

Top Reasons to Learn French:

- Learning a second language has a positive effect on learning your first language. In other words, learning French improves your English language skills. By the end of the elementary school years, students in French Immersion often outperform those in the regular program in literacy.
- It enhances creativity and problem solving ability.
- It has a positive impact on intellectual growth and cognitive (the mental process by which knowledge is acquired) development.
- Students in French Immersion have higher self-esteem, better social skills and tend to be more tolerant towards minorities.
- Increased chance of being accepted to university or other post secondary education.
- Increases job opportunities in many careers where knowing another language is an asset.
- It enriches travel experiences, especially to the 53 countries where French is spoken.

*J'❤
le français!*

Why École Laurier?

- French education, K- grade 8
- Free Junior Kindergarten Program (3 days a week)
- Vocation programs offered: Industrial Arts, Home Economics, & Automotive (gr 7&8)
- Band and music programs offered - no rental fees
- Technology enhanced classrooms
- Family atmosphere
- Small teacher-student ratio
- Effective home-school communication
- Supportive learning environment
- Proactive disciplinary approach
- Participation in French cultural events
- Engaged with our community
- Inter-divisional sports
- School trips
- Free breakfast program
- Active Comité de parents
- Laurier Playzone - fully licensed daycare within the school

For more information or to schedule a tour of the school, contact 204-447-2068.

Visit us at:

<http://trsd32.mb.ca/Laurier/Content/AboutUs.aspx>

École Laurier



**Mon français m'ouvre les
portes du monde**

Immersion française-French Immersion

Prématernelle à 8e année
Junior Kindergarten to Grade 8

C.P 100
Laurier, Manitoba
R0J 1A0

Téléphone /Phone: (204) 447-2068

Télécopieur/Fax: (204) 447-3048

trsd32.mb.ca



FRENCH IMMERSION - A PROGRAM OF CHOICE FOR ALL STUDENTS

What is a French Immersion Program?

The goal of the French Immersion Program is to develop proud, confident, engaged, plurilingual global citizens.

The French Immersion Program enables students to interact spontaneously, autonomously, and confidently in French with pride and ease. They seek opportunities to engage in the Francophone community. Their identity as Canadian citizens, competent in both French and English, creates lifelong opportunities and fosters openness to other languages and cultures. This program is designed for students whose first language is not French.

French is the language of instruction for all subject areas except for English Language Arts and music/band, which are taught in English. French Immersion students learn the same curricular outcomes as students registered in the English program. In addition, they take **French Language Arts**.



If I choose French Immersion, how will my child learn?

Learning French will be natural and spontaneous, much like learning a first language. In a French Immersion classroom, teachers speak French all the time using gestures, mimes, visual, auditory and concrete materials. The teacher only speaks English if the child's health or safety is at risk or if a child has a problem and is emotionally distraught. As in learning a first language, understanding French will come much earlier than being able to speak it. Very quickly, your child will understand words and phrases and will respond appropriately.



“Learning a language is like giving a gold deposit to your children, but without risk, because while gold may decrease in value, knowledge will not. Gold can be stolen, but knowledge always grows.”
Dr Roseann Runte

Is French Immersion appropriate for all children?

French Immersion is a broad-based program appropriate for all. A child will do as well in French Immersion as he/she would do in an English program. Parents need to support their children and have a positive attitude towards whichever program they choose for their child. Research continues to show that learning in a bilingual setting has more advantages than disadvantages. **Students have all to gain and nothing to lose.**

Can I transfer my child into French Immersion at the beginning of Grade 1?

Yes, entry in the French immersion program is possible in Kindergarten and Grade 1. Students may transfer from a similar French Immersion program at other grades.

I don't speak French. Will this be a problem? How will I help with homework?

Help with concepts can be given regardless of language, and is always beneficial. It is not necessary for parents to speak French. All children should have a quiet place and a regular time for doing their homework. Teachers are always willing to work with families regarding homework. The Canadian Parents for French website (www.cpf.ca) also has valuable resources for parents.

What parents can do to help their children?

Encourage good study habits and provide French reference materials for use at home. Enjoy French TV, radio, music games, software and videos with your children. Read to and with your children in English. Encourage them to read to you in French. Keep in touch with the teachers. Check out summer camps and exchanges. Try taking a French class yourself. You'll enjoy it!