



L'ACTION FRANÇAISE!

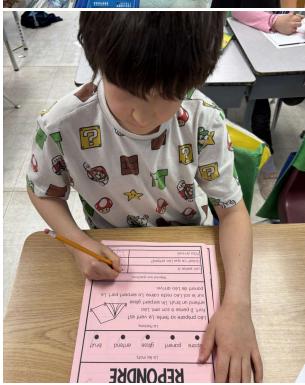
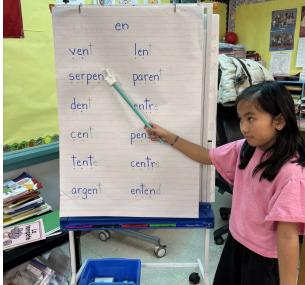
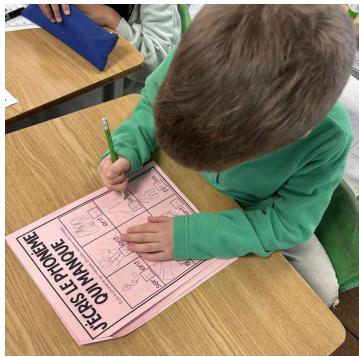
A Publication of Collettvile & MSS French Immersion



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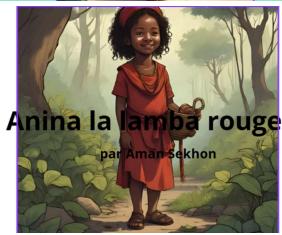
Grade 1/2

The students in Division 4 are continuing the Science of Reading activities in order to learn the different French sounds. They practice reading books that highlights the sound of the week, learn new vocabulary words and complete sound booklets. This month we are working on the sounds "ê-è" "en" and "an".



Grade 9/10/11

We have been studying the influence of culture on stories. To show their understanding, students are finishing a storybook project. This was a big project with several parts. Part one was to adapt the story of Little Red Riding Hood to represent the culture of their chosen country from la Francophonie. We then took time to learn how to communicate with AI to help design the images for their storybook. This class has produced many wonderful culturally influenced stories.



Kindergarten



The kindergarten students have just completed an introduction to our first wave of French letters and sounds. We also launched our Learning Centres — literacy and math-focused stations where students work in small groups to practice skills they've already been introduced to. These centres give students the chance to follow instructions, collaborate with peers, and work independently with limited adult supervision. As you can see in the photos, they're already looking like pros!



New Books!

We're excited to share that a fresh selection of new French books has arrived in our classrooms and library! Purchased through Savoir Books with French OLEP Funding, these titles offer excellent choices for all levels of French readers.



From beginner books to engaging novels, the collection provides something for every student and supports literacy across our French Immersion program. Teachers and students are already enjoying the new additions—bonne lecture!

Battle of the Books!



Our French Immersion students continue to prove that a love of reading knows no language barriers! Each year, School District 58 hosts the Battle of the Books, a district-wide English reading competition that challenges students to read a selection of novels and answer questions under pressure. Although the event is conducted entirely in English, our French Immersion team consistently has a successful showing.

This year, our team is reading enthusiastically and showing the same determination that has made them a powerhouse in this competition. We are so proud of their effort and passion for literature in both English and French.

F.I. Event Updates and Upcoming Events



Thank you to all the families who attended our first two French Immersion events this year.

Both sessions went very well, and it was wonderful to share information about our program, answer questions, and connect with families who are interested in the French Immersion journey.

We encourage everyone to spread the word and share the upcoming dates with friends, neighbours, and anyone who may be curious about French Immersion. Your support helps strengthen our program and build our French-speaking community!

Upcoming Events

French Immersion Strong Start Visits

- Wednesday, Jan. 14 – Central Strong Start Classroom
- Thursday, Jan. 22 – Nicola Canford Strong Start Classroom

Carnaval Week

- January 26–30 - Student Info Packages will be sent home the first week back to school.

Merci for your continued support—together, we help our students thrive en français!

F.I. Bulletin Board

Be sure to check out our new French Immersion Bulletin Board located just outside the MSS F.I. classroom! This colourful display highlights the great things happening in our French Immersion program and is a proud showcase of our students' hard work and enthusiasm for learning en français. Stop by and take a look!

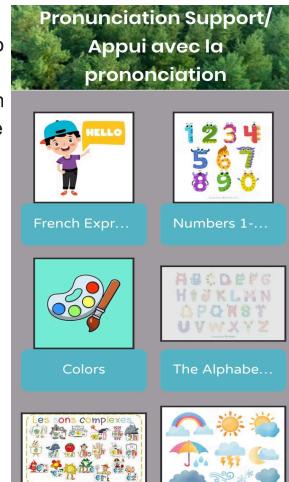


Helpful Links

Check out the page dedicated to audio pronunciation support — a fantastic resource to help your child improve their spoken French skills. Whether you're new to French Immersion or have been navigating it for a while, this page offers helpful pronunciation guides and audio tools to make the learning process easier and more effective.

This page is designed to support you and your child, offering accessible resources to ensure your child thrives in their French program. Bookmark the link, share it, and encourage friends, new families, or anyone curious about French Immersion to visit:

<https://www.bcsifrenched.ca/frenchaudiosupport>



Volleyball

A huge congratulations to our three Collettville teams who represented our school so well throughout the Triple Ball season!



Our players have shown tremendous growth, dedication, and teamwork all season long, and it truly showed on the court. We're so proud of the progress each athlete has made — way to go, Les Chats Sauvages!



Un grand MERCI to our amazing volunteer coaches: Nate, Jessie, Heather, and Kerry. Your time, energy, and encouragement make all of this possible. We appreciate you so much!!!



Grade 6/7

The Grade 6/7 students are working on developing their skills for the upcoming basketball season. They have reviewed the rules and practiced shooting, dribbling, passing, and scrimmaging to strengthen their abilities. They are already showing great improvement —bravo, Grade 6/7!



FRENCH IMMERSION ALUMNI SPOTLIGHT



Where are you now (location/career/using your French, etc)?

Living in Tsawwassen BC. Professor in Faculty of Education, Vancouver Island University. Volleyball coach at South Delta Secondary School. Able to frequently use my French language to support teacher candidates in the VIU teacher preparation program who are specializing in French language teaching.

A favourite memory from French Immersion:

Harmon Lake school campouts, directing and performing two original plays in grade 7 with our class, playing soccer games on the sidehill at Collettville, cross-country runs and track & field with Mr. Webster, concours d'art oratoire, French Immersion exchange trip to Québec.

What are you most proud of from your French Immersion experience?

I feel like I gained an open-minded and creative view on the world through having been immersed in the French language and culture, which encouraged me to see everything from multiple perspectives and worldviews. I have always loved to travel the world and engage with different cultures in meaningful ways. My French language skills have also helped me to feel confident to try other languages while travelling, such as Spanish, Italian, and even Korean!

How did French Immersion help you?

This program truly inspired my love for travel and lifelong learning, and the creative, interdisciplinary approach to the learning inspired my love of inquiry-based teaching in my own practice. I had a unique opportunity to come back to teach in

Jodi Latremouille

Graduated with bilingual diploma in 1996

a collaborative way with Guy Dugas at M5S for two years, and it was a great reminder of how high school teaching can also be inquiry-based and interdisciplinary, when teachers find the space to step outside the box and get creative!

A few accomplishments I have achieved:

1996-2000: TRU (UCC) Women's Varsity Volleyball Team.
2013: Cynthia Chambers Masters Thesis Award.
2014: University of Calgary Chancellor's Graduate Medal.
2019: SSHRC Graduate Studies Award.
2020: PHD in Educational Research, Curriculum & Learning. 2023: Published first book on curriculum and teaching, entitled "Ecological Pedagogy of Joy: On Relations, Aliveness, Love". 2024: Vancouver Island University Dean's Scholarship, Research and Creativity Award.
2024-Present: Acquisitions Editor for Book Series with Peter Lang Publishing on Ecological Pedagogy & Scholarship. But truly, my greatest accomplishment is raising two beautiful and strong, athletic and brilliant daughters- who also are studying in French Immersion! I also love giving back to my community through volleyball coaching, collaborative creative writing and research that invites teachers to share their experiences with others, environmental and social justice advocacy, and mentoring young teachers coming up in the system to follow their passions and make a difference in our education system.

What would be your advice to current French immersion students?

The benefits of studying a 2nd language and culture will not truly be understood until many years later, when you have a chance to look back on your experiences and recognize how unique and profound they were. Being in a French Immersion program provides a deep sense of community, and the connections you make with people, with the experiences, and with the world around you, will last a lifetime.



FRENCH IMMERSION ALUMNI SPOTLIGHT



Where are you now (location/career/using your French, etc)?

After graduating from post secondary I moved back to my hometown Merritt BC to open a holistic health clinic. I've been working as a Registered Massage Therapist for 3 years now. Being in the public sector I've been able to utilize my french with clients.

A favourite memory from French Immersion:

Being in the Immersion program I was given the opportunity to travel overseas on a few humanitarian trips. One of my favorite memories is going to a remote Peruvian village. While there we volunteered at a hospital, orphanage, and helped prepare the village's fields for planting

What are you most proud of from your French Immersion experience?

I'm proud of being bilingual and being able to travel confidently.

How did French Immersion help you?

French Immersion helped me challenge myself from a young age, while learning to always stay curious. From jobs, to learning medical terms, to

Emmanuelle Dugas

Graduated with bilingual diploma in 2018

traveling abroad I couldn't be more grateful that I was in the French Immersion program throughout my youth.

A few accomplishments I have achieved:

Being in the French Immersion program helped me distinguish myself as a student, athlete and community member. Throughout highschool I was the recipient of many awards, scholarships and was able to participate in a few overseas humanitarian trips.

What would be your advice to current French immersion students?

Advice I would pass along to current french Immersion students is to take advantage of the extra opportunities that come your way. Having more than one language opens up a huge variety of life experiences, ranging from academic achievements, job diversity and learning another language and immersing yourself into another culture.