**Monsieur OLIVER’S Philosophy of teaching:**

* Make activities fast and furious with an online timer to keep them on track (they love trying to beat the bomb before it goes off!)...do station rotation work, games, whiteboards...multimedia helps a lot too, get the kids out of their seats...make it **FUN**!! Follow the mantra: **"if it ain't fun, why do it?"** (of course, not everything we cover is innately fun, but you can make even dry old grammar fun with a little creative thinking!!)
* Use Bloom's taxonomy in **EVERY** class if possible - hit as many different learning styles as possible
* Playing (French) music videos before class really helps engage them initially and gets them in a (French) mood before we start... it also generates a huge wave of excitement, kids go online at home and download music, find new songs by artists, find new artists in the target language that they like and share with the class... you can then use the songs and lyrics to teach grammar and vocab in a fun more engaging way!
* I also believe totally in talking to students about **WHY** we are doing said activities and **HOW** they will help them learn (this helps motivate them and is very IB in approach)... It also shows you **CARE** about their learning and know how and why we are doing said activities. Also, ask for feedback from them and humbly tell them that if they don't understand it could well be the teacher's fault for not teaching properly (that one really throws them and reinforces how much you care about their learning). There is nothing I like to hear more than learning **CAN** be fun and **“I finally get it!!”**
* Also, I photocopy euros to give as 'extra credit' coupons they can cash in for 1 point per euro note and they earn this for taking risks in the target language and for participation in games - really works
* I use a cheap bicycle horn to get their attention and to bring them back to task when finishing activities or playing games
* Finally, the greatest tool in the teacher box of tricks is a sense of humor! Learn to laugh at yourself…a lightened mood makes learning easier. Our steepest learning curve as human beings is as children at play…therefore, it stands to reason that if the classroom becomes “play” then learning will happen naturally and more effectively