

Dear parents/guardians,

Bonjour and welcome! It is with great pleasure and excitement that we welcome French Immersion students and families to Arthur Pechey Public School. We are very eager to meet everyone. Along with this excitement comes a great amount of determination to develop a robust French Immersion Program that will meet the needs of our families. Our strong Arthur Pechey beliefs, values and best practices are focused on achieving our Saskatchewan Rivers Public School Division mission of *excellence for every learner*. It is this shared vision that serves as a solid foundation for the establishment of a rich and high quality K-8 French Immersion Program within the safe, meaningful and caring learning environment we have at Arthur Pechey. I would like to take this opportunity to discuss the process in place to establish this program as well as the supports in place to help you and your child with the transition to our school in the fall of 2016-2017.

We are working closely with École Vickers Public School staff in the development of our French Immersion program. We have begun the process of ordering French library books, textbooks, instructional materials, additional physical education equipment and other necessary classroom furniture and supplies. We will keep you informed of upcoming transportation arrangements as bus schedules are developed and the addition of several new classrooms will begin within the next few months. The collaboration between our schools is helping to build a long-lasting partnership that will extend well beyond the implementation phase. We are very excited about the variety of rich and exciting learning activities and events we will be able to offer our French Immersion students and families because of this emerging partnership.

We recognize that many students and families will embrace this exciting time and look forward to new challenges, friends, and a new setting while others will have feelings of uncertainty. The social and emotional well-being of everyone is important to us therefore we have several activities and events planned to help you and your child become familiar with myself, our staff, students and their new school. These activities and events include:

- I will be visiting École Vickers Public School several times to get to know our new K-4 students.
- Kindergarten to Grade 4 Open House will take place on *Thursday, April 21st at 6:30 p.m.*
- K-4 students will visit Arthur Pechey for a Care Buddy “Getting to Know You” activity before the end of June.
- Families will receive our monthly newsletters via email beginning in April.

Your child is about to embark on a wonderful school year. We strongly believe that students’ academic, social and emotional needs are best met when families and schools work closely together. Teamwork and communication are key components of a positive and healthy learning environment that is vital to the success of each student. Please feel free to contact me at 306.922.9229 with any concerns or suggestions that you may have that could make the upcoming school year an even better one for your child and family. Your partnership is important and welcomed. Once again, we extend a warm welcome and we look forward to working with your family in the upcoming months.

Kindest regards,

Mrs. Darlene Schultz
Principal
Arthur Pechey Public School