

Dear New 2017-2018 French Immersion Parents,

Bonjour and welcome to Arthur Pechey Public School! It has been a fun and successful first year as a French Immersion School with the addition of Kindergarten to grade 4. Reflecting on our first year of the expansion project, we are proud of our steadfast commitment to establishing a high-quality and rigorous French Immersion program. Our dedicated and diligent team of teachers and administration strongly believe in the importance of developing our students' sense of belonging within our French community, in and around Prince Albert, and their passion for life-long learning of French language and culture. Our collective vision and philosophy serve as the foundation for the student-centered French Immersion program we have successfully established and implemented in our first year.

One step towards fulfilling our vision occurred this year as Arthur Pechey teachers came up with the idea to have our First Annual Carnaval d'hiver (Winter Carnival) during French as a Second Language Week. This event involved organizing teachers and students from all other SK Rivers Public French Immersion schools to join us at Carlton High School for a multitude of French cultural activities, some of which were led by Carlton French Immersion students. Activities were designed to immerse our students in French language and culture throughout the day while giving them the opportunity to make connections, and perhaps some new friendships, with students from all over our school division, begin to build a real sense of French community among our young people, as well as strengthen the important bridge between our elementary and high school French Immersion programs. It was a tremendous day and we've already begun planning our Second Annual Carnival for next year!


Additional important aspects of our French Immersion program include:

- Focus and development of all French language skills through best teaching practices across all subject areas.
- Up-to-date and ample curriculum, library and support materials.
- Engaging cultural activities to support language development:
 - Crêpe-making, puppet shows, guest speakers including various authors/illustrators, Family Literacy Night with French Language activities, 'Little Green Thumbs' in grade 1 classes and much more.
- School-wide fun and relevant assemblies to celebrate student achievement, progress and individual reading goals.
- Availability and integration of technology including Chrome books, Ipads, laptops, SMART boards, Sound Field Systems, document cameras, and more.

Positive relationships are also fundamental to our school vision and mission. It is through school and family relationships that we are able to provide a welcoming, safe and meaningful learning environment for our students so they can achieve their fullest academic, physical, social and emotional potential. Building positive relationships with our new families and students includes keeping everyone informed of our expansion progress and being available to you with your questions or concerns.

Looking ahead, we are excited to enter year two of the expansion project as we add grades 5, 6 and 7 in the fall, as well as welcome students coming over who will be new to Kindergarten to grade 4. Off-site planning and building are proceeding on schedule. The classroom additions we received last year have greatly enhanced the learning environment of our school and we anticipate an equally positive result of the second addition which will include more classrooms and a new set of washrooms. We also look forward to a new and improved basketball court that will be re-located on the playground!

Many of you are familiar with our teachers, staff and school as you may already have a child attending Arthur Pechey. For others, this will be a time of change and transition. It is vital to us that you and your child have a smooth transition to our school, therefore, just as we did last year, we have planned a few activities and events for all new students and families.

- Sign up to Remind by texting the following message to (571) 384-5612: @arthurpe to receive our announcements and information.
- Our newsletter is online for you on the SRPSD website - <http://www.srsd119.ca>.
- Students will meet their new Principal and Vice-Principal during visits to EVS.
-  **Poppin' in for a Visit** day at Arthur Pechey on **Wed. May 3rd from 12:45 to 2:00 p.m.** for EVS grades K-6 students in grades 1-7 here next year.
- **There will be an Open House and Parent Information night for all new Kindergarten to grade 7 students and families on Thursday, May 4th from 6:00 – 7:30 p.m.**
- An Open House and Meet the Teacher Night for *all* English and French Immersion families will be held in the fall.

Please feel free to contact us at any time at 306.922.9229 or dschultz@srsd119.ca 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. Once again, we extend a warm welcome and we look very forward to working with your family.

Kindest regards,
Mrs. Darlene Schultz – Principal
Mrs. Brandi Sparboe – Vice-Principal

