



CPF *Canadian Parents for French*

Newsletter

Volume 8 Issue 1 - Winter 2008

CPF Hamilton-Wentworth

Esprit 2008 - Leadership Weekend for Grade 7 & 8 Immersion Students

Don't miss this exciting opportunity! To be held February 22-24, 2008 at Scanlon Creek Conservation Area in Bradford, this is a great event for Grade 7 and 8 French Immersion students.

Esprit, meaning "spirit", is a fun-filled weekend where students come together and enjoy the great outdoors at the scenic Scanlon Creek Conservation Area. Activities are led by French speaking counsellors and consist of a variety of theme sessions designed to enhance leadership skills through team building events, endurance and creativity challenges, not to mention cross-country skiing, snowshoeing, music and laughter. Make instant hot chocolate and instant friends!

Quotes from previous participants:
"Je ne vais pas oublier cette expérience!"
Alexis

"C'est très amusant et beaucoup de plaisir! J'ai hâte de revenir l'année prochaine!" Brittany
"J'ai rencontré des excellents amis ici, ça vas être triste de partir." Keith



The registration fee, which includes accommodation, meals and workshops, is \$75 for CPF members and \$100 for non-members. The non-member fee includes a one-year CPF family membership valued at \$25. Esprit is made possible through the generous support of Canadian Heritage. Visit the CPF Ontario web site for a registration form: www.cpfont.on.ca

"Gotta Love That French" presents the French language like never before!

There are still spots available for this year's CPF organized French performance. This year, the show will come to your child's school. Helene Nicole Richard presents a multimedia performance that takes the form of a live TV show. The show is designed to make English students fall in love with French. Through songs, dances, games and quizzes, students discover French is a vibrant language around the world and in Canada. The show can be tailored to different age groups and French ability. Ask if your school is interested.

Hamilton Reads in French!

CPF Hamilton-Wentworth is pleased to be sponsoring a reading and personal performance by local French language author Brigitte Cazabon. All French Immersion children and their parents are welcome to this free Saturday event.

Come out and give your child some exposure to French culture outside of the classroom. Ms. Cazabon will be reading from her children's books, suitable for ages 3 to 7. Saturday January 26, 08 -

1 p.m. at the Westdale Public Library, 955 King Street West, Hamilton.



Contact Us

Be sure to visit the CPF Hamilton-Wentworth website at www.hwcn.org/link/hwcpf for information about our upcoming events, resources for FI parents or to become a CPF member.

Public School Board Adds French Immersion to Ancaster

Parents in Ancaster have expressed a strong desire for an Ancaster French Immersion site to open in September 2008. A survey of existing Junior Kindergarten students in Ancaster, completed by the Hamilton Wentworth District School Board this fall, has demonstrated enough interest to warrant expansion of the French Immersion program. At the Committee of the Whole meeting of January 14, 2008, the trustees voted to start an FI program in Ancaster by establishing a Senior Kindergarten class at Fessenden School in September 2008 with enrolment set between 30 and 40 students. Please contact Yin Chan at 905-304-6322 for more information about Ancaster Parents for French. Contact Fessenden school at 905-648-4115 for information about how to register your child.

Dundana School wins CPF Prize

As an Associate Member Organization (AMO) of CPF, Dundana School recently won the grand prize in a CPF Ontario membership draw. Dundana will receive a \$500 French Performance Grant toward the cost of bringing a French performer to the school. Any school can become an AMO of CPF for \$60 per year.

Francophone Film Festival

The annual festival du film francophone takes place between February 29 and March 2, 2008 at the Staircase Theatre, 27 Dundurn St. N, Hamilton. Watch our web site for updates on the French family films that will be showing.

CPF SEVEC Exchange Update

We are happy to report that we have a full roster of 45 students for the CPF SEVEC exchange. We have also secured a partner community in Beauport, Quebec. Established in 1634, Beauport is one of the oldest European-founded communities in Canada and the city's historic district contains many interesting churches and homes. Beauport is conveniently located on the north shore of the St. Lawrence River, about 20 minutes from Quebec City.

At the request of our partner, the exchange dates have been revised to extend between Monday, June 30 and Friday, July 18. We hope to complete participant interviews in the early winter and start to twin the students in March. This will allow our Hamilton

students to start getting acquainted with their Quebec counterparts.

Our partner is very experienced and enthusiastic and has suggested

the following potential activities for the group in Quebec: La Ronde in Montreal, Valcartier waterpark, Old Quebec City, Quebec City Civilization Museum and boat cruise, and IMAX and Galeries de la capitale. In Ontario we are working to book a Toronto tall ship cruise, as well as trips to the Science Centre, Wild Waterworks, Niagara Falls and Port Dover.



French Liturgy for Children

The following classes are being offered at Notre-Dame du Perpetuel-Secours Catholic Church:

Sundays at 11:00 am, there is a liturgy for children 5 to 8 years old.
Sundays from 3:00 - 5:00 pm, children 6 to 9 years old, meet in the church hall for lessons from the Bible, songs and games in French.

For further information please contact: Father Pierre Philippe Jean-Pierre, Notre-Dame du Perpetuel-Secours Catholic Church
243 Cumberland Avenue, Hamilton
905-545-6953

High School French Immersion Information Nights Coming Soon

Evening sessions for Grade 8 students and their parents. Everything you need to know about Hamilton's two French Immersion High Schools and how to get your French Immersion certificate!

Cathedral Separate High School
Wednesday, January 16 at 7 p.m.

Westdale Public High School
Tuesday, February 5 at 6:30 p.m.

New Curriculum Consultant for Public Board

The public Board has a new French Second Language Curriculum Consultant – Welcome to Lisa Robson who can be reached at 905-304-8722 ext. 272. Congratulations to Gisele Portelance, who is now a vice-principal within the

Hamilton-Wentworth District School Board. Thanks so much for all the support and encouragement you provided for French Immersion over the past five years.

Kindergarten Information Nights for French Immersion

It's that time of year again. If you know a family with a child starting Junior or Senior Kindergarten, encourage them to consider French Immersion.

School board officials will be holding a series of information nights to tell potential FI parents about the program. CPF members will be at the meetings to answer your questions.

Public School Dates: (all meetings begin at 6:30 p.m.)

Monday February 4, 08
Lawfield
205 Berko Ave. 905-385-3239
(East Mountain & Upper Stoney Creek)

Monday, February 11, 08
Guy Brown
55 Braeheid St., Waterdown
905- 689-8254 (Waterdown)

Tuesday February 19, 08
Dundana
23 Dundana Ave. 905-628-2622
(Dundas)

Wednesday February 20, 08
A.M. Cunningham
100 Wexford Ave. S 905-544-7771
(East and Central Hamilton)

Monday February 25, 08
Earl Kitchener
300 Dundurn St. S 905-528-0223
(West and Central Hamilton)

Monday March 3, 08
Glen Echo
140 Glen Echo Dr 905-560-6630
(lower Stoney Creek & East Hamilton)

Tuesday March 4, 08
Norwood Park
165 Terrace Drive 905-575-9808
(West Mountain & Ancaster)

Tuesday March 4, 08
GR Allan
900 King St. W. 905-522-0601
(Dundas & West Hamilton)

Catholic School Dates: (all meetings begin at 7 p.m.)

Tuesday February 19, 08
St. Joseph
270 Locke Street South
905-529-1002
(West and Central Hamilton)

Wednesday February 20, 08
St. Eugene
120 Parkdale Avenue South
905-545-9598
(Stoney Creek and East Hamilton)

Thursday February 21, 08
Sts. Peter & Paul
49 Fennell Avenue East
905-383-4911
(Hamilton Mountain)



The Grimsby Music Series runs annually at the Grimsby Public Art Gallery, 18 Carnegie Lane, Grimsby. On Sunday March 2, 2008 at 2 p.m., they are featuring a Family Concert as part of this series called "New France", which is a Jeunesses Musicales du Canada production. Dressed as "habitants" of the New France era, Suzanne Leclerc and Bryn Wilkin will introduce the audience to life in the New France colony. The artists will capture the audience's attention by playing a variety of traditional instruments including doum-beck, bodhran, oud, vihuela, mandolin, banjo and violin. Tickets are \$5 with a maximum of \$20 per family.

Shortcuts for typing common French Accents in Microsoft Word or Outlook

(Type the code and then the required vowel in either upper or lower case.)

Accent acute:	type CTRL	"	then type the vowel...	é á ý ó Ú Í
Accent grave:	type CTRL	'	then type the vowel...	è à Ò ì ù
Accent cedilla:	type CTRL	,	then type c...	ç Ç
Accent circumflex:	type CTRL SHIFT 6		then type the vowel	ê î Ô û

Encounters with Canada Contest for Grade 9-11 Students

Encounters with Canada/ Rencontres du Canada is a program that allows French and English youth from across the country to come together and live a week of unforgettable memories at the Terry Fox Canadian Youth Centre in Ottawa. Visit incredible Canadian institutions, engage in life-altering activities and parties.

This year CPF Ontario, in partnership with Encounters with Canada, is offering Ontario students a chance to win one of five all-inclusive trips to Ottawa to attend a week-long Encounters with Canada Youth Forum (valued at \$625). Students are asked to create a 17" x 22" hand-drawn or computer-generated poster commemorating Quebec City's 400th anniversary. The poster is to creatively incorporate ten cultural, historical facts or anecdotes about the city and its inhabitants and must be written in French.

The contest is open to all Ontario students in grades 9-11 studying French as a Second Language. Submission deadline is February 29, 2008. Posters will be evaluated on originality, French language quality, content development and creative design. All five winners will be contacted by Friday, March 14, 2008. Visit the CPF Ontario web site for a registration form: www.cpfont.on.ca

Dundurn Castle en Français

On December 2, a group French Immersion students and their families took part in a French language tour of Dundurn Castle –organized by CPF. Thanks to our tour guide, Brian Lindsay (a Norwood Park parent), who gave us a fun, bilingual



overview of life in the castle during the Victorian era. The castle looked beautiful in its Christmas glory, and our members and their children really enjoyed themselves.

Westdale's annual Tobermory trip a success

Westdale's annual grade 10 French Immersion Camping Trip proved to be success this past September. Organized by Mr. Timms, French Immersion geography teacher, the trip has been a popular event at Westdale for over 14 years. "The trip is great because learning geography in French is a lot easier to do when you're actually experiencing it, rather than reading about it in textbooks," said Sebastian White, a grade 10 French Immersion student.

Swimming, hiking, cave and cliff explorations are only a few of the exciting geography-related activities that the Immersion campers experienced. "My favourite part was the grotto. After about a 2 hour hike, we ended up at the grotto and got to explore the caves," said Emma Brazil, also a grade 10 French Immersion student at Westdale.

The fall Tobermory Camping Trip is only one of the many benefits of being a part of the terrific French Immersion program at Westdale Secondary School, but is one that students definitely do not want to miss!

Courses in Civics & Careers now offered in French

Westdale Secondary School has recently decided to include Civics/Careers as part of their selection of French Immersion courses. Fantastic news for French Immersion tenth graders, as this will help students to conveniently achieve one (two 0.5 credits) of their required 10 French immersion credits while taking this already mandatory class. Many students find subjects like math and science to be challenging in *English*, and the thought of taking them in a second language is discouraging. Adding Civics/Careers as an option gives students the opportunity to achieve their Immersion credits in the classes they feel most comfortable. This will appeal to future students curious about the Immersion program as it helps to relieve the pressure of that heavier Immersion workload, and puts the focus back on to building language and cultural skills. For more information on this class and other options for French Immersion students, check out Westdale's website at: http://www.hwdsb.on.ca/westdale/French_Immersion.html.

Westdale Articles submitted by Molly Hayes, Westdale student