

Oral French Program

French Immersion 7

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General overview

The French Immersion program encompasses *all* aspects of the language, not just reading and writing. I cannot stress enough the importance of speaking French at all times in the classroom. Next year, students will be moving into a more autonomous learning environment and will not be presented as many opportunities to speak French in class. This is the last year to take advantage of being in a full immersion context. My hope is that regularly practicing spontaneous and prepared speech in French will help to build confidence in students in preparation for next year. I can keep reminding students to speak in French but most of all, this needs to come from them.

Les billets

“Les billets” (tickets) system puts more emphasis on students encouraging each other to be speaking French rather than me reminding them. At the start of each week, each student starts with 10 tickets. If a student is not speaking French, they must give a ticket to the student who heard them not speaking French. The goal is to still have your 10 tickets at the end of the week. Students can also extend their learning by earning “Point bonis” (Bonus points) if they are demonstrating full participation speaking French at all times. Students report how many tickets they have left at the end of each week on their weekly reflection. “Les billets” is a large component of how oral French for the year is evaluated. Using this system in the past, I have noticed the students’ French oral language fluency improve dramatically. Little by little, speaking French everyday becomes easier and easier. The ticket count at the end of the week is as follows:

0-5: Emerging;
6-7: Developing;
8-10: Proficient;
10+: Extending

Monthly presentations (Rotating Fridays = 1x/month)

One group of students each Friday will present a 1-minute presentation for the class. These presentations do not need to be memorised but should not be read directly off a piece of paper.

Improv league! (Last Friday of each month = 1x/month)

Another popular activity Div. 1 partakes in, is improvisation! Improv takes place on the last Friday of each month. Improvisation focuses on spontaneous speech in French through fun, fast-paced and energetic team acting challenges. It puts into play concepts learned in class through various and spontaneous scenarios. The origins of improvisation are rooted in Montreal, further exposing students to la culture Québécoise. Students are split up into four colour teams (Red, green, blue and yellow) will work together to accumulate points through challenges each month.

Ways you can support your child in French language development:

- French TV, radio and music at home – Music sung in class can be found on my blog under “La musique”:
<https://sd41blogs.ca/leongs>
- Regular silent sustained reading or reading aloud of books in French at home
 - French books are easily accessible through the classroom library, school library or your local library
 - CBC jeunesse scolaire blog
- CPF website “Parent corner”
- French camps or after school programs
- Teamwork and collaboration! Let me know how I can best support you! 😊