

WHAT STUDENTS ARE SAYING

"I just returned from a 3 month exchange to France and it was a life changing experience. I would have never have done it if I hadn't continued French in high school."

- Emma, grade 11 student

"I used to struggle to understand and express myself in French, but once we started doing more interactive activities I started to speak more fluently and understood more."

- Amanda, grade 12 student



"There is an intrinsic value in learning other languages since Canada is a bilingual country. Due to timetabling limitations, I was unable to continue beyond grade 11. I wish I could have found a way."

- Mebaa, grade 12 student

"Next year I will be in the Social Justice and Peace Studies program at university. I just found out that continuing in French would have been beneficial when working in other countries and in Canada. I wish I had taken French after grade 9. "

- Sean, grade 12 student

A special thank you to the 2014-15 Grade 12 French students at St André Bessette Secondary School and from Holy Cross Secondary School and their teacher for their ideas and contributions to the creation of this brochure.

HOW YOU CAN SUPPORT YOUR CHILD

Many parents find it daunting to help their child with French homework when they themselves cannot speak French. There are a variety of resources available to help you. Some everyday tips include:

- Let your child know that you value French.
- Ask them what they are learning in class.
- Celebrate success.
- Expose your child to French media.
- Meet your child's French teacher.
- Encourage your child to be involved in opportunities that promote French and enhance their learning.
- Helpful websites:

www.fslhomeworktoolbox.ca

www.frenchstreet.ca

- Helpful resource:

Supporting your child's success in French Immersion and Extended French, Elementary Schools - Parent Guide
(Ontario Ministry of Education)

For more information call us at

519-663-2088

(ask for Learning Services)

or visit ldcsb.ca

French?

Mais

Oui!

How your child will benefit by continuing French studies

Parent Guide



LONDON DISTRICT
Catholic School
BOARD

WHY FRENCH IS FOR EVERYONE

The way we teach and learn French has changed a lot since when you learned French in school. There is a greater emphasis on spontaneous oral communication relating to topics that students may encounter in real life situations. The French program is an inclusive program recognizing that all students can learn French given the appropriate support.

Did you know?

- 9.6 million people speak French in Canada.
- French, along with English, are the only languages that are spoken on all 5 continents. French is spoken by 220 million people in 39 countries.
- French is the third most frequently used language on the internet.
- You already know about 15 000 French words (rendez-vous, déjà vu, destination) and expressions (RSVP, à la carte, C'est la vie, Voilà) since over 30% of English vocabulary is borrowed from French.



WHAT FRENCH CLASS IS REALLY LIKE

French is the language of communication in all classes. Students participate in a variety of activities relating to authentic, real-life situations and topics with a greater emphasis placed on spontaneous oral communication. Students often work in groups to allow for many oral communication opportunities and technology plays a large role in the learning. Students learn about Francophone cultures in a variety of ways in and out of the classroom.

BENEFITS AND OPPORTUNITIES

Students learning French enhance first language overall literacy skills providing a foundation to learn additional languages, which is an important life skill.

Students can improve critical thinking skills when learning a second language. Studies show that students who learn another language do better on standardized tests.

Students can improve employability in our competitive job market. On average bilingual Canadians earn a higher salary than those who are not bilingual.

Students who are bilingual will become more aware of economic and cultural benefits within Canada and beyond.

Students can travel and experience new cultures while being able to communicate in French.



Students will receive a French certificate upon graduation of Grade 12 French.

Students who know how to speak French are better able to promote diversity in our multicultural society and develop interpersonal and social skills.

Students can participate in many exchange opportunities available to students. Some even offer you the opportunity to earn income while participating.

Inspired by Christ. Learning together. Serving together.