MAY 2020





SECTION INTERNATIONALE
La Celle-Saint-Cloud - Noisy le Roi

Over 10 years of bilingual education!

SECTION INTERNATIONALE HIGHLIGHTS

SPECIAL EDITION: LOCKDOWN STORIES



Spring Edition



Elise Barth, Editor



A first word

Dear all,

We hope that you are all well and safe. We know how challenging it is for most of you: juggling between working home and taking care of children and the school work.

We have decided to compile a Spring Newsletter to mark this historical moment we are all living and that will be part of the Section Internationale's history.

We are very thankful for the work done by the teachers, the students and the parents during the last few weeks, and more specifically for this Newsletter. You can read how the Section's students from GS to Terminale are experiencing the lockdown. Thank you for your efforts, creativity, time, energy and perseverance.

At the Section Internationale, like in schools around the world, the history of the present moment is taking shape in projects, journal entries and drawings! It's interesting to see how the confinement has changed your lives!

It is important to note that all primary and secondary events scheduled between March till end of June will not take place as planned. The current health crisis makes it necessary to rethink our organisation and come up with new solutions. We have included some ideas at the end of the Newsletter, in the Events. Please join us with your own suggestions. Let us know what new ways interest you to help building our community spirit. Contact the parents reps with your suggestions:

- Estelle Poinsignon: lyceerep@sectioninternationale.org,
- Orla Gleeson Cohen: ogleesoncohen@sectioninternationale.org
- Céline Delanaud: noisycollegerep@sectioninternationale.org
- Adeline Wohlhuter: primaryintegratedrep@sectioninternationale.org
- Ekaterina Bublik: primarywednesdayrep@sectioninternationale.org

Let's make sure that despite the unusual turn of events, our end of school year is one to be remembered. It is important that students have the opportunity to have fun and to look forward to the coming school year.

Further information about changes regarding end of the school year and back to school 2020 will follow.

Happy reading!

Regards

The Section Internationale's Board

SECONDARY LOCKDOWN

STORIES





COVID 19 LOCKDOWN STORIES

LYCÉE & COLLEGE TESTIMONIES



Compiled by Debbie Rattier

By Mayeul in Terminale

One of hardest things when being confined is not being able to see your friends, yet it's still easy to stay in contact through the internet and have fun during these trying times. As for studying, I try to plan out what I need to do every day according to the homework given by the teachers, online classes (thank you Zoom for the video backgrounds) or making revision notes for the bac. It is definitely harder to concentrate than in class, yet I wouldn't say that I'm less productive or not learning things.

By Benoît in Terminale

I feel like confinement has not had that big of an impact on me (yet). I do miss the ability to go out, do proper sports and see other people in real life. However, the classes have been well maintained, communication with others is frequent, and we can still go outside when needed. Days seem shorter as I always have things to do (if it isn't work, I take care of my brother, do some chores, read a book or play video games). I appreciate the fact that we don't have to wake up as early as usual, and the time spent working is reduced although the amount of work produced is similar to the regular amount. (Benoît, Terminale)

By Alban in Terminale

The confinement has been quite a change for my work schedule as only working from home is harder than being in class as it requires a different type of focus.

By Alix in Terminale

Personally, confinement is alright for me as I am in my countryside house in Brittany; it is big, isolated (as it is in the middle of meadows/fields) and we have a very big garden so we can wander outside whenever we want or go on walks around the fields as there is no one around here. However, I cannot even begin to imagine how dull, long and frustrating it must be for people who are confined to small apartments as I believe they are not allowed to go outside unless it is necessary.

School wise, many of our teachers have been very responsive and have put in place video conferences for us, which is helpful although we do not have as many hours as we had at the lycée. However, I think that many Terminale students are sceptical about how they are going to pass their exams and if they will be prepared enough and in time for them; it is very stressful. It is also a little sad to know that our grandparents are alone and bored as we cannot go see them.

As for my dad who lives in Qatar where the disease is spreading, he has not been allowed to come back home as his boss needs him over there; this brings a lot of stress to my family as we do not know if he will be able to come back (we were supposed to see him during the spring holidays...) and wonder what would happen if any of us might get the disease and be in a critical condition.



By Julia in Première

I would describe it as definitely interesting to work from home, but it's hard to keep up, because some teachers change the deadline from the next class to a couple days after they assign it, which can throw us off a bit. Being basically forced to stay at home makes scheduling difficult as well because the concept of time disappears, which (for me anyway), makes it hard to keep things straight.

I've written dialogue and set up my version of the balcony scene in Romeo and Juliet, using some Easter decorations (I thought it could help cure the boredom for a bit). (See photo.)

Spending a lot of time with my family is definitely positive. Also, being able to create your own schedule, though it does contradict what I said before, is also nice, and good preparation for university.



By Olivia in Seconde

The confinement is actually going well. I really enjoy having my own schedule, and I have been a lot less anxious and stressed out about work and just school in general. I really appreciate being able to have my own routine, to spread out my work throughout the week how I want to - and teachers are in better moods.

By Inès in Troisième

I never thought having to stay at home for several weeks would be as hard because it gives me more responsibilities, such as having to prioritise all the different work that I receive and manage what I should do first. Also having to stay (all six of us) at home can get quite stressful and hard. I also like some freedom, so not being able to go out can be hard and gets stressful. Also, as all the work is on internet and having different deadlines for different subjects can get confusing. In conclusion, I don't like living in confinement, but if it is to help save the world I can deal with it!





CONFINEMENT ROUTINES

3ÈME STUDENTS AT COLLÈGE PASTEUR REFLECTED ON WHAT THEY DID TO PASS THE TIME AND HOW CONFINEMENT HAS AFFECTED THEIR DAILY LIFE.

Compiled by Stephen Pera



By Agathe

During confinement my daily routine has changed quite a bit. To pass the time, I eat, go on my phone for too long and get yelled at by my parents, and tan in the backyard. Confinement does not change much for me except that I can't go out with my friends or even see them in general. Not being at school before break was annoying for me because I found that teachers would give way too much homework. Now the homework has gone down thankfully, and I've pretty much gotten used to working this way, and I cannot imagine myself going back to school. I think this period would have been much better in the winter because there isn't the stress of whether summer vacation is going to be cancelled and we can enjoy being out in the sun. Another downside is the stress. Whenever I cough randomly, I freak out instantly, but it just ends up being nothing. I think it would be perfect to go back to school in a month so that we would have another month at school and time for things to go back to normal before summer but also a little while longer to enjoy this period because I think that confinement comes with very obvious disadvantages but also good things.





By Thea

Honestly, I see a lot of people being depressed or friends that are just extremely bored. Of course, I am a bit too, but I find things to do to occupy myself. I am a lot on my phone or computer, but I try to get some exercise or other off-screen activities. The homework the teachers give us has reduced even though there are still a few misunderstandings which is very reassuring. Not seeing anyone apart from your family is very hard. Sometimes, my friend who lives next door goes outside, and we talk for a few minutes. We are careful not to get close, but it is still nice.

One thing I am scared of is not being able to return to school before September at all. I have a friend who will not go to the same high school. We could see her outside of school, but the atmosphere is different and we would not all be together all day. The last week of the school year is always the best, especially of middle school. I want a day to remember as my last, to say a proper goodbye to friends I won't see again.

I am a bit scared of the coronavirus, but I try not to think about it too much. At least I get on well with my family, which I don't know for how long.

By Katelyn



I was not an outdoor person, but now that I can't go outside anyway, I really want to. Going out in my residence in the evening is the best thing of the day, even though we always walk on the same path; and it's funny because I didn't go there that often before we weren't allowed to anymore.

The confinement is stressful, especially with all the homework. I'm always scared to miss or forget something. I like having full days to do work, but there is not actual limit between school and home now, so I don't have a real schedule anymore, and being at home doesn't help with concentration.

Being stuck with my parents isn't too bad, even though they often step in my bedroom to ask why I'm constantly on my phone and not with my brother playing board games.

I listen to a lot of music and I read, but I spend most of my time on screens (I'm going to watch all the Harry Potter movies again).

By Alice



I stay in bed for so much time and get up at 10am or 11. Then I kind of do the homework we have to do, and just draw, and sleep, and read, and not do anything. To pass the time I eat chocolate and go sit outside.



By Telma

During the confinement my daily routine has not changed much; this means that I get up at 8:30 or 9 to avoid being too much out of sync with my normal routine. Then I take my breakfast with my parents because it's important to spend time together and not isolate myself. When I get dressed I listen to some good music just to get a little boost to start the day on the right foot!

Then I start doing my homework to keep my school rhythm because it's important I think to try and keep doing things as I did in the normal period. I'm so concentrated I can't even actually stop myself! Haha. For me, confinement is kind of a good thing because we have time to do things, and we're not stressed out because of the time! The homework load is not too bad either.

For my phone, I only have it at the end of the day when I finish the daily work. This means that I can chat as long as I want with my friends because it's important to stay in touch. My confinement environment is actually quite cool because I'm in my vacation house in Provence in the south of France, and the good thing is that it is sunny!! I play badminton and pétanque, and I go cycling with my dad.

During the weekend I usually watch a movie with my parents, which is something good because for me; it's the only time when I can actually be with my parents and not talking for once about homework!!!! We have a lot Skype aperos with friends and Skype tea with my grandparents.

CONFINEMENT DIARY

4ÈME STUDENTS AT COLLÈGE DE LA QUINTINYE RECORDED THEIR CONFINEMENT EXPERIENCES.



Compiled by Suzanne Ross

By Abigail



<u>Thursday March 12th:</u> The President of the Republic of France, Emmanuel Macron, gave a speech on national television announcing the closing of all schools (primary, secondary and high schools). We learned that 15 million students would not be attending school, and approximately 870,000 teachers' work would be disrupted.

These were drastic measures necessary to stop a dangerous virus from spreading. The virus is called COVID-19. The closing of the schools left everyone in shock, but I think that secretly many children were excited and happy not to have school. After having watched the news and having understood the gravity of this virus, we quickly realized that shutting the schools down was far from a holiday. The closing of schools left many students wondering how we would handle the homework and if we would do online classes. How would we continue our studies, and even worse, when would we see our classmates? I think that students and teachers were all very lost because this had never happened before. No one was expecting such an extreme decision, and no one knew how the situation would evolve and for how long the schools would be closed. The only way was to take it one day at a time, above all, protecting our health and that of our loved ones.

By Manon B

March 19th: This date was the third day of quarantine. I was stressed all day because I had never done classes alone and at home. I was also confused. I didn't understand what we were supposed to be doing since oZe didn't work. Overall, I ended up doing nothing and feeling stressed all day.

By Manon L

March 21st: It's the weekend. Usually I would hang out with my friends and spend a lot of time outside, but with the confinement I'm compelled to stay at home. It is really frustrating to stay at home when it's one of the first sunny weekends of the year. I hope it will end soon.

By Léonard

March 23rd: After one week of lockdown and the spring break coming up quickly, I needed a plan. I really wanted to go on holidays without actually going anywhere. The solution: building a tent outside in the garden to feel just like I was really on a vacation somewhere else. Maybe the best and safest way to enjoy the spring break is the tent.

By Irène

March 30th: As the second week of the confinement came to an end, I realized that I missed having normal classes, talking to my friends and seeing my teachers. That is because the days had become quite monotonous. Everyday felt similar to the one before it. Part of me wishes to go back to before it all started, but the rest wants to continue in this way so I can spend my leisure time with my family. I hope this ends soon so I will be able to see my friends and maybe go back to the life I had before.

By Noémie



<u>April 1st:</u> Today is April Fool's day. It was strange to spend it at home, as usually I stick paper fish on my friends' backs. Unfortunately, it was spent as a normal day, except for occasional pranks from my little sister who took much pleasure in sticking fish on my back at the table. Although it is regrettable not to be able to go outside as much, spending time with my family was fun and entertaining.

By Sofia

<u>April 4th</u>: It is almost four weeks since we have been in quarantine, and we are finally on vacation. However, the expected joy and excitement that usually accompanies the holidays have not come. I have indeed been waiting for them for some time. No other form of entertainment can satisfy the need for human contact once again.

By Elliot

April 5th: For the past 20 days during the confinement period I have felt really weird. There have been so many changes. On this particular morning, I went boxing with my brothers first thing. We chose a special spot because it was arduous, and we needed this as we only have one hour outside each day. After we had finished boxing we came back to our apartment, and it was then that I looked at my phone and saw my emails. Suddenly, I felt a great deal of apprehension as I had received an email from Mrs Ross. More homework to do!! What was this period of confinement going to be like ...?

By Henri

April 11th: Today is my birthday. When I woke up, the day started like a normal birthday, except I couldn't go outside my house. My parents gave me a few video games as presents, and I had fun in the garden in the morning. However, as I write I know that I felt a little frustrated at the beginning of the day because I thought that I wouldn't get lots of presents to open as usual. Anyway, the day continued on as usual, and then my mother made a fabulous, divine dinner. The cake was a Tiramisu, and it was delicious! And then the real surprise! After dinner, my parents came into the dining room with presents! This birthday actually turned out to be the same as all the others! The end to this wonderful day was watching a movie and going to bed.

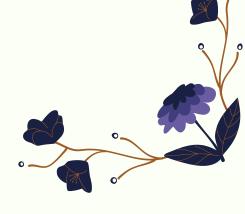
By Raphaël

April 14th: End of Confinement - 11 May 2020? The end of the lockdown has been declared by Emmanuel Macron as the 11th of May, but he has also announced that things won't go back to normal immediately. What will things be like at the end of the lockdown? Maybe the new habits learned during this period will remain, and afterwards perhaps people will all become germaphobic and will say hello with a simple nod: no more shaking hands, washing hands constantly with gel after contact, staying away from people at supermarkets ... Who knows??

By Louis

April 16th: It was just another normal day of confinement. I was doing my homework and my parents walked into the room and told me that some of their friends had been caught outside when they were supposed to be in lockdown, and they didn't have their papers. At first I thought it was a joke, and then they told me how it had happened. The mom wanted to go to the forest so she went in her car. However, there were police officers at the parking lot, so she was caught right away. (Louis)

PRIMARY LOCKDOWN



PROJECTS, STORIES BOUNDARY











PRIMARY NEWS

by Ruth Hasid



Well we are well into our fifth week of on-line schooling with many more weeks possibly to come!

We are still waiting for official news to know when we can return to school, and will organise ourselves accordingly when the time comes.

Firstly we'd like to congratulate you, the parents, on how you've adapted to the situation despite the enormous efforts and changes you've had to make to your daily routines. The teachers are sympathetic and have understood how difficult it has been for you struggling to keep up with the schoolwork, your own work and running a home all in good humour! We admire your efforts and hope you have understood we expect each family to just do their best. Try not to stress about your child missing out on work: they are still at primary level and will adapt to all situations.

Each primary class teacher in both the Integrated and Wednesday programmes, have continued to work through their programmes with online sessions and work sent on a weekly basis. Almost all students have adapted to the systems put into place and are working consistently. Well done! Each week it is great to be able to see our student's faces, to hear their news and to see they are all well! We encourage you to use these circumstances to try and help your child to organise themselves and work independently as much as they can, it is all good training and essential skills for the future!



Keep up the reading! Encourage reading in English as much as you can. If you are running out of your own stock of English books, comics etc.... consult the online sites with e-books we 've suggested. Our reading assistant Caroline Adema has also put into place on-line reading sessions for the younger classes. It is good to see some of you have signed up for your weekly slots. These will continue as long as the confinement is in place, so if you haven't as yet joined, you still can!

We have selected just a few examples of some of the student's comments regarding the confinement, and a few photos, but will be publishing them all in the end of year magazine, '*The Primary Voice*', which the teachers are working on at the moment. Don't forget we are running a Front Cover design competition for the Primary Voice. Motivate your child to enter and show their artistic skills: remember this is light relief from their other work!

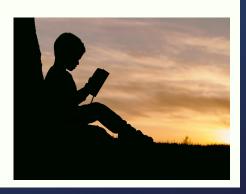
March's Read-a-thon: Thank you to all of you who read and participated in the sponsor read organised in March. Unfortunately we were unable to finish the read-a-thon correctly, which we organised to raise money for 'L'Ecole de Bayon', the charity chosen by the section this year. For those students who participated please keep hold of any money collected and we will keep you notified how to give in your contributions. It will all depend on whether we return to school or not!

Thank you for your support and encouragement and continue to motivate your children. Try to expose them to English in some form or other on a daily basis wherever possible.

The Primary team wish you a healthy continuation.









THE PRIMARY TEACHERS WORKING TOGETHER REMOTELY!







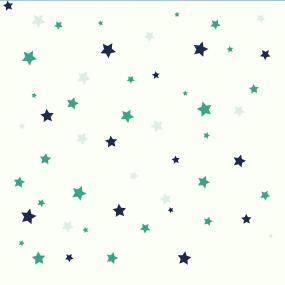


PROJECTS

My Book in a Box project

By Oscar Freedman CE2 Wednesday

I really enjoyed building my treehouse in a box. We found a stick in our garden to make the tree trunk. We used grass too and some of my lego. I loved reading *The 13 Storey Treehouse* by Andy Griffiths. I wish I had one in my garden. It was a special tree house because it has many storeys. It has a room full of pillows, a see-through swimming pool, a bowling alley, a lemonade fountain, a maneating shark tank, a theatre and a library. It even has a games room, bedrooms and a giant catapult. You travel through the treehouse on swinging vines. That must be very fun!









My Read-a Thon experience



By Elias Hills

CE2 Wednesday



I I was very happy to participate in the readathon because I love reading. I always try to do my best and I wanted to help the kids in the Ecole du Bayon, located in Cambodia. I like reading because we can imagine and create. I was proud, even if I wanted to read more but I did my best to read 4 full books and 3 unfinished books. My reading time was 1005 minutes. I raised 67 euros for the school. My donors are my English grandparents, my auntie and my parents. My favourite book was: Danny the Champion of the World because he has lots of adventures in the forest. Hopefully one day I could go to Cambodia and visit the Ecole du Bayon!



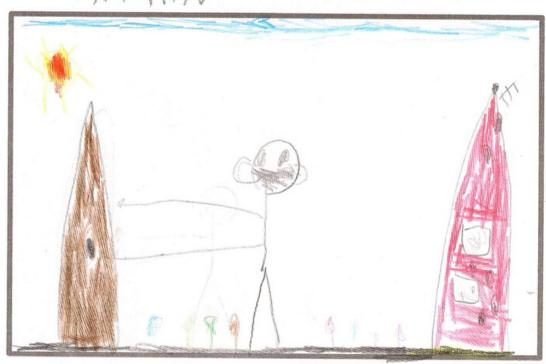


STORIES

By Gaëtan Le Sann GS Wednesday



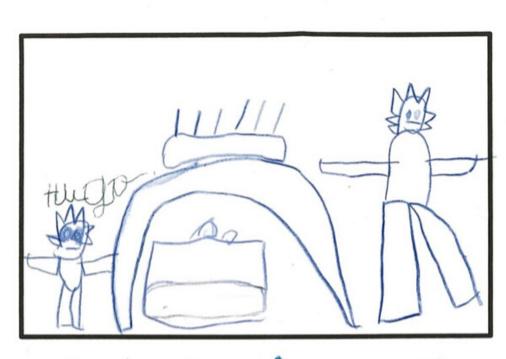
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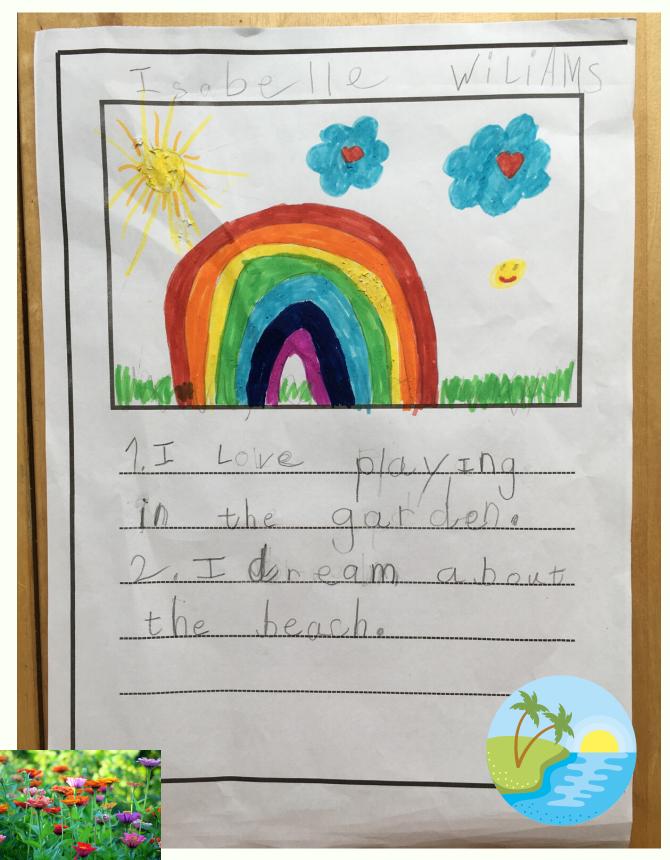


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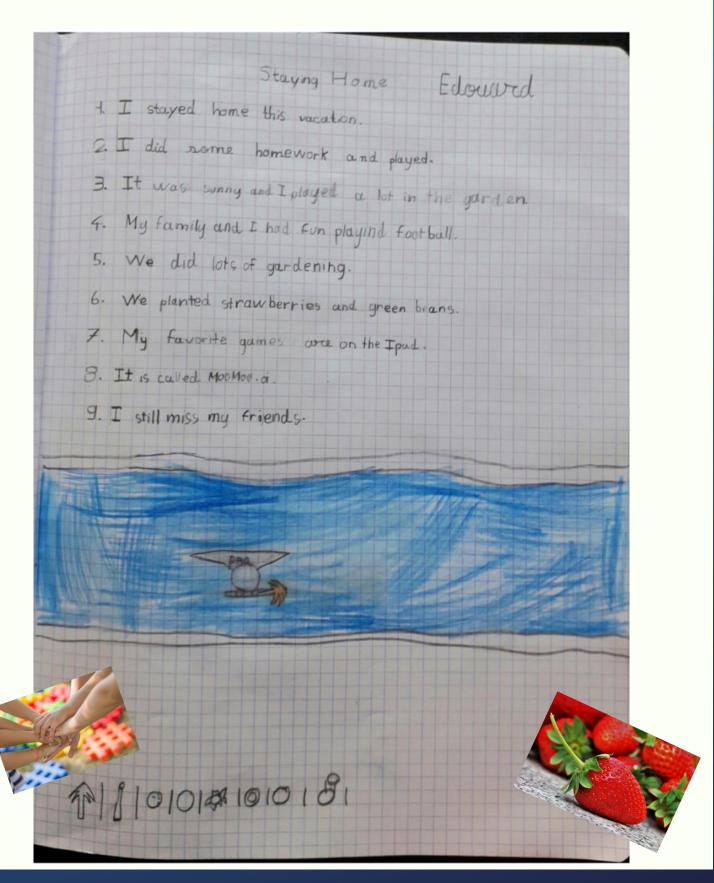
By Isabelle Williams GS Wednesday





By Edouard Rivaux CP Integrated





By Matilde Barbe CP Integrated



CP class Matilde Barbe



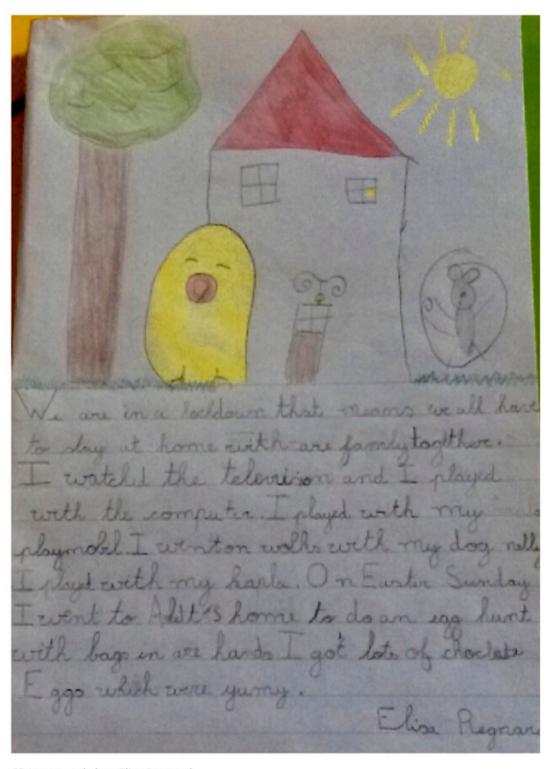










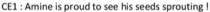




By Amine Hamdani and by Remi and Dorian Chirol



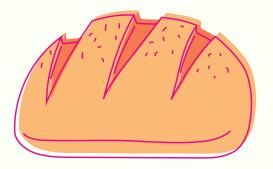






The Chirol family have been making bread. CE1 & CM2

Some activities children have been doing: planting seeds for their Science experiment and making bread. Many of the students have expressed they have been enjoying baking at home and doing activities they don't often get the time to do.



By Elizabeth Hamichi CM2 Integrated



CM2: Elizabeth Hamichi







HOW I LIVE THE CORONAVIRUS



By Alexandra Sterckx CE2 Integrated

When the President of France announced that all schools would be closed, I got very excited. I thought it would be really fun getting up in the morning and not have school. The first day was a bit confusing because we had to get used to the new way of learning. It took us too long to finish everything.

But I'm very lucky because I live in a house so I can go outside in my garden to play on my trampoline.

My brother came from abroad and I'm with him all the time. I love spending time with all my family.

There are however things that are really bad.

I miss my friends first of all.

Second, we're not allowed to go out without a paper and if we forget we might get a big fine.

Thirdly my friends' parties are all cancelled.

So the lockdown is a bit good and a bit bad. I really hope that the coronavirus goes away soon so that I can go to school and see my friends like before.



MY CONFINEMENT LIFE

BY Thibaut CM2 Integrated



During the confinement, I try not to be bored when I watch the hours pass. Most of the time I do all my work (French and English) in the morning. In the afternoon I play in the garden and talk to friends across the street to take news, at 2 meters. With my brother, we also take our scooters and use them in the street. Sometimes, there are other persons playing with their scooters so we have each one a side of the street and we stay at good distance. Sometimes guards pass and ask if you live in the "Domaine". I play videogames and watch TV (a little bit). I also read a lot, for example I read "Tapper twins go to war with each other ", " Dog Man " and books in French.

I like not going to school but I miss my friends. I also

I like not going to school but I miss my friends. I also miss playing football with my neighbors. I am lucky because in my family, everyone is safe and in good health.





POEMS CM2



By Marius Leistner

The world is in danger,
We are here, full of anger.
Some of us are desperate,
But we don't know how to operate.
I hope this will finish soon,
And finally see my school!

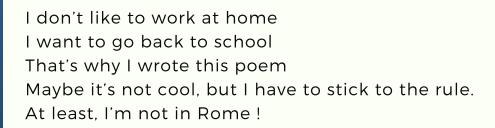


By Clotilde Tatard

During the confinement we can't go out, Surrounded by blue, white, red walls, Why don't we have the right, I have my doubt, Doing sports in our halls What is it all about?



I see nobody outside,
Not even in the sky.
The planes don't dare to glide
It seems we have to say good-bye
Because the world has died.





ASIBA – POETRY COMPETITION LYCÉE & COLLÈGE



ASIBA – POETRY COMPETITION

by Debbie Rattier & Ann King

ASIBA (Association des Sections Internationales Britanniques et Anglophones) holds an annual poetry competition. There are two categories:

Junior (Troisième/Seconde) and Senior (Première/Terminale).

Following the themes of Remembrance (2015), Bridges (2016), Persuasion (2017), Seasons (2018) and Joy (2019), Green is the 2020 theme. The results of the competition have not yet been announced, but the following poems were the Section Internationale entries.



Green

The green-eyed monster raises its head As envious thoughts run like a thread. My mind is humming and my thoughts run wild, I want so many things, like a jealous child.

I want to be older, I want to be free. I want to choose, I want to be me.

Life stretches ahead, a long winding path; Others gone before me – I'm the aftermath. My envy is growing, my desire is green; The whole world is out there to be seen.

I need to be older, I need to be free. I need to choose, I need to be me.

A few more years to weather the storm; The green-eyed monster will soon be gone. The future is bright, it waits for me, My envy fades, and I think with glee:

I will be older, I will be free.
I will choose. I will be me!

Olivia Lousa, Seconde

Green Spring

When the vast ocean, deep and clear,
By a wave and its soft whisper
Extended its large blue mantle
Over the warm golden sand of Cable;
When this cold drop of water
And this infinity of little dots came together
From my brush, some plants took life.

Enormous oaks and delicate hellebores,
Everywhere they grew, more and more.
Colourful parrots and mischievous apes,
Hundreds of them, coming in my landscape.
There was no more beach, no more sea:
Quiet, calm, peaceful, as it used to be.
Only a green forest, only a dense tropical jungle.

My painting was done.

I could smell the grass and the cinnamon,
I could hear the melody of the birds singing.

What a joyful scene, cheerful and soothing!

Or was it the tea, next to me

That led me here, in these woods far from the city?

This tea, with its own taste: the taste of spring.

Alice Grisez, 3ème, Collège Pasteur

EVENTS FEEDBACK NEEDED

All end of the year festive events are cancelled: the collège graduation party in June, the OIB graduation in July, and all the primary events like the June fun day and the end of year show.

We are seeking your feedback to help us evaluate what could interest your children for the end of the school year.

Please send your preferred ideas to the parent representatives of your class level.

- Digital Graduation Party: getting everyone together for a hangout or call and celebrate. A couple of people could even plan some games (get creative, there are tons of games to play on a chat).
- Digital Class Party or Digital Dress-up Party: on the last day of "school," you can get together for a hangout or call and celebrate with a class party. You can plan some games.
- Virtual games: escape games online
- Join our Adult Book Club
- Others:

PRACTICAL INFORMATION

JOIN US!



The next committee meeting is on the 18th May. It will be a Zoom meeting. You can contact Lynne Mphande secretary@sectioninternationale.org to get an invitation and join us.

Administrative contact details:

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Operations & HR: operations@sectioninternationale.org

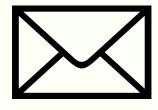
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