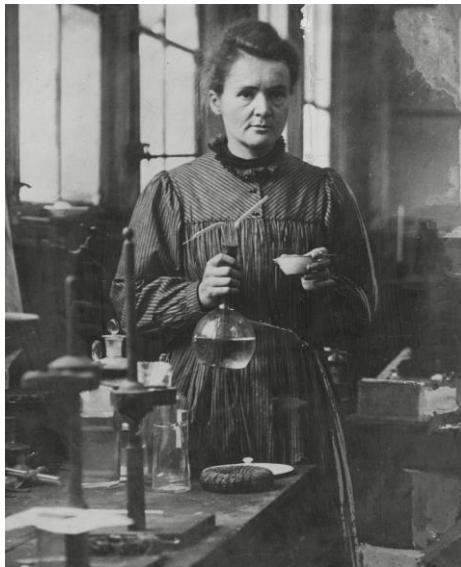


Year 5

Our 'Adopted' Famous French Person:

# Marie Curie



**Marie Curie** (7<sup>th</sup> November 1867 - July 4<sup>th</sup> 1934) is considered to be one of the most influential scientists of all time. She was the first woman to win a Nobel prize and the only person to win Nobel prizes in two different sciences: Physics and Chemistry. Marie Curie discovered radioactivity and changed the way scientists understood the atom.

Marie Curie was born in Warsaw, Poland, under the name of Maria Salomea Skłodowska but she adopted her French husband's name - Curie - when she married him. She also became a French citizen when she married him.

Curie dedicated her life to researching radioactive materials and is credited with the discovery of radium and polonium, as well as for coining the term 'radioactive'. Curie worked alongside the French government to implement the use of over 200 portable x-ray machines on wounded soldiers on the battlefields of the First World War.

After the war, Curie continued her study of radioactive substances and their use in medicine. Her *Radium Institute* in Paris became an important centre for scientific research.

