

Summer 2026

Newsletter



Artwork by Charlotte Lancelot, 6ème

Macbeth

This year, the Drama Club worked on Macbeth. Aurore tells us what it is like to take part.



Hello everybody! I am Aurore, an international section student in 5ème. Today, I'll tell you all about the international section and the Shakespeare Project.

I love the international section because in addition to your regular English lessons, you get to do Literature, History and Geography in English. You get to do fun activities with fun teachers, and you don't even notice that you are learning English!

Every Wednesday afternoon, I join the Shakespeare Project drama club. This year, we are doing Macbeth. It takes place in Scotland. I play the part of Lady Macbeth. I convince my husband Macbeth to kill the king of Scotland and take his place, in order to fulfill a prophecy made by three witches. But I, (or I mean, Lady Macbeth) become crazy, and spill the beans. Macbeth is killed and Lady Macbeth dies too. The exiled heir returns to the throne.

Clarence and Kelly, the two drama teachers are amazing. They are kind and supportive, they give you the part that works best for you, and they give really good advice. Clarence is a professional actress and director. Kelly (Mrs Stuck) is a teacher for the international section. During the rehearsals, we laugh a lot. Next year, we'll do a comedy (As you Like it), it's going to be hilarious!

The club ends with a final performance, usually at the end of March. On performance day, you get to skip all your classes, because you do a dress rehearsal before the performance. We all picnic together and we end up with crazy makeup catastrophes! Taking to the stage is a little stressful at first, but don't panic, you'll get help, and we are all in this together!

This club is fun, you'll make great friends, and it is a great way to learn. You should definitely join!

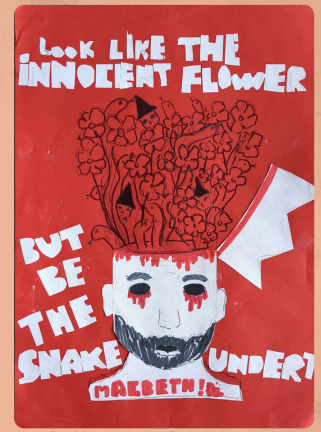


Written by Aurore Morenas-Romney



By Constance de Monicault

3ème students have also been studying Macbeth in class. They created fabulous posters using key quotes from the play.



By Marguerite Pecquerie

The legend of the cursed play

Did you know that saying “Macbeth” inside a theatre is said to curse the actors and directors? That’s a famous theatrical superstition. Despite its popularity, Macbeth is said to be a cursed play that can cause terrible accidents during performances. Even today, actors and crew avoid saying “Macbeth” out loud, except when rehearsing or performing. Instead, they call it “The Scottish Play” or “The Bard’s Play”. The Royal Shakespeare Company still follows the rules and has pages explaining them on their website.



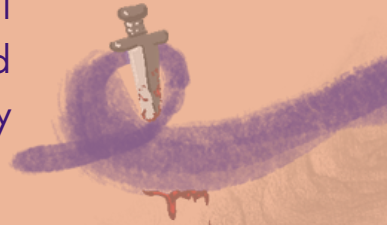
By Eloise Massé



By Noémie Guillou

The legend started with the very first performance circa 1606, when a young actor suddenly became sick (or died) and Shakespeare himself had to replace him. But most actors do it out of good humor or for the tradition!

The “cursed play” legend came from a myth which stated that witches were angry against Shakespeare for using real spells in his play with the Weïrd Sisters (Three Witches), so they cursed it forever...



The play was written for King James I, who was obsessed with witchcraft and demons. He wrote a book about it called Daemonologie.



By Theo Wilson and Aurèle Erauso

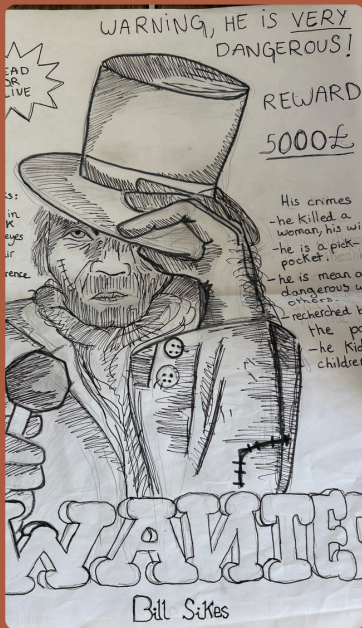
But don’t worry, if you slip and say the M-word, there’s a cleansing ritual: leave the theatre, spin around three times, spit over your left shoulder and knock to be let back in. Break your leg, but never say Macbeth!

6^{ème} : Oliver Twist

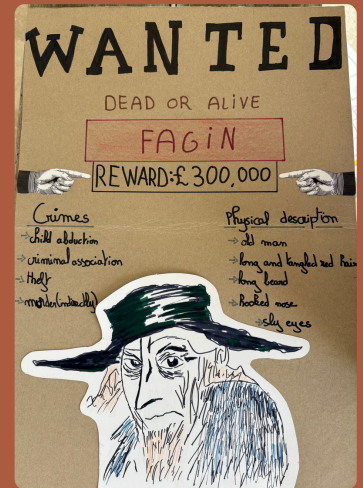
The 6èmes have been studying the classic 19th century novel, Oliver Twist, by Charles Dickens. Here they created Wanted posters for some of the famous criminals, Fagin and Bill Sikes

Did you know?

Charles Dickens' father was sent to prison because he had got into debt. The eleven year old Charles was taken out of school to work in a factory to help his family out of debt. The young Charlie worked for 10 hours a day and 6 days a week, sticking labels on bottles of boot polish.



by Mathilde Jacob



by Louise Cirotteau

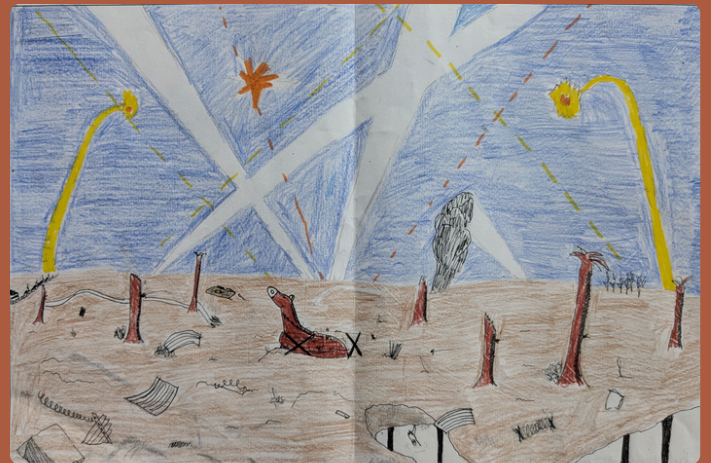
To learn more about Charles Dickens, click here

5^{ème} : War Horse

5ème students have been studying Micael Morpurgo's novel, War Horse. Here are a couple of their drawings of the scene when Joey is lost and terrified in No Man's Land. For inspiration we also looked at the paintings of British artist Paul Nash.



The Menin Road, by Paul Nash, 1919. You can see more of his paintings on the Imperial War Museums website.



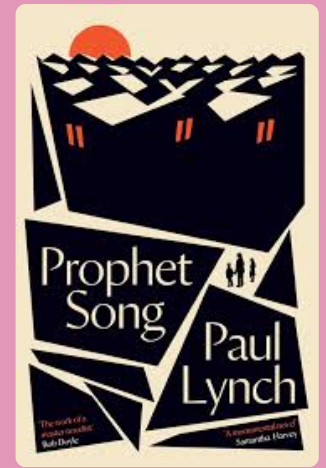
by Paul Frenais de Coutard



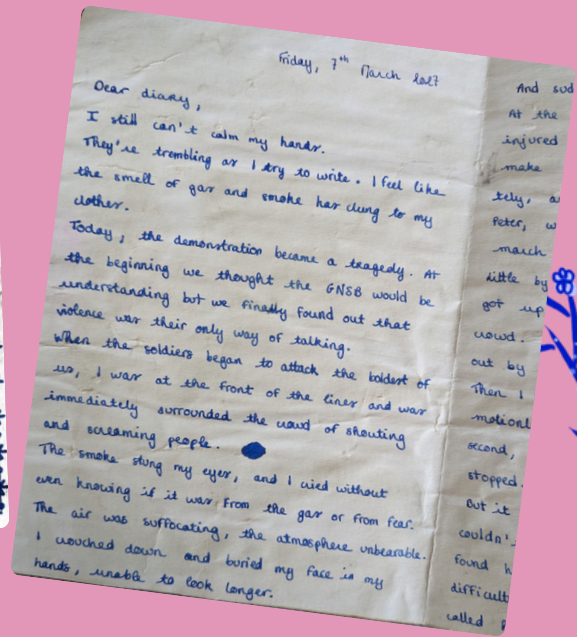
by Anaëlle Moquet

1^{re}: The Prophet Song

For their final oral at the bac, the students have to present the topic of Dystopian writing. One of the texts used to illustrate this is Prophet Song by Paul Lynch. It follows Eilish Stack, a mother who is desperately trying to hold her family together during a hostile government takeover in Ireland. In chapter 2, she witnesses a peaceful teacher protest turn ugly as the teachers are attacked with gas and batons by the police.



Students in 1ere2 created a poem or diary entry from the lens of a protester, inspired by, or using language from, the book. They did a great job!



The Gushing Tide

The street is no longer ours
But a smocking inferno of grey and grit
We are shadows cast by the baton's arc,
Folded into grovelling slopes in the dark.

Through the veil of stinging tear gas
We pull our collars high against the shame
A teacher dragged toward a nameless car
Silence is the only witness to his name.

Under a foreign sky, the rain begins to fall,
As the world we knew starts its disintegration.
We are wading through an upright swim
Drowning in the guilt of a dying nation.

~By Maxime Soufflot~



The Duke of Edinburgh award: an adventurous journey in Crozon

The journey began under the rain from Morgat - what on earth had we got ourselves into... But very quickly, the Indiana Jones-style adventure - having to duck under branches on an abandoned path, mud up to our calves - made it all great fun. To put it dramatically, some might say we were 'attacked' by a goat, 'followed' by horses and 'attacked' again, this time by ultrasound. I'll leave it to the reader to sort out the truth from the fiction and peel away the layer of tall tales.



In the evening, thoroughly tired and covered in mud, we arrived to find the other group already there. We tried to pitch the tents and cook some pasta, not without teasing the other group as they gathered in a circle around their stove, trying every possible incantation to work a miracle and get their water to boil (in a burst of kindness, we ended up lending them ours).

A very pleasant evening followed, with us roasting marshmallows over the gas burner, using sardines as skewers in the deserted and silent campsite, before going to "bed" with a somewhat more complicated and, above all, cold night's sleep; sleeping in our kaway wasn't enough.



The next day, which proved more challenging, we set off again, our eyes swollen and our voices hoarse. But the prospect of finishing, the team spirit and the beauty of the landscape saw us through to the end, smiling and happy.

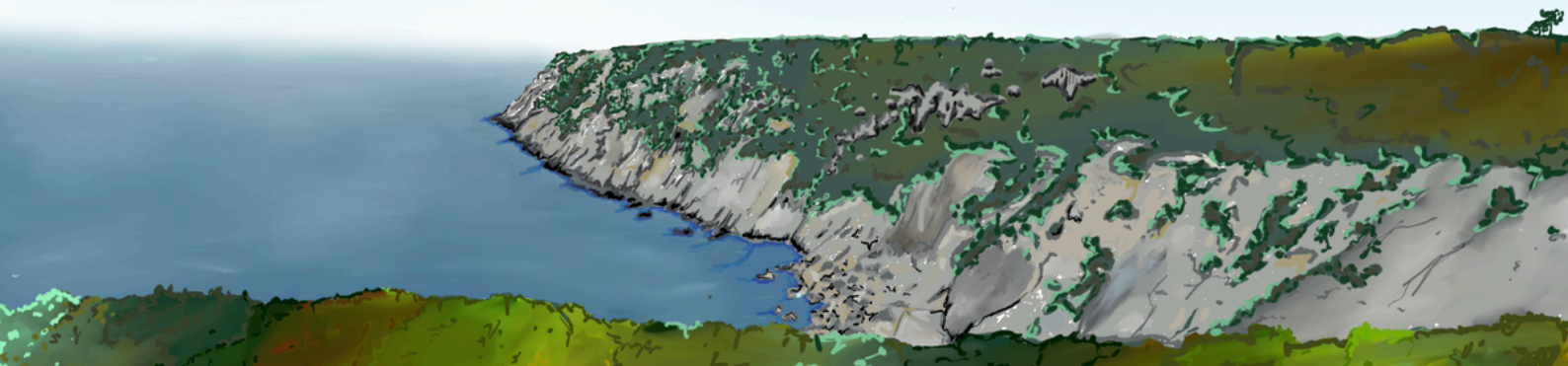


What we'll probably remember most from all this is the breathtaking beauty of the Crozon cliffs, our aching feet from all the walking, a slightly aggressive goat and, above all, the brilliant atmosphere amongst us all.

(special mention to the other group and their 26 kilometres - they're absolutely brilliant)



Written by Philomène Le Gall



Tanok

My name is Olena Udod, a student in Seconde 6, and I am part of a Ukrainian dance association created to support my country as it continues to fight. We are TANOK, a creative collective of strong, talented Ukrainian women whose paths crossed in Brittany after the war began in Ukraine. Here, we keep our culture alive. We dance it. We share it. With our heart. With our soul.

Our story began one month before Ukraine's Independence Day in 2023, a national holiday celebrating the country's declaration of independence on 24 August 1991. We wanted to offer something beautiful for this occasion – and I believe we succeeded!

During the preparations, we met several volunteers, including Iryna Novokhatska, a professional choreographer from Kharkiv. With her guidance, we created our very first performance: the Ukrainian Polka, a joyful and festive dance that perfectly reflected the spirit of the day.

At first, we didn't expect to go any further. But this performance brought us so much joy that we decided to continue. From September 2023 onward, we began training twice a week at the Ateliers des Capucins, with determination and enthusiasm.

In November, we took the next step and created our own association: TANOK, which means "dance" in Ukrainian. Since 2024, we have been traveling throughout Brittany – Bourg-Blanc, Ploudalmézeau, Gouesnac'h, Toul An Dour, Landerneau – sharing our culture wherever we go. And wherever we dance, we dance for Ukraine. As for Iryna, our choreographer, she gives us what she cherishes most: her talent, her time, her generosity, and her kindness. In Kharkiv, she worked with children; here, she guides and shapes us with the same dedication. She is not only our coach – she is a wonderful person and, to me, a true friend.

Today, TANOK is much more than a dance troupe. It has become a small family.

It is also a reminder that our country is still at war, but continues to fight and to resist.

With every performance, we share a piece of our culture – with passion, with our heart, and with our soul.

Written by Olena Udod

A big thank you to Olena and her mother who came in to the English classes at Saint Louis primary school in Brest to introduce the children to Ukrainian dancing.





Hello London!



Some of the students in Première had the chance to go on a trip to London from the 26th to the 30th January :

We had the chance to visit the city with Mme Beddoes , Mme Brunetti and Mme Gorbold and to learn about British culture and visit so many places!

Some of our favourite highlights:

We had an overview of London both from the sky on the London eye and from the water on the Thames. A boat trip made even more enjoyable by the many fun facts of a very humorous guide.



We also had an surprise visit to Camden Market. This district is very animated and lively. The shops are eccentric and colorful.

On our last evening, we ate at an Indian restaurant, which was an amazing idea ! We will all remember the spicy meals and their consequences !

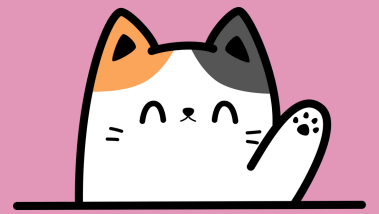


We had such a wonderful time thanks to the teachers and their incredible organisation. We won't forget this amazing trip.

Written by Loiz LECOUCOU and Lucile THINET 1ere4



Mrs B has left the building



After 12 years at Ste Anne, the moment has come — Mrs B is officially retiring!

When I arrived back in 2014, things looked a little different. Since then, the Inter Section has grown impressively under Mrs Gorbold. The OIB has transformed into the BFI, the school now proudly offers two IGCSE courses (including Business Studies — still the only *Éducation Nationale* school in France to do so!), and the lycée building has had a well-deserved glow-up. Mr Chevalier took over from Mrs Beauvillard as Head and the school continues to go from strength to strength. As for me, I've decided it's time to bow out gracefully (before they change anything else I have to learn!).



These past 12 years have genuinely been the best of my life — thanks entirely to my fantastic colleagues and the brilliant students I've had the pleasure of teaching. A particular highlight this year was the trip to London with a wonderful group of 1e students, who were a credit to the school and made the whole experience unforgettable (and, importantly, drama-free!).

I'm hoping this isn't a full goodbye — I'll be keeping my fingers crossed for an invite back for revision weekend next year. Retirement plans include finally having time for a couple of long-postponed projects, travelling more around France, and studying History for pleasure. One thing is certain: I will not be returning to the UK — absolutely not, no way! So if you spot me out and about, do come and say hello — I promise I won't set you any homework.



Thank you all for being such a wonderful part of my journey — it's been a privilege, and great fun!

How well do you know Mrs Beddoes?

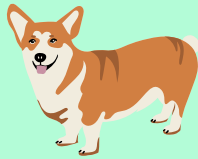
1. Where is she from in England?

- a) London
- b) Manchester
- c) Birmingham



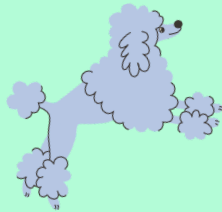
2. What is her favourite dog?

- a) Corgy
- b) Pug
- c) Poodle



3. What was her job in the UK before she became a teacher?

- a) chef
- b) archaeologist
- c) police officer



4. Who is her "favourite" UK prime minister?

- a) Tony Blair
- b) Margaret Thatcher
- c) Winston Churchill



5. What song always gets her dancing?

- a) Single Ladies by Beyoncé
- b) Billy Jean by Michael Jackson
- c) Macarena by Los del Rio

6. What got her a reputation in the Inter office?

- a) her extremely messy desk
- b) bringing in extremely smelly cheese
- c) her cheeky jokes



Answers: 1:c, 2:b, 3:c, 4:b, 5:a, 6: a, b and c!

House Points Update ... and the winner is ...

Shakespeare / Purple with 1560 points!



Dickens / Blue: 1540
Duffy / Yellow: 1499
Dahl / Orange: 1470
Seacole / Red: 1411
Cook / Green: 1401

A big thank you to Philomène Le Gall who designed this newsletter and continued to work on it even while she was away in Italy!

Happy Summer Holidays to you all!

