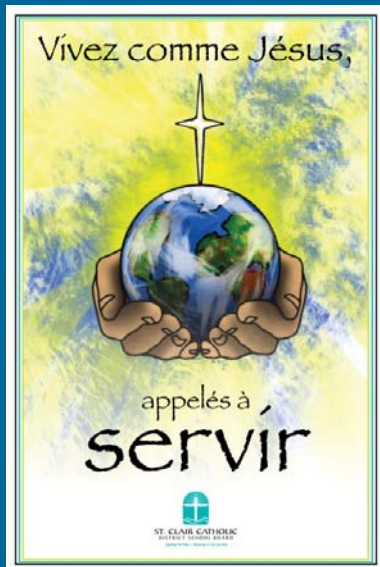


# Our Mission

Walking together in Christ's light, with parish and family, we are called to build a safe and inclusive Catholic learning community and to serve as partners in the formation of life-long learners by:

- Living our faith;
- Promoting educational achievement and innovation;
- Fostering stewardship, leadership and social justice.



French Immersion Sites	
Elementary	Secondary
Gregory A. Hogan 1825 Hogan Dr. Sarnia, Ontario N7S 6G9 519-542-8190	St. Patrick's Catholic High School 1001 The Rapids Parkway Sarnia, Ontario N7S 6K2 519-541-1811
Monsignor Uyen 255 Lark St. Chatham, Ontario N7L 1G9 519-352-1880	
St. Anne Blenheim 183 Snow Ave., Box 2038 Blenheim, Ontario N0P 1AO 519-676-7352	
Christ The King 227 Thomas Ave. Wallaceburg, Ontario N8A 2B9 519-627-6745	Ursuline College Chatham 85 Grand Ave. West Chatham N7L 1B6 519-351-2987



ST. CLAIR CATHOLIC  
DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD

*Lighting the Way ~ Rejoicing in Our Journey*

St. Clair Catholic District School Board

420 Creek Street, Wallaceburg, ON N8A 4C4

519-627-6762 | 1-866-336-6139 | www.st-clair.net



ST. CLAIR CATHOLIC  
DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD

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## Catholic French Immersion



Imagine  
the possibilities!  
*imaginez les  
possibilités!*



## Why French Immersion?

The goal of the French Immersion program is to develop proficiency in Canada's two official languages, French and English. Studies show that when children develop abilities in French it will help your child continue to improve in English.

There are many **benefits** to learning a second language:

- Increases brain function and processing skills, according to brain research
- Promotes creative thinking and problem-solving skills
- Increases understanding and respect for other cultures
- Provides a competitive edge in the job market



Choosing French Immersion will provide your child with the opportunity to become a creative thinker, an excellent communicator and help him/her be ready to succeed in the future. There are many advantages that come with being functionally bilingual in Canada and in the global community!

## Our Program

French Immersion at St. Clair Catholic begins in **Kindergarten and extends through to Grade 12.**

**Parents do not require knowledge of French in order to enroll their child in the program. French Immersion is geared to families who do not speak French.**

Students **will learn in French**, rather than just learn French. Literacy skills and abilities that are learned in one language transfer to another. Research confirms that knowledge of a second language strengthens first language skills.

Students follow the Ontario Curriculum but do so immersed in the French language. Gestures, mime, pictures and objects are used to help children understand French words and phrases. Songs, poems, storytelling, prayers and choral speaking, as well as routines or sequences of activities are also used to help familiarize students with words and ideas and to encourage earliest attempts to speak the language.

Through watching and listening, students begin to respond appropriately. Soon, they are singing along, joining in during the choral speaking and peppering their sentences with French words.

## Getting Started

For the first couple of years, students are not expected to speak French at all times; however, they are given positive encouragement to explore the new language. When they make mistakes, the teacher uses repetition and role modelling to correct the error, just as you did while your child was learning his or her first language.

It is a **gentle approach** ensuring that all students are comfortable and confident as they explore and build their second language skills.

Immersion works well because students are not just studying the language—they are using it in meaningful ways all day, every day.

***Immersion students do not just learn French — they LIVE it!***

*French Immersion is the password to an enriched world. Students in the program grow and develop in a caring, family-like environment, which builds their confidence and self-esteem. They become independent learners, who strive to achieve excellence.*  
*Amelia Vilaranda,*  
*French Immersion Teacher*