



# SCHOOL PROFILE

## Mission of the London District Catholic School Board

*To serve the Catholic student of London District in a community that nurtures a living faith and provides a quality Catholic education that enables the individual to become a contributing member of the Church and Society.*

## ***ST. JOHN FRENCH IMMERSION CATHOLIC SCHOOL***

*School Year: 2009-2010*

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**Website:** <http://www.ldcsb.on.ca/schools/john/>



### School Community Information

**Principal:** Mme Jo-Anne L. Hogan-Bakai

**Vice Principal:** M. Daniel Baker

**Secretary:** Mme Cathy Coughlan

**School Council Chair:** Anna Dzongowski

**Parish:** [Our Lady of Czestochowa](#)

**Pastor:** Fr. Dariusz

**Secondary School Affiliate:** [Mother Teresa](#)

**School Superintendent:** Vincent MacDonald

**School Trustee:** Mr. Bill Hall

**Director of Education:** [Wilma de Rond](#)

### Quick Facts About Our School

**School Hours:** 8:55 - 3:30

**Grade Distribution:** JK - 8

**Student Enrolment:** 457



***Les Flammes***  
***St. John French Immersion***

## About our School

### Description

Our Catholic French Immersion program was established in September of 1988 and is currently located in central London at St. John Catholic French Immersion School, [449 Hill Street](#). There are currently 457 students enrolled. The students from Grade 1 to Grade 8 study all of their subjects in French with the exception of English and Religion. Students receive formal teaching of English literacy skills from grades 1 to 8. In 2004, our Early Immersion program began with Junior Kindergarten, Senior Kindergarten and Grade 1 entry points. The formal teaching of English for these young students begins in grade 1 where the focus is on reading. Students presently in grades 7 and 8 began the program in grade 4. All other students began in JK, SK or grade 1. Entry at points other than this is no longer an option unless students are coming from another French Immersion School or a French First Language School. As well, all students must be baptized Roman Catholic. Parents interested in transferring their child from another school are required to contact the principal first.

### Mission Statement

*St. John Catholic French Immersion School is a welcoming, bilingual faith community. Our Canadian heritage is celebrated through French language and culture. We encourage students to succeed and to develop their unique gifts.*

### Staffing Information

Currently at St. John Catholic French Immersion School there are twenty French Immersion classroom teachers, one English specialist, one Intermediate Science teacher, one Music Teacher, one SPST (*resource teacher*), one library technician, one Educational Assistant and one custodian contracted to us via Service Master. The administrative staff consists of a Principal, a half-time Vice Principal, and a secretary.

### Facilities

St. John Catholic French Immersion School was originally established in September 1988 at the site of Holy Family Catholic School as a grade 4 to 8 Middle French Immersion program. In 1994, the school re-located to St. Joseph French Immersion Centre at 85 Charles Street, and has been at the present site at [449 Hill Street](#) in Central London since 1999 where, until 2004, the school shared the building with the mainstream English school community. Since 2004, this site has been a full French Immersion facility. There are four portables on site. Grade seven and eight students make daily use of Meredith Park at lunch recess.

### Transportation Information

The vast majority of students are bussed to St. John from London-Middlesex and Elgin counties, on a total of 22 buses (*a combination of large buses and microbuses*) from [Elgie Bus Lines](#) and [Langs Bus Lines](#). We share bussing with [St. Mary Choir School](#). Students in our early immersion program must reside north of Commissioner's Road in London or outside the city of London. Others students must attend [St. Anthony Catholic French Immersion School](#). Oxford county students must attend [Holy Family Catholic French Immersion School](#).

### Safe and Healthy school

Safety of all students at St. John Catholic French Immersion is of utmost priority. To this effect, we have implemented, as part of the student [agenda](#), a section outlining our [Code of Conduct](#) which parents are required to sign. Not only are consequences for inappropriate behaviors in place, but student responsibilities are also outlined. We also have a *Safe and Healthy School Committee* to focus on health issues and learning opportunities for both our students and our staff. St. John Catholic French Immersion School is a winner of the [Healthy Living Champions](#) in 2007-2008 and 2008-2009.

### Co-Curricular Program

<a href="#">Save a family plan</a>	<i>Terry Fox Run</i>	<i>Choir</i>
<i>Carnaval</i>	<i>Concours oratoire</i>	<i>QSP fundraiser</i>
<i>Living rosary</i>	<i>Cérémonie des excellences (2 - 7)</i>	<i>Talent Show</i>
<i>Craft Club</i>	<i>Environnement Club</i>	<i>Book Fairs</i>
<i>Chess lessons (subsidized by Parent Council)</i>		<i>Authors visits</i>

## Living Our Faith

### Links to the Community

The St. John Catholic French Immersion School Community is fortunate to have [Our Lady Czestochowa Church](#) next door. We participate in monthly masses and liturgies as well as celebrate special events at the parish. The associate pastor, Father Dariusz, provides special sessions to our grade one students to help them gain comfort at our monthly masses. We have a special relationship with the Church as we share parking facilities to accommodate staff parking needs and Church parking needs during special events such as funerals and missions. Staff and students participate in the [Virtuous Reality](#) program that entails practising a different virtue every month. Students and staff come together once a month to recognize and celebrate the efforts of a member of each classroom. Though Sacraments are addressed in the various classes, students are not officially prepared at the school. Parents must be in contact with their [home parish](#) for students to follow Sacramental preparation. We are fortunate to have volunteers in our school community who work together with the teachers, students, and staff to improve literacy skills and help in the office. A number of parents from our community have also made [monetary donations](#) to the school to help us to provide extra resources for our students.

## Programs and Services

### Curriculum Program

As a French Immersion School we fall under the mandate of an English language School board and therefore must follow the [Ontario Ministry Guidelines](#) for [curriculum](#) as any other publicly funded Catholic school must do.

We begin our JK students with the goal of attaining 90% instruction in French and 10% in English through the teaching of Religion. Students continue this model in SK, and then in grade one, begin with the formal learning of English in a 20% English / 80% French setting. In grade 7 and 8, the formal teaching of guidance occurs in English and students transition to a 75% French / 25% English model.

Students who graduate from St. John are eligible to continue their studies in Catholic French Immersion in a secondary setting at [Mother Teresa Catholic Secondary School](#).

The success of the students of our French Immersion model has been overwhelming. Students from the program continue to achieve to a very high standard as they enter high school. Results from Grade 3 and Grade 6 [EQAO](#) testing has consistently been well above provincial and board level achievement. The year [2008-2009](#) was not an exception. The dedication and commitment of the staff is acknowledged by students and parents alike as being of an exceptional nature.

### Athletics

In addition to our very noteworthy academic achievement at St. John Catholic French Immersion School we have a tradition of producing exceptional sports teams. There have been many tournament and city championships over the years as the result of the dedication of staff to provide exceptional extracurricular opportunities. Despite the complications that arise with the fact that virtually all students are bussed to school, the involvement of parents and staff supports these programs whether they require attendance after school or on weekends.

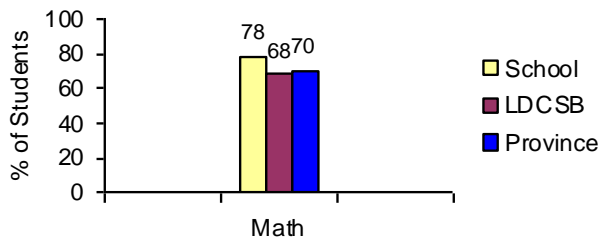
Basketball	Soccer	
Ice Hockey	Volleyball	Floor Hockey
Cross Country	Track & Field	

### Catholic School Council

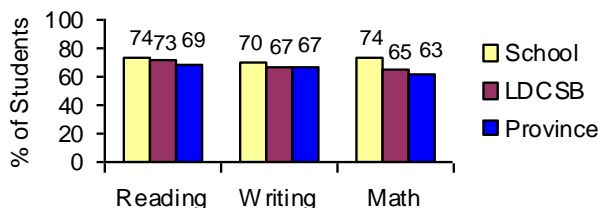
Our very active [Parent Council](#) is a central key to our life at St. John. They devoted their time in our annual *Welcome Night*, our *Advent lunch* in December, with [Hot lunches](#) and [Pizzas](#), etc. The *Social Committee*, the *Green Committee*, The *Catholicity Committee*, the *Fundraising Committee* and the *Communications Committee* are energetic and dedicated. Volunteers are always welcome.

## Results of Provincial-wide Assessments

**Figure 1. Percentage of Grade 3 Students at Levels 3 or 4 on the EQAO Assessment  
Result of Mathematics 2008-2009**



**Figure 2. Percentage of Grade 6 Students at Levels 3 or 4 on the EQAO Assessment  
Result of Reading, Writing and Mathematics 2008-2009**



## School Improvement Planning 2009-2010

During the months of September and October, school teams reviewed and revised their 2009-2010 School Improvement Plan in light of the [most recent EQAO results](#) and other relevant data. This process results in ongoing modifications to the School Improvement Plan for 2009-2010. The School Improvement Plan will outline the school's priority goals, strategies and success indicators towards improving student learning and achievement for the coming school year. The School Improvement Plan goals for 2009-2010 will be posted on the [school website](#).

