



### Celebrate FRENCH

The French Language is beautiful, a key language of diplomacy, and a vital part of the culture of at least 30 countries. On 20 March 2025, join millions of people worldwide in celebrating it on The United Nations International Day of French.

## ... and HAPPINESS

On the same day, the International Day of Happiness is a day to do and to celebrate the things that bring us joy like giving, belonging, and inclusion and to take action to make the world a happier place.

# 20 MARCH

#### One date, two celebrations

Schools can take part in the International Days of French and Happiness by hosting activities that bring students together to enjoy aspects of French culture and belonging, in both the school and the global community.

## Did you know?

The Democratic Republic of Congo has the highest population of French speakers outside of France.



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# Hold a French fun day!

There are many ways your school can celebrate the International Day of French and Happiness. Here are some fun ideas to get you started – or feel free to create your own!



**Free dress day** - Come to school in the national colours of Congo, or any other French-speaking country.



**Open a 'French cafe'** where students can purchase crepes whipped up by your class, or other French treats, made or bought. Play some French music for atmosphere!



**Hold a mini-French film festival** at lunch time. (Need suggestions for movies? Ask us). You could follow this with a la Louvre art competition where students draw characters from the movies.



**Organise a scavenger hunt.** Hide the 30 flags of French-speaking countries in the grounds for students to find. You could provide clues (in French?) and challenge the students to identify as many as possible.

**Email us** to let us know you're planning to hold a French Fun Day and we'll send you free resources to support your event!

HELP OTHERS FIND HAPPINESS!

Invite students to bring a gold coin donation on the day to help child victims of war in the Congo, and some pocket money for treats and games.



## SchoolKits for Congo



SchoolKits for Congo is a Rotary Australia World Community Service project that provides SchoolKits for child victims of war in Goma, DRC, while engaging Australian students in meaningful giving and global citizenship.

#### **Education essentials**

Each \$30 raised equips a child fleeing armed violence with a SchoolKit: a school bag, a uniform, and basic school supplies such as exercise books and pencils.

#### **Empowering women**

The SchoolKits are sewn by a team of refugee mothers, providing necessary income to house and educate their children.

#### Rewarding engagement

The SchoolKits for Congo Team in Goma will deliver the SchoolKits that your school or class sponsors. They will arrange a photograph of the delighted recipients with a poster or banner that thanks your group by name.



Your fundraising efforts will give child victims of war a fresh start, giving them hope for a better life through education, and a chance to make new relationships to help ease the pain of loss.



# Why this initiative is special

By blending the themes of happiness and language, students can explore the power of cultural understanding and the joy of helping others.

Together, we can celebrate the things that unite us while making a difference in the lives of children who need it most.

#### **GET STARTED!**

Drop us a line to tell us that you plan to participate in The International Day of French and Happiness 2025, and we will send you a FREE package of video and print resources that you can use both on the day and in your teaching program.

Email us here. Learn more <u>here</u>.





On ne voit bien qu'avec le coeur.

- Antoine de Saint Exupéry