system l'espace (m) - space une planète - a planet un astéroïde - an asteroid une comète - a comet une étoile - a star orbiter - to orbit le Soleil - the Sun la Lune - the Moon Mercure - Mercury Vénus - Venus la Terre - the Earth Mars - Mars Jupiter - Jupiter Saturne - Saturn Uranus - Uranus

				Neptune - Neptune Pluton - Pluto
Spring 1	Shopping in France	Pupils learn to construct high numbers in French, develop food-related vocabulary through games, stories and role-play and build on their understanding of sentence structures, questions and phrases, equipping themselves with language they could use when shopping in France. They also develop their language detective skills, facing an entirely unfamiliar authentic French text.	In Otters, you learnt how to count to 1000 and count in multiples of 10. You also learnt about greetings in the autumn term, which will be useful to use.	un - one deux - two trois - three quatre - four cinq - five six - six sept - seven huit - eight neuf - nine dix - ten onze - eleven douze - twelve treize - thirteen quatorze - fourteen quinze - fifteen seize - sixteen dix-sept - seventeen dix-neuf - nineteen vingt - twenty vingt-et-un - twenty-one vingt-quatre - twenty-four
Spring 2	French Speaking World	Learning that French is spoken in many countries, the children use their knowledge of size and colour adjectives and their compass points to read clues in French to work out where French-speaking countries are located in the world and what their flags look like.	In Otters you learnt how to use different greetings, and in the first term in Foxes, you learnt about different adjectives in French.	au nord - to the North au sud - to the South à l'est - to the East à l'ouest - to the West le nord-est - North East le nord-ouest - North West le sud-est - South East le sud-ouest - South West je vais - I go / I'm going tu vas - you go/ you are going mètres – metres pas – steps

Summer	Meet my	This unit draws on vocabulary and grammar	In Otters you learnt about	j'ai trouvé le trésor ! – l've found the treasure! tu as trouvé – you've found i'ai un frère – l have a brother
	French family	learned in Years 3, 4 and 5, introduces family and relations vocabulary, the possessive adjective, my, and how to express likes and dislikes. The children learn that they can compose a written composition by recycling and re-ordering known words and phrases and the unit culminates in pupils producing a piece of written work, in French, describing members of a family, their looks, their ages, their birthdays and their likes and dislikes.	greetings, how to express yourself and your likes and dislikes. In Foxes, you learnt how to describe different animals and people in your house.	j'ai une sœur – I have a sister j'ai deux frères - I have two brothers j'ai deux sœurs - I have two sisters j'ai un frère et une sœur - I have a brother and a sister je n'ai pas de frère – I haven't got a brother je n'ai pas de sœur – I haven't got a sister je n'ai pas de frère ou de sœur - I haven't got a brother or a sister