

Dear Parents/Guardians,

Bonjour, my name is Mr. Comeau and I am your child's core French teacher this year.

The core French program is designed to prepare students for basic communication in French. Like any subject, the learning of a second language depends on the amount of instruction time, as well as the interest, effort and ability of the individual student.

Your child has French class for 60 minutes every second day of the school schedule. The classes will take a theme approach based on the child's own interests and experiences. The focus at the beginning of any theme is always oral communication first, which involves both listening and speaking. We then move on to reading, followed by some writing.

To evaluate your child's progress I will be using things like checklists, rubrics, mini projects, interviews, etc. The main thing is for your child to actively participate in class activities, conversations and assignments (class projects).

There is no expectation that parents/guardians will be able to understand or speak French. However, here are some simple things that you can do to ensure that your child's second-language experience is both positive and successful.

- Encouragement! Research shows that students whose parents/guardians have a positive attitude towards learning French does better in core French programs. Let your child teach you some French which will in turn help them learn!
- Get to know your child's French teacher, me, and participate in parent/teacher meetings.
- Read to your child to foster a love of language, listen to the radio in French and/or watch French television.
- Bring your child in contact with the French language and culture through extracurricular and community activities when possible.

With regards to classroom management, if your child is being disruptive, disrespectful, wasting time, not doing their work etc. they will be given a reminder of the appropriate behavior that is expected. If the negative behaviour continues they will be asked to stay in during recess to have a one on one discussion about appropriate classroom behaviour. If there is still no improvement then I will call home and there will be a visit to the office to talk to the principal, Madame Deviller.

I am looking forward to working with your child and making this year one of which they will learn lots of French and hopefully, learn to love learning another language.

Thank you for your cooperation.

Mr. Comeau  
French Teacher