

The Bilingual Chronicles



FIRST WORD

"A rose is a rose is a rose"

Dear community of Sainte Marie de Neuilly,

I open my first word with a well-known quote from Gertrude Stein, an American modernist writer who moved to Paris and spent the end of her life here in Neuilly. This quote reminds us that things are just as they are, but equally a rose in bloom has the potential to trigger multiple memories and associations.

As we shift into summer and the roses come into bloom at the school's entrance I would like to reflect on the achievements and experiences of our bilingual students from the end of last year to the present.

Recent Art in English lessons have centred on embroidery. Students have considered the wider context of working with textiles; the environmental impact of the textile and fashion industries as well as the exhibition *Threads of Feeling* at The Foundling Museum in London. This exhibition showcased never-before seen fabrics; small textile tokens that illustrate the emotional moment of parting between mothers and their babies at the Foundling Hospital.

Back-stitch, split and cross-stitch are just some of the embroidery techniques currently being employed by students as they conclude their personal projects ahead of an end of year presentation and final exhibition display.

The bilingual program has been full of new experiences and individual achievements across all subjects.

Music classes have concentrated on learning and singing hymns that bring an Anglophone sound to Mass. 6ème students sang "Blessed is He" / "Hosanna!" (Steve Green) in two-part harmony and the 5èmes sang "We Remember" (Marty Haugen).

School trips have prompted meaningful cultural exchanges; the 5èmes discovered Stratford, the home of Shakespeare. The 4èmes also went to England, where they learned about the abolition of slavery as well as the Industrial Revolution.

The end of the academic year is fast approaching; students are concluding projects and reflecting back on what they have learned and achieved throughout the year. I wish the whole community a wonderful summer break, I hope that you all find the time to recharge and enjoy the roses!

Emily Platzer

THE PUBLISHING TEAM



STUDENT PUBLISHING TEAM



TEACHER EDITING ADVISORS

EDITOR'S NOTE

Welcome to the fourth issue of The Bilingual Chronicles!

As the Chief Editor, I'm really excited to introduce this new edition of our newsletter. This project is made by students and mainly for students, and every issue is a chance for us to share ideas, creativity, and our voices.

The Bilingual Chronicles is written in English, but it represents students from different backgrounds and cultures who all have something to say. For many of us, English is not our first language, and that is exactly what makes this newsletter special. It shows that we can express ourselves, learn, and grow together through language.

In this fourth issue, you will find articles, opinions, and pieces created by students who wanted to try something new and be part of this experience. Writing for the newsletter takes courage, and I am very proud of everyone who contributed.

This newsletter is not only about writing — it is also about improving our English, sharing our perspectives, and connecting with other students in our school.

I hope you enjoy reading this issue as much as we enjoyed creating it.

Thank you to all the students and teachers who support this project.

Victoire Mantoux

Chief Editor, *The Bilingual Chronicles*

BOOK SUGGESTIONS

OUR SUGGESTIONS

- *HOLES* - LOUIS SACHAR
- *THE CURIOUS INCIDENT OF THE DOG IN THE NIGHT-TIME* - MARK HADDON
- *OF MICE AND MEN* - JOHN STEINBECK
- *NOUGHTS AND CROSSES* - MALORIE BLACKMAN

TEACHER SUGGESTIONS

COLLÈGE :

- *HORRIBLE SCIENCE* (SERIES) - NICK ARNOLD
- *HORRIBLE HISTORIES* (SERIES) - TERRY DEARY

LYCÉE :

- *THE LET THEM THEORY* - MEL ROBBINS
- *THE WARMTH OF OTHER SUNS* - ISABEL WILKERSON

A BOOK REVIEW :

The Great Gatsby - Fitzgerald, F. Scott

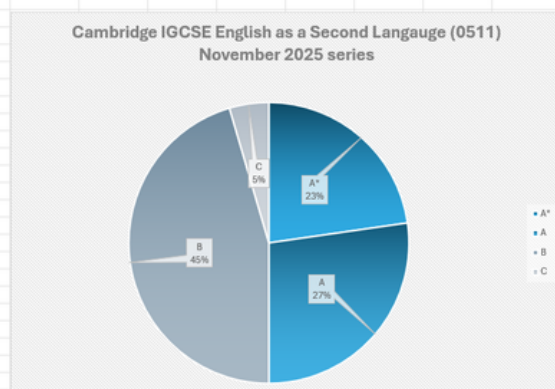
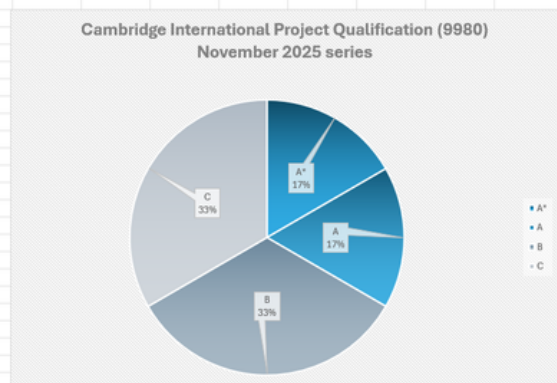
The Great Gatsby is an amazing novel that follows the story of Nick Carraway when he moves to New York City. The man who lives next door to him, Jay Gatsby, is very mysterious to Nick. He throws lavish parties that shine bright into the night with a multitude of guests. Nick's cousin, Daisy Buchanan, who lives on the other side of a wide river from Nick and Gatsby, catches the attention of Jay Gatsby but is already married to Tom Buchanan. *The Great Gatsby* explores the themes of love, social hierarchy, fake relationships between the rich, and the American Dream through an intriguing story using symbolism.

The first few pages of *The Great Gatsby* did not immediately catch my attention. The more I read into the book and understood the deeper meanings and deepening intricacies of the characters, the more that I loved the book. *The Great Gatsby* is a wonderfully written book with an amazing story filled with deep and meaningful symbols. It highlights problems with relationships and social hierarchy that I will keep in my mind for the future. I would recommend you read this book!

Sélène P.

2025 EXAMINATION RESULTS

Here are the results of the Cambridge International Project Qualification and of the IGCSE English as a Second Language Cambridge qualification :



POETRY BY HEART class finalists of the 2026 year

Collège

Amalia Bureau (6ème) (left)

Colette Davy (5ème)

Mishka Nair (4ème) (left)

Lycée

Elise Gerner (2nde)

Meghan Favy (2nde)

Romy Barthès (Tle) (right)



CAMBRIDGE
International Education

Cambridge International School

POETRY BY
HEART

A COLLABORATIVE TED TALK INITIATIVE

Photos from our visit to Marymount International School. The 4ème students had the opportunity to work with their Marymount classmates on preparing a TED Talk, thereby developing their research and public speaking skills.

On Friday April 10th, our 4ème bilingual students headed off to Marymount International to attend their annual student TED talk conference. We were wowed by the quality of their speeches. It was our turn to invite them to Sainte Marie on the 16th of June for our first student TED talk.



MARYMOUNT AND SMN TED TALK PROJECT

Students from Marymount International School and Sainte-Marie de Neuilly recently took part in a TED Talk project organised by Mrs Deborah Leparc. The event brought together 4ème students who explored important contemporary issues while developing their research, critical thinking and public speaking skills.

Preparation for the project began on May 5th. Over several weeks, students selected a topic, carried out research, analysed different viewpoints, drew conclusions and prepared their presentations. This process encouraged them to think independently and build well-supported arguments on complex subjects.

During the event, students delivered speeches lasting several minutes on a variety of thought-provoking questions, including:

To what extent should schools put pressure on students?

What are the benefits and drawbacks of technological advances?

What is the real price of cheap clothes, and what impact does fast fashion have on the planet?

How far should artificial intelligence be used in schools?

By addressing these challenging topics, students demonstrated their ability to engage with current global issues and consider different perspectives. Their presentations reflected careful research, thoughtful analysis and a strong commitment to understanding the world around them.

One of the key messages that emerged from many of the talks was that progress often comes through challenges and setbacks. Students highlighted how learning from mistakes can help individuals grow, improve and achieve success. Their reflections showed that young people are capable of remarkable things when they are encouraged to question, explore and persevere.

The TED Talk project provided a valuable opportunity for students to share their ideas, strengthen their confidence in public speaking and engage in meaningful discussions. Thanks to the dedication of the students and the guidance of Mrs Deborah Leparc, the event was both inspiring and enriching for everyone involved.



Event in Marymount International school in Paris



Event in Sainte-Marie de Neuilly



V



EMBROIDERY IN 6ÈME

In art class, with Mrs. Platzer, students have been practising embroidery skills. Here are some examples of their lovely work :



INTERVIEW WITH JOSEPH SROUJI

On Tuesday the 22nd of January, the whole bilingual section was invited to participate in an interview with Joseph Srouji, a lawyer working in data protection. The interview started with a 20 minute presentation where Mr Srouji introduced himself and recounted his life journey all the way to today. Then, two students of the bilingual section, Victoire Mantoux and Sélène Pellerin, interviewed him, asking him more questions about his life and his work. We learned what a data protection lawyer is, the qualifications needed to become one, and why it is so important to protect our personal data. Finally, the rest of the bilingual section got to ask questions. Joseph Srouji has had an interesting career path: he thought he wanted to be in the military until he entered the military and realised it wasn't for him. Then, he got a master's in French literature, went into consulting, moved to Strasbourg to study, went to work in London thanks to a friend, then worked for General Electric for many years before finally creating his own law firm.

Some of the key points we learned during this first part of the interview were that you never know who is going to help you in life so be nice to everyone. The best career option for you is something you're good at and like doing, or at least something you're good at, even if you don't like doing it. Two bad options being something you're not excelling in but like doing, and the worst, something you're bad at and hate doing.

He also told us some important questions to ask ourselves before choosing a career path: What am I good at? What do I want to do? What do people around me want me to do? The last question being something interesting to know because the people around us know us best but not something that should completely change your career path.

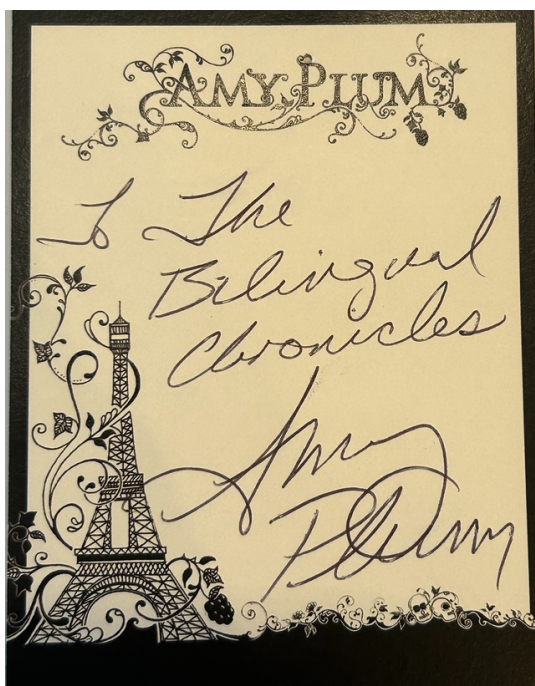
E. Du Chayla



INTERVIEW WITH AMY PLUM

On March 24, we had the chance to meet Amy Plum, author of teen novels. It was a very interesting and enriching moment, both for future writers and for all those who are wondering about their future. With her smile, humor and good humor, Amy Plum captured everyone's attention. The conference started with Mrs. Plum briefly traced her journey and then continued with an interview conducted by 3 students from the bilingual section. It was very interesting to discover the whole process of creating a book and how much an author reveals about her/himself through her/his work. It was therefore a very friendly and enriching moment that was able to benefit everyone and I am convinced that I can say that each student left the conference with the desire to read at least one of the books of Amy Plum. This woman has an incredible background and she was kind enough to come and talk to us!!

Gabrielle D.



MODEL UNITED NATIONS CONFERENCE

The school trip to Stuttgart, Germany, was organized to allow students to participate in a Model United Nations (MUN) conference. During the conference, students represented different countries and discussed major international issues through formal debates and negotiations.

The participants prepared speeches, defended the positions of their assigned countries, and collaborated with delegates from other schools to draft resolutions. The topics discussed included contemporary global challenges such as artificial intelligence, international cooperation, and global governance.

Beyond the academic aspect of the conference, the trip also gave students the opportunity to discover Stuttgart, learn about German culture, and strengthen their communication skills in English. The experience helped develop important abilities such as public speaking, critical thinking, teamwork, and diplomacy.

Overall, the trip was both educational and enriching, combining cultural discovery with practical experience in international relations and debate.



Camille M.



STRATFORD-UPON-AVON

Our trip to Stratford-Upon-Avon

The 5ème bilingual class went on a field trip to Stratford upon Avon. On the first day, we did a scavenger hunt which allowed us to discover the town. In the afternoon we visited Shakespeare's home and Anne Hathaway's cottage. Throughout our trip we lodged with host families. On the second day, we went to the Tudor World Museum and in the afternoon someone showed us around the town, teaching us lots of things about Shakespeare's life. At the end of the day we shopped in the town center. Our last day was spent in London where we visited the Globe Theatre and participated in an interactive workshop about the play *Romeo & Juliet*. To end our stay, we ate a delicious fish and chips in a traditional pub in the hear of the City.

Calista and Beryl



ENGLAND 4ÈME TRIP

Over the past year, our 4ème students have been studying the Industrial Revolution and the abolition of slavery. In April, our students were given the opportunity to view the places they have been studying in class. The students walked along the slave docks, visited John Newton's house, and heard the industrial machines used in the 19th century. They even rode the first passenger train line between Manchester and Liverpool ! The students left England with a better understanding of the period and plenty of memories made with their classmates.

This trip to England has been one full of new discoveries, adventures and experiences . This trip was full of positive and negative experiences of course (including sore feet and a seagull taking the liberty to deposit its good fortune upon us, and no, not figuratively). However, small incidents like these weren't going to stop anyone from having fun and enjoying yhemselfes to the fullest.

The first part of this jouney started in Manchester where the class visited different museums and learned the industrialisation and history of the city. Later, everyone also visited Bolton to discover the fascinating library and museum. The last part of the trip was in Liverpool where everyone learned about the city and especially the Beatles. Even while being educational, there was still time for the class to visit some shopping malls. The evenings at the hotel were enjoyable as well, everyone was able to share their own stories and the nights were nice too, if you prayer for your roomates not to snore was answered.

To conclude, this trip was an unforgettable week for the whole bilingual class.

Mishka N.



WORK EXPERIENCE AND CULTURAL DISCOVERY IN ARKLOW, IRELAND, JUNE 2026

This year, our Seconde students had the opportunity to take part in an enriching work experience programme in Arklow, a picturesque coastal town located in County Wicklow, south of Dublin. Known for its maritime heritage, welcoming community, and beautiful natural surroundings, Arklow provided an ideal setting for students to experience authentic Irish life while developing both personally and professionally.

During their stay, students were welcomed into local host families, where they experienced daily life in an Irish household and had the opportunity to practise English in a natural and authentic environment outside the classroom. Living with host families allowed students to discover Irish customs, share cultural experiences, and develop meaningful connections with local people. Being away from home also encouraged them to become more autonomous, responsible, and confident as they adapted to a new routine and navigated a different cultural environment.

Each morning, students attended English language classes at the Christian Boys School, where they developed their communication skills and gained confidence in using English in everyday situations. In the afternoons, they worked in a variety of local businesses, including charity shops, cafés, hotels, garden centres, and supermarkets. These placements enabled them to experience the Irish workplace, interact with customers and colleagues, and develop valuable professional and interpersonal skills.

The programme also included a rich cultural component. Students visited Dublin and explored some of the city's most iconic attractions, including Trinity College, the Jeanie Johnston Famine Ship, the EPIC Irish Emigration Museum, the Viking Museum, and the Leprechaun Museum. The group also enjoyed a field trip to Glendalough, where they discovered the beauty of Ireland's natural landscapes and its early Christian heritage. These visits provided fascinating insights into Ireland's history, culture, and traditions.

On Sunday, students attended an Irish Mass, offering them a unique opportunity to experience an important aspect of local community life. This memorable trip to Arklow allowed students to improve their English, gain workplace experience, and deepen their understanding of Irish culture.



EDITORS' RECOMMENDATIONS

THE ABBEY BOOKSHOP

ENGLISH BOOKSTORE (CANADIAN-
ENGLISH BOOKS)
29 RUE DE LA PARCHEMINERIE,
75005 PARIS, FRANCE
+33 1 46 33 16 24



THE REAL MCCOY

BRITISH AND AMERICAN GROCERY
STORE
194 RUE DE GRENELLE, 75007 PARIS,
FRANCE
+33 1 45 56 00 00



THE HIGHLANDER

SCOTTISH PUB
8 RUE DE NEVERS, 75006 PARIS,
FRANCE
+33 6 07 55 46 85



THE BOMBARDIER

BRITISH PUB (POPULAR WITH ENGLISH
SPEAKERS AND STUDENTS)
2 PLACE DU PANTHÉON, 75005 PARIS,
FRANCE
+33 1 43 54 79 22



RECIPE: BANANA BREAD

INGREDIENTS

- 75G BUTTER
- 110G SUGAR
- 225G FLOUR
- 2 TEASPOONS BAKING POWDER
- 2 EGGS
- 3 VERY RIPE BANANAS
- 50G WALNUTS



RECIPE

- 1• BEAT THE BUTTER, SUGAR, FLOUR, BAKING POWDER AND EGGS TOGETHER.
 - 2• MASH THE BANANAS. ADD TO THE MIXTURE AND MIX WITH A SPOON.
 - 3• STIR IN THE WALNUTS. POUR THE MIXTURE INTO A GREASED LOAF TIN.
 - 4• BAKE IN A PREHEATED OVEN AT 175 °C FOR 65 MINUTES.
- ENJOY !

QUOTES

"THE MOST COURAGEOUS ACT IS STILL TO THINK FOR YOURSELF. ALoud."
COCO CHANEL

"ASK NOT WHAT YOUR COUNTRY CAN DO FOR YOU, BUT WHAT YOU CAN DO FOR YOUR COUNTRY. "
JOHN F. KENNEDY

GAME



INSECTS
BUTTERFLY
GROWTH
BLUE SKY
FLOWERS
PUDDLES
BUNNY

MEADOW
SUN
BREEZE
BIRDS
GARDEN
RAIN
PICNIC

JOKES

WHAT DID ONE HAT SAY TO THE OTHER?
YOU WAIT HERE. I'LL GO ON A HEAD.

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WHAT DID THE SHARK SAY WHEN HE ATE THE CLOWNFISH?
THIS TASTES A LITTLE FUNNY.