

IN AND OUT OF THE CLASSROOM

Dance in the language classroom

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This year Waitakere College French students invited their parents to an evening of entertainment to celebrate 'La Fête Nationale Française'.

The evening took place in the staff room and the whole room was changed into a Bistro style setting. We had decorated the tables with red and white and blue and white Gingham cloths and candles in empty wine bottles, which the students collected from home. The French flag was 'de rigueur' and red, blue and white the colours of the day.

Platters of cheese, pâté and crudités were accompanied by sliced baguettes and crackers. Fruit juice was provided but parents were asked to bring their own bottle of wine if they felt like it.

The students of year 10, 11 and 12 decided to put on a Cancan dance, this required costumes and we did not have the money to hire costumes. We decided to make the skirts.

Many a lunch time was spent cutting and making the skirts the hardest was the frills, which measured 14 metres each. We practiced the dance after school, with the help of the dance teacher, and by the French evening the dancers ready.

The evening started with Alouette and then some poetry by one of the year 11 students. This was followed by the year 11 putting on their own version of 'the three little pigs'. 'Inspecteur Clouseau' made a very good detective, the problem of the bad housing became obviously the fault of a very charming French man working for Barfoot and Thomas 'Agent Immobilier'.

The piece de resistance was the Cancan which delighted all the parents.

The students enjoyed the evening and the parents were full of praise for the hard work and success of the evening.

We will try it next year, it was great fun.

