The study of a second language other than English is one of the fundamental components of the International Baccalaureate Middle Years Program, which you will be studying for the next four years.

Studying a language other than English will be of benefit to you in many different ways – broadening your intercultural understanding and respect, developing critical thinking and academic skills, and giving you a sense of pride and enjoyment in being able to communicate with others in their own language.

In order to become proficient in a second language and meet the standards set by the International Baccalaureate Organisation, the language chosen for study in Year 7 will be continued until the end of Year 10. This sustained development of skills and knowledge will also be a strong foundation for continued study, should you choose, at either Higher School Certificate or IB Diploma in years 11 and 12.

**Le français - French**

French is an important world language that is spoken in countries across Europe, the Middle East, Africa and the South Pacific, and is used for international diplomacy, business and sport.

In French classes, you will learn to speak about yourself, your family and friends and develop skills in using French in authentic situations, such as buying food in a café, discussing your hobbies and school life, travelling in French-speaking countries and meeting new friends. You will learn to write letters, emails, descriptions and dialogues, using a wide range of language and structures. You will develop skills in understanding French that is written, in magazines, newspapers, letters and other documents as well as, spoken such as on television, ads, films, and dialogues. The use of information technologies and online learning programs in the classroom allows you to produce original visual, written and audio texts using iMovie, ComicLife, Prezi, Keynote, GarageBand and many other tools.

In years 7 to 10, French classes participate in a variety of language experiences, such as French role-plays, performances such as Theatre LOTE Fantastique, visiting French restaurants, attending French film festivals and university language days. In class, students will celebrate Bastille Day, the French national day and Carnaval, with many opportunities to taste French food! French students also learn about the regions of France and the French-speaking world, which will be very useful for those who choose to do a language exchange to France in Year 10 or 11.
German

German is Europe’s language of choice, being the most commonly used language of the European Union. German is also among the top six most commonly spoken languages in the world, along with Chinese, English, Spanish, Russian and Hindi. The shared origins of English and German make it one of the simpler languages for speakers of English to learn.

At Monte we explore the language and cultures of Germany, Austria and Switzerland. The topics covered in the first year of study include family, pets, colours, feelings, descriptions, hobbies, birthdays and parties, school, health, fairytales, and food.

The acquisition of the language is accomplished through a lively photo story which integrates language, culture and grammar, listening activities, and extensive speaking tasks, including interviews, role-plays and presentations in German by the students. Motivating computer applications such as Language Perfect and Linguascope, containing language focused games, writing and speaking tasks, successfully complement the course and develop skills that can be applied to everyday life in today’s global village. Students also participate in drama workshops, as well enjoying German specialties such as Black Forest Cherry Cake and Schokoladenfondue and waffles.

Throughout the course the major festivals, such as Christmas and Easter, whose traditions originate in Germany, are celebrated. In Year 10 and Year 11, students have the opportunity to participate in exchange programs to Germany. In Year 11, students may compete for a scholarship to Germany, as it has been awarded 19 times to Monte students since 1983 and TWICE in 2010.

Italian

Italy has played a primary role in forming Western European culture in Australia due to the mass immigration from Italy from the late 1800’s. The fabulous Italian culture and lifestyle has been introduced into Australia on a surprisingly large scale. Australia now recognises Italian influences such as: *opera music, gelati, pizza, café* and even Italian fashion or *moda* which have contributed to our cosmopolitan way of life.

The Year 7 course creates a series of everyday practical situations that encourage active participation and interaction amongst students and teachers. By making comparisons between English and Italian, the students develop an appreciation of the linguistics and vocabulary of the Italian language. Students will be able to communicate on a basic level using all the language skills – writing, listening, speaking, reading and visual literacy. They will engage in many fun activities such as role-plays, presentations using technologies, for example iMovies and Podcasts, in addition to food tasting, *Carnevale*, Italian film festivals, *Commedia dell’Arte* performances and many more.

The students will learn to develop, expand and appreciate their cultural awareness and knowledge of Italy and it’s people. Students will acquire knowledge and understanding of the interdependence of language and culture, thereby encouraging reflection on their own cultural heritage and promoting the unity of humankind.
Indonesia is one of Australia’s nearest neighbours and is the fourth most populous country in the world with over 240 million people.

Studying the Indonesian language provides learners with access to the culture of Indonesian and Malay-speaking countries and communities including Indonesia, Malaysia, Singapore, Brunei and Southern Thailand. As we move forward in the “Asia Pacific Century” it makes sense that all young Australians are able to communicate with our regional neighbours.

Indonesian is the only Asian language offered at the College. It is a ‘learner friendly’ language and uses the same Roman alphabet that is used in English. There is no script or characters in Indonesian making it one of the easiest Asian languages to learn. The grammar is less complicated than that of most European languages. Indonesian has no tenses and no gender meaning you don’t need to worry about the concept of masculine and feminine nouns.

The year 7 to 10 course in Indonesian explores the daily life of Indonesian teenagers and is set on 3 of the islands including Bali, Sumatra and Java. Students will be captivated by the rich blend of stimuli and media in the coursebook that combines culture, humour and colloquial language in order to enhance the intercultural language learning experience. Topics covered include: introducing friends and family, shopping and bargaining, Indonesian music and art, cooking and recipes and the aware traveller.

Students also take part in a variety of intercultural activities such as dance and rhythmic movement workshops, mask making, shadow puppet performances and Independence Day celebrations.

Our 1:1 iLearn program enables students to use online learning activities and Web 2.0 tools to enhance and refine their language acquisition. Podcasting, iWeb and iMovie activities are incorporated throughout the program.

“After studying Indonesian since Yr 7, I can safely say that it is one of my favourite classes! If you feel as though you want to experience both the culture and language of Asia, Indonesian would definitely be the right choice!” Alice Ward, Year 12 Student of Indonesian

Language Acquisition Choice
For ALL students

Opens: October 21st
Closes: October 31st

- Go to the Monte website www.monte.nsw.edu.au
- Access the survey via the tabs Admissions, Year 7 2017 starters
- Click on Language Acquisition and Enrichment class survey
- Complete the survey giving TWO language preferences