

THE S.I.B GAZETTE

THE AWARDS CEREMONY!

In February 2024, we went to many middle schools in the south of Réunion Island to promote the British International Section. We presented its benefits, as well as the difficult journey we have to go through as SIB students (because let's not forget that this is a challenging one!).

On June 14th, 2024, we met the new Seconde students for the first time—the ones we now affectionately call the "tiny" SIBs—and it was the first time the entire programme (Terminales, Premières and Secondes) was reunited, so it was quite a thing! We think we might have scared them off a bit, but at least they're still here!



That day was also our official A Midsummer Night's Dream performance, and this was, for most people, a very special experience. It would be an understatement to say that this Shakespearean play got us out of our comfort zone—it totally disrupted things we thought we knew about ourselves and pushed our limits farther than we could've possibly imagined. The cast was really involved, and the parents loved it. The final part of the day was the awards ceremony. The teachers congratulated all students but gave special prizes to some of us who really outdid themselves. For the Terminales, Jonas and Lola received awards, while for the Premières, prizes were given to Elisa and Isis. This day marked the end of our school year and the beginning of a new era.



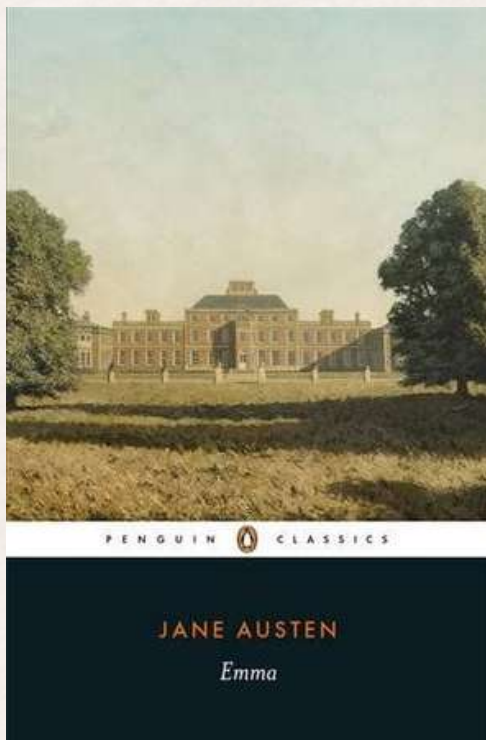
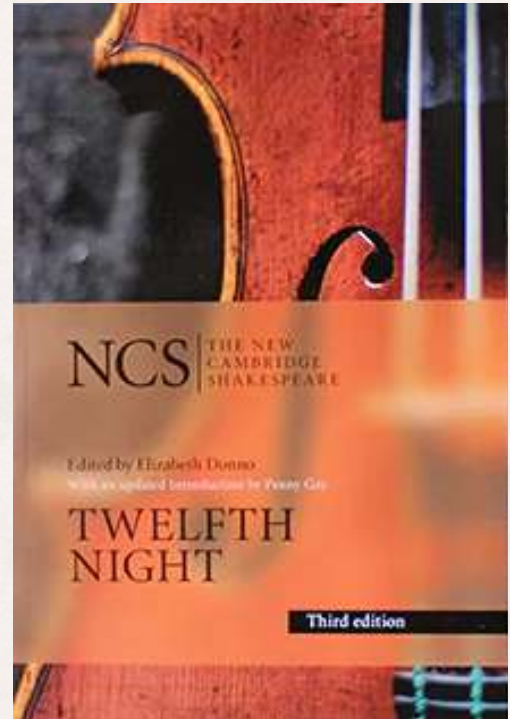
PREMIERE B.F.I

During the holidays, students had to read two books in order to prepare for the future literature lessons. We had Twelfth Night by Shakespeare and Emma from Jane Austen.

Twelfth Night is a story of deception, love, and magic. We analyzed the role of language in shaping the way we internalize the play's themes, we discussed the play's impact and how stories give us new perspectives on life, love, and identity

PERSONAL OPINION FROM THE CLASS :

Many in the class enjoyed this play and enjoyed the fact that Shakespeare invented many of the words today. This and the borderline queer themes of the play made this a hit in our class



Emma is a novel set in the Regency period. In the story, we follow a high social character named Emma and her journey through interactions that will shape her character development. The novel explores coming-of-age themes, leading the students to analyze each of them and their impact in Emma's book.

PERSONAL OPINION FROM THE CLASS :

Jane Austen's Emma is characterized as long and not especially interesting at the beginning by several students; however, throughout the book, we were fascinated by the author's use of free indirect discourse a specific writing of Jane Austen.

SECONDES S.I.B

SECONDE STUDENTS' INTERVIEW

We interviewed two Seconde SIB students to hear about their first impressions of the programme. Meet Ethan and Fred!

Question 1: Were the written and oral entrance exams difficult? What was the subject?

Ethan: The oral exam was quite easy because I enjoy speaking English. The written exam was harder—we had a text about fantasy. But it was okay in the end!

Fred: For me, the written exam was easier because I had time to think. The oral was more difficult because the teachers asked unexpected questions. I think they wanted to see how we think quickly, not trick us!

Question 2: Did you settle in well with the rest of the class?

Ethan: At first, no, because I'm always a bit stressed about meeting new people. But after two weeks, I made some friends in the class and started feeling more comfortable. Now it's much better!

Fred: At first, no, and I'm still quite shy. I don't like going to talk to others first, but when they come to me, I actually enjoy talking with them. The people in SIB are friendly, so even if you're quiet, you'll be okay.

Question 3: What did you think of the school day out?

Ethan: To be honest, it wasn't my favourite type of activity—I would have preferred something calmer and more relaxing. But it was still good, and it helped us get to know each other better!

Fred: I loved it! I'm really into sports, so the orienteering was perfect for me. Plus, I had a great group, which helped a lot. I think sport is a very good way to meet new people and break the ice.

Question 4: How did you find your very first tests in history and literature?

Ethan: Mrs Mussard's first literature test was quite easy—I even got a very good grade! Mrs Dubard's history test was harder, probably because we're still getting used to what she expects. But it's helping me improve.

Fred: Mrs Dubard's history test was quite easy because I learned everything by heart. Mrs Mussard's test was more difficult and stressful because poetry isn't my favourite subject yet. I think we all have different strengths!

Question 5: What books are you reading in English literature this year?

Both: We've read *Frankenstein* so far, and for the rest of the year we'll read *Life of Pi* and *A Midsummer Night's Dream*. We're curious to see how different they all are!

Interview conducted by Clémence & Mathilde

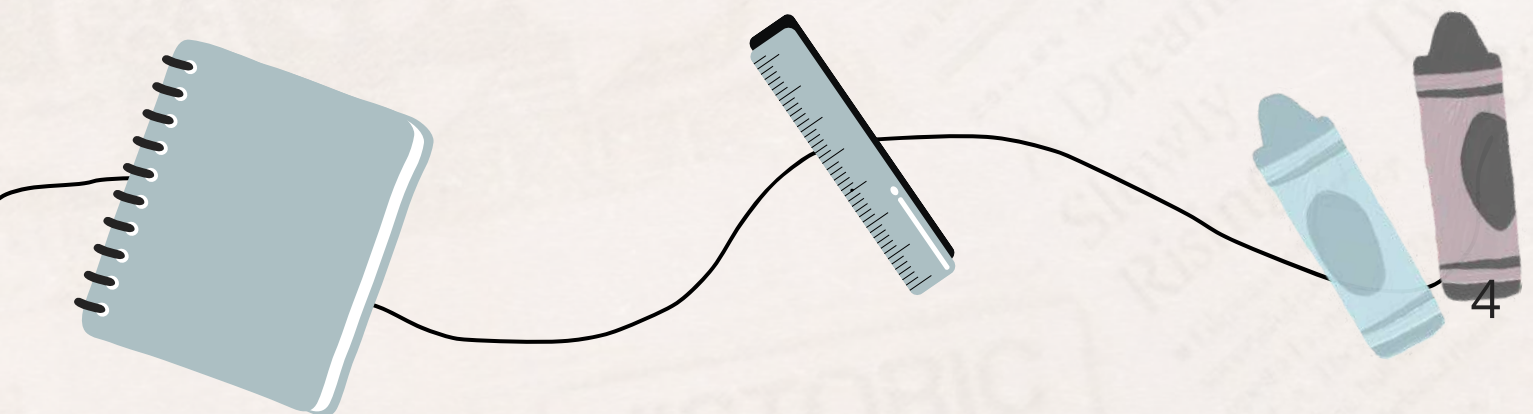
SECONDES S.I.B

BACK TO SCHOOL: IMPRESSION AND ADVICE

At first, everything was very stressful and intimidating. We were all comparing ourselves to other students. There is also a lot of homework and heavy timetables, so it was hard to handle, and it was easy to become discouraged. A lot of us wanted to give up, and some actually did.

But if you don't give up during the first trimester, it becomes easier. We get used to the work and the pace, and we finally manage to stop comparing ourselves to others. We become more confident in our skills. Today, we feel more comfortable in the International Section, and most of us feel like we really belong here.

If we had to give some advice to future Secondes, we would say that it's okay to be upset at first, to feel like you're not going to make it. But trust us, it becomes easier with time. All you have to do is not give up and to work for yourself, not for others.



NEWS AND EVENTS

FIELD TRIP

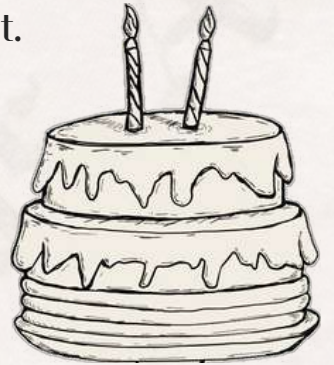
You want to join the S.I.B but you're afraid of not making any friends? Don't freak out—we thought about that! Every year, a day out is organized by our fantastic teachers to help us get along with each other.

This year, the day out was a surprise: we knew we had one, but we had no clue what we would be doing. This wasn't a bad idea because we were all trying to guess what the day out would be, and it somehow brought us a bit closer. When we arrived, we still didn't know what we were doing there. We were at Grand Anse, so we all expected to have our lunch by the beach with our friends, but no... it was better: an orienteering challenge!

Sadly (or not), we couldn't choose the teams we wanted. The teachers had already organized them. But in each team, there was always one Terminale, two Premières, and two Secondes. The experience was very fun!



The teachers planned the day out on the same day as Mrs. Dubard's birthday—it was an extremely emotional moment.



INTERVIEW

Meet Annie, our ENGLISH ASSISTANT



In early October, we welcomed an assistant called Annie Stirling.

Annie is 21 years old and she just graduated from the University of London in Paris. There, she studied French with International Relations and got a first-class degree (the best one!).

She came here to help us with languages because she has a passion for them and loves helping young people. She even aspires to be a teacher. Her hobbies are surfing and watching football.

Now, her point of view on La Réunion: the thing she likes most is how many different environments we have. She also thinks that people here are kind and helpful, and so far, she doesn't dislike anything. Her favourite places here are Mafate, Maïdo and St-Gilles.

On a more educational note: what shocked her was the timetable in French schools—we start at 7:30 am while they start at 9:00 am in the UK! But she really appreciates the students and the teachers.

MINI GAME

TRUE OR FALSE ?

(Jane Austen's edition)

TRUE

Jane Austen is dead

FALSE

☐☐

She wrote Pride and Prejudice

☐☐

Emma appeared in 2015

☐☐

Jane Austen wasn't a feminist

☐☐

She was pioneer of free indirect discourse

☐☐

MINI GAME

Word –search Game on Twelfth Night by Shakespeare

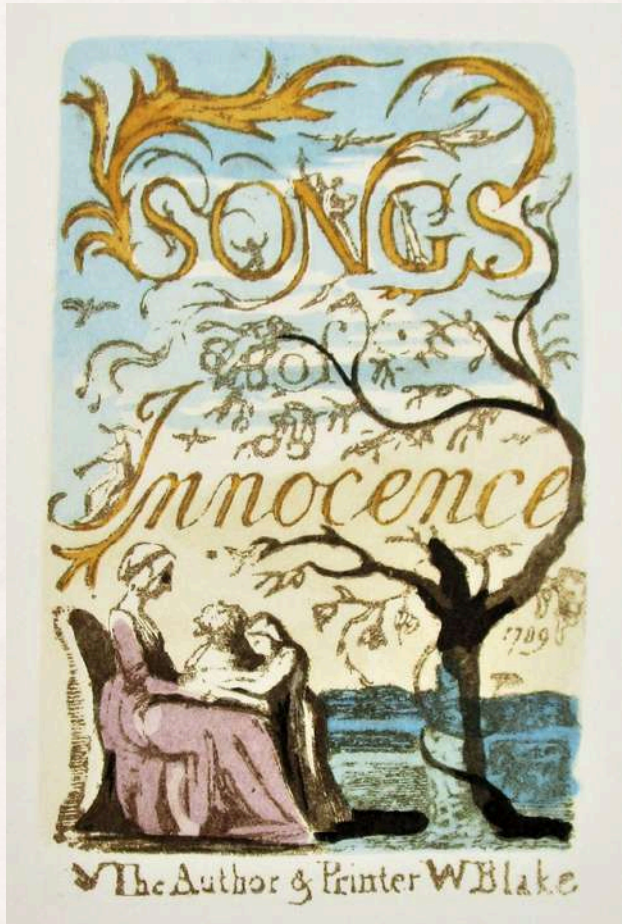
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N	K	M	G	F	Z	W	U	N	X	G	H
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M	Q	P	C	F	Q	N	Y	D	P	E	E
T	I	P	U	D	G	T	U	W	C	S	D

words to find

- Viola
- Sebastian
- Olivia
- Malvolio
- Feste

- Toby
- Antonio
- Maria
- Andrew
- secret found it ;)

Terminales BFI



WILLIAM BLAKE : *“Song of Innocence and of Experience”*

We had our first look on the collection of poems by William Blake with the two introductions.

- Creative Activity :

Dramatic reading = We performed the poem by adding gestures, tones, and echoes to the words.

-William Blake is an amazing poet, standing out from ordinary poetry by his artistic skills, but also his ability to capture the depth of human emotion and imagination.

-His poetry often moves between innocence and experience but also light and darkness revealing in a genius way the contradictions that make up human nature.

-Studying William Blake matters because his poetry still teaches us to question the world and see it with imagination and truth.

