

# Paris Academy

*Northwest*

**Elementary, Middle/High School**

**Second Languages/Art**

**Program Overview and Offerings**

**2019-20**

# About

Paris Academy Northwest was founded in 2008. PANW specializes in offering second language classes, infused with art and cultural lessons, to students K-12. It is aimed for facilitating and promoting world language acquisition for students who wish to have a head start in learning a second language before high school and college. It has gained its reputation through high academic quality and art focused cultural activities to ease acquiring languages for children, youth and adults. Currently the program is running as an after/before school extended program and offers weekend year round French, Spanish and Chinese (Mandarin). We also offer tutoring, small group and weekend classes at our Downtown Redmond location. We have been serving number of schools in LWSD, Bellevue and Issaquah District. To name few : Alcott, Mead, Blackwell, Einstein, Smith, Rosa Park, Wilder, Frost, Sunset, Sunny Hill, Cougar Ridge, Creekside, Discovery, Phantom Lake, Cherry Crest, Enatai, Smith, Sandburg, Challenger, Audubon, Arbor, Eton, Northstar (Middle School) & Renaissance (Middle School).

Our mission is to help families to raise global kids, facilitate accessing high quality second language classes by offering language immersion program which is accessible to all. In our Art program, lessons on artist and history of art is imbedded to our weekly art lessons to enhance creativity, explore a wide variety of art activities while learning about art history, by using different medium to develop perceptual and analytical skills. Drawing still life, painting, crafts and clay projects are among many activities to engage students and open a new dimension to appreciation of art and culture.







# Did You know?

**Children who learn a foreign language:**

- perform significantly better in standardized tests of English and mathematics
- develop sensitivity and an affinity for people of different races and cultures
- are more likely to develop a good self-image

**The earlier in life one begins to learn a foreign language, the easier it is and the better chance one has to attain a native-like accent.**

**Last but not least, People who develop fluency in one or more foreign languages significantly increase the number and quality of employment opportunities.**



# Founder/ Lead Teacher

Parisa Behzad-Pour, the founder has passion for teaching languages and have been teaching world languages for last 18+ years worldwide. She got her MA in French Studies & Second Language Acquisition. She speaks in three languages fluently (French, Persian, English) and is familiar with Chinese and Arabic. When she started traveling at age 18 she grew passion for languages and other cultures and lived and visited many places and many countries (China, India, Canada, France, Thailand, Singapore, Syria and Malaysia).

Upon settling in Eastside Seattle she worked as language specialist teaching French and design curriculum at a reputable Montessori school in Bellevue. Prior to that she taught French all grades and level back home Canada and was head of language department in second largest Montessori school in Toronto. She has been working as a senior world language instructor at Bellevue College since 2008 where she designs and develops variety of language classes for multiple language department for teen and adults language learners. She also offers cultural workshop and travel advices for language learners who seek to deepen their knowledge towards a particular country or culture.

Her background in teaching and her skills in teaching in Montessori classroom setting enabled her to come up with a language program curriculum for after school language classes where different grades and level students meet in the same classroom. It all started from her own children's school where she found out language program onsite was poor in delivering a quality program. That was her motivation to come up with a plan. She started ParisAcademy NW language classes for kids and youth in the school Soon, helping other students in after school setting became her passion. It was just word of mouth when the program started expanding to other elementary and middle schools in the area.





# Our Curriculum

The curriculum is carefully designed to introduce children with new vocabulary and their correct pronunciation. Every single song has a purpose and is cemented into the curriculum. All vocabularies are included in the songs. Phonic lessons also make reading and writing easy if taught from first classes. A class by class progressive system is utilized to introduce new materials while constantly reviewing what has been learned in previous classes. TPR method is adopted to assure most natural and exposure a language learner needs to have a profound foundation in learning the target language. Different themes such as part of the body, foods, animals, school/home objects, clothing, and a lot more are introduced one after another. A multitude of action-based games and fine art activities related to culture, are integrated with our lessons to reinforce what your child has already been taught. At this entry level we enforce correct pronunciation and vocabulary expansion through creative review and repetition. Therefore, your child's acquisition of the target language will expand dramatically. Middle School students would benefit from TPR lessons by following clues, pictures and simple commands. Simple conversation, group activities and games are encouraged to maximize the use of language in different situations. For upper elementary and middle school the curriculum is designed based on the requirement of language credit in high school and colleges. Therefore our curriculum is created to prepare students for success in their future advancement in second languages.





# Our Team

Our team of language and fine art experts (French, Spanish, Mandarin, Fine/Cultural Art), familiar with multi-level multi age classroom setting, developed a curriculum to ensure maximum exposure and success in delivering quality program to all ages and levels.

Our instructors are fluent and/or experience in the field they teach. More importantly, they have background in teaching and are trained in delivering high quality standard by following the same successful curriculum developed initially by local curriculum developers based on the trend and need of students in our state. Since we believe fluency doesn't qualify one to become a language teacher, a strong curriculum and familiarity with multi-level classroom setting are crucial in order to answer the need of the students in any afterschool classes.



## What's New This Year?



This year we signed a partnership with city of Bellevue to host our Summer camps in Bellevue Highland Community Center and would use their sites for afterschool classes in Bellevue.

We are expert in delivering full day summer camps and extended care where language clubs are infused with cultural lessons, craft and projects, art using different media, dance and other cultural activities. We noticed more children are immersed more natural language is acquired. Schools can choose once a week language lesson either as before or after school for one hour long or go for after school language immersion care package in the language desired where students are immersed in the environment where target language is practiced. Our bilingual staff specialized in different discipline can offer fine art, art history, dance, drama, physical activities and culinary.



We also offer weekend classes periodically in Redmond and Sammamish, including tutoring and private lessons for all students in IB or AP classes in need of assistant with their exams or understanding better the concepts taught in higher level of French, Spanish and Chinese.

By collaborating with high school and college carrier centers we are hoping to create opportunities for bilingual students in college or high school seniors who wish to help in their community and put their skills in use by assisting in afterschool care to meet their volunteer hours, internship, community work expectation or else.



# Our Offerings

## Once A Week Onsite Lessons

In once a week session students are introduced to basic lessons starting from greeting to different subjects as colors, clothing, household and school items, transportation, foods, places in the city etc.

## Every day Cultural Club after Care Option Onsite/Offsite

Studies have shown the best way of learning a language is by immersing student in the language and culture. Therefore we offer onsite or offsite after school language immersion care to families in need. Our offsite location is in downtown Redmond. This is the overview of what we offer in aftercare immersion classes : After arrival to our center students will have one hour instruction in the language. Other activities such as art, crafts, cooking, dance, drama, etc. included for maximum exposure. In after school care package every week a subject is introduced and practiced through conversation and activities designed for that particular subject. Students are encouraged to communicate as much as possible in target language in outdoor and indoor activities. Homework help is also available.

## Summer Camps

To reinforce and review in a fun, more engaging and active atmosphere our summer camps are offered in our Bellevue Location (Near Microsoft). Different activities such as cooking, folklore dance, craft and cultural projects and field trips are included in full time one to three weeks long summer camp.



# Contact Us

We would be more than happy to talk with you or meet you in person to discuss any details or answer your questions.

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