

LA FÊTE NATIONALE



Today Ryan is interviewing Carine about France's national holiday: Bastille Day.

Young reporter: **Salut, Carine! Ton pays a une fête nationale?**

Carine: **Oui! En France, la Fête Nationale, c'est le quatorze juillet.**

Il y a des défilés, des bals, des feux d'artifice... et des pétards!



On Bastille Day, French people remember the storming of the Bastille prison in Paris at the start of the French Revolution, back in 1789. By capturing the prison, the ordinary people showed how angry they were at the way the King was treating them.



They coined the slogan **Liberté, égalité, fraternité!** (Freedom, equality, brotherhood!).

Le drapeau tricolore est un symbole de la Révolution française.



Le quatorze juillet, il y a des feux d'artifice en France.

USEFUL PHRASES

ton pays your country une fête nationale a national holiday
c'est le quatorze juillet it's on 14 July il y a there are des défilés parades
des bals dances des feux d'artifice firework displays des pétards bangers (fireworks)
le drapeau tricolore the French flag la Révolution française the French Revolution



MY BLOG

Carine says there are lots of good things about 14 July. All over France there are parades with brass bands (**des fanfares**) and people marching. The biggest parade of all is the military one in Paris. It's in the long, wide avenue called the **Champs-Élysées**. Carine has never been to Paris, but she likes to watch the parade on TV. The horses (**les chevaux**) are her favourite thing.



In the evening of 14 July (and the evening before), there are dances in the street and firework displays in big cities, small towns and villages.

It sounds fun, but Carine says to watch out for firecrackers (**les pétards**). Children are allowed to buy them, and they let them off all day long. They make a terrible loud bang, which can really make you jump!

What can you see on Bastille Day?

fireworks (**les feux d'artifice**) dances in the street (**les bals du 14 juillet**)
the French flag (**le drapeau tricolore**) brass bands (**les fanfares**)
parades (**les défilés**)

YOUR TURN



Ton pays a une fête nationale?

✓ *Oui, c'est le... (+ date)*

X *Non.*

In French, there are three different words for 'the': **le**, **la** and **les**. **Les** is always used in front of a plural word.