



From Head of French: Jane Mansfield

2 December 2016

Dear First Year Parent,

As you are aware, your son has been studying French so far at Abingdon. Shortly after the Christmas holiday, he will begin to learn German, and at the end of this academic year he will be asked to choose between the two languages and continue either French or German into the second and third year. He can opt for more languages at the end of the second year too.

German teaching will begin in the week of 16 January 2017, but beforehand all boys will be assessed on their level in French so far in the form of a four-part examination. Speaking, reading, writing and listening skills will be tested in lessons at the end of the first week and beginning of the second week of the Lent term (w/c Monday 9 January 2016 B). The result of this exam will appear on your son's Lent report, and will assist in the decision making for language options into the second year.

There is a short revision guide, which will shortly be published on the School Study Site, Firefly, to help your son prepare for his exam. He will also be given a paper copy before the end of this term. There is a lot of relevant and useful information in it, including the precise dates of the different parts of the exam for each tutor group, but I must stress that your son need not worry about this exam and should not over-prepare for it. The boys will all do revision in class in the first lesson back before the exam in January.

If you have any queries, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Yours sincerely

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