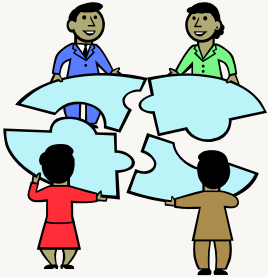


June 2013

FSLAC NEWS

French as a Second
Language
Advisory Committee



Working
together
for our
students

Travaillons
ensemble
pour nos
élèves

E-MAIL:

FSLACTORONTO@GMAIL.COM

We're on the
Web!

See us at:

www.tdsb.on.ca/fslac

Parent to Parent Advice and Support

The FSLAC is offering to bring its “How Can You Help Your Child Succeed in French?” workshop to your school. The workshop, which was a hit at the annual Parent Involvement Conference, has now been given at John Fisher and Winchester schools. Winchester parents were so enthusiastic that the workshop was followed up with a second presentation on TDSB homework policy and online resources.

If you are interested in having a similar presentation, please have your school administration or school council contact Kristina Laperle through the FSLAC. (fslactoronto@gmail.com). To learn more, please see the power point presentation slides at: www.tdsb.on.ca/fslac under ‘Resources’.

Here are some tips from the workshop you can use over the summer:

- Read with your child in your native language. Reading skills are transferable to other languages including French!
- Encourage your child in French as you would in sports and music lessons. You don't need to be an expert; you just need to show your enthusiasm and support.
- Access French resources and reference materials from the full TDSB library website and the OERB (Ontario Educational Resource Bank). Make sure you get the passwords from your school librarian before school is out: www.tdsb.on.ca/libraries/cat.asp?schoolNo=10
- Check out your local public library for French books, CDs and DVDs and for French events this summer.
- Watch French TV(Rogers 12, 13, 95, 103 or Bell 112, 115, 137, 145), listen to the radio (860 AM, 90.3 or 105.1 FM), go to French websites like www.tfo.org (Mini-TFO for young children, Megallô for tweens or Brbr for teens) or use the French language track for DVDs you already have at home
- Encourage your child to select books, programs or movies that are on topics covered in the past school year.

Franco-Fête June 21-23-New Location!

The annual French music and culture festival will be at Yonge-Dundas Square this year. For younger children, check out Mini-TFO for songs, games and nursery rhymes and Cabaret des Petites Canailles for musical comedy. Loads of family entertainment and evening concerts. All free! Details are available in French and English at: www.franco-fete.ca .

Global Ambitions: French and Engineering

This summer my son graduates from a TDSB high school. He will then begin to fulfill both his lifelong dream of becoming an engineer and his more recently acquired ambition, a bilingual degree.

Achieving his goals took hard work on his part, but high quality FSL instruction during his education at the TDSB (Immersion grades 4-8 and Core grades 9-12) transformed his vision of professional success. In Grade 8, he learned from articles in The Economist that top-level engineers work globally in several languages. Although he knew that classroom French alone wouldn't be enough, he saw it as a start and put more effort into his studies. A review of his report cards for that period shows a corresponding improvement in grades.

For years now he's been able to read long passages in French prose without reaching for the dictionary and follow French language movies without subtitles. His confidence in French as a useful skill is not misplaced and especially so given his FSL education with the TDSB.

-Andrea, proud mom and FSLAC member

FrancoWow at Concours D'art Oratoire

Bravo TDSB secondary school students Shannon Gui (Don Mills CI), Uma Kalkar (William Lyon MacKenzie CI), Cha Cha Yang (/Bloor CI), Maria Tereshchenko (Lawrence Park CI) and Darby Little (Lawrence Park CI), Ontario finalists in the Canadian Parents for French (<http://on.cpf.ca/>) public speaking contest. Grade 11-12 first place winners receive a \$1000 scholarship to Glendon College at York University and a chance to compete nationally for full scholarships to the University of Ottawa. The TDSB held six regional qualifying events for grade 4-12 students from 67 schools with participation from core, extended and immersion students.

Un gros merci to all of our great French teachers, instructional leaders and our program co-ordinator, Alison Pearce, who support our students every day and helped make this event a great success!

Join the FSLAC Email List

To receive this once/term newsletter and occasional FSL news or to get in touch, please email: fslactoronto@gmail.com. Be sure to give us your first and last name and the name of your child's school.

FSL Programs Benefit All Students

CBC radio's 'C'est La Vie' invited researchers Dr. Fred Genesee and Dr. Callie Mady to discuss the work they have done on how French programs can benefit all types of learners. You can find the segment at www.cbc.ca/player/Radio/ID/2383131192/.

The program also covers recent progress in Alberta. For the Ontario view, look at pages 10-12 of the new Framework for FSL: edu.gov.on.ca/eng/amenagement/frameworkFSL.pdf

For a Toronto District School Board perspective look no further than TDSB's new FSL policy that makes a clear commitment to "Core/Extended/Immersion French programs that include English language learners and students with special education needs and are inclusive and reflective of a diverse community". To read the new policy, visit www.tdsb.on.ca/ppf/Detail.aspx?id=1798.

Summer French Fun at the Library

The Toronto Public Library is offering a variety of French programming this summer at locations around the city. Events include French Story Time, French Stories & Songs, and several theatrical presentations sponsored by the 'Go! TD Summer Reading Club 2013'.

The TD Summer Reading Club challenge is a great way to encourage summer reading in French. E-books are available from the library. With an internet connection and a library card, you can access them from anywhere. For details, contact your branch or go to: www.torontopubliclibrary.ca, programs, and kids.

For younger children, you can Dial a French Story: 416 395 5400 or on-line: http://kidsspace.torontopubliclibrary.ca/genStoryArchive_French_1.html

High school students and adults are welcome to join the 'French Conversation Circle' at the Bloor/Gladstone branch on alternating Wednesdays from 4-5pm.

FSLAC Meetings

Parents, students, trustees, teachers and staff are invited to attend and participate in FSLAC meetings. Meetings start at 7 pm at the TDSB offices at 5050 Yonge St., ground floor.

Meeting notices, reports, newsletters and minutes are posted on the TDSB website: www.tdsb.on.ca/fslac.

Upcoming meetings: Sept 12, Oct 17, Nov 21, 2013.