

NEWS RELEASE

Wilfrid Laurier
University



Laurier helps hundreds of students get a JUMP on university

Program lets students experience university life and academics first hand

For Immediate Release

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WATERLOO – It's not every day you see 12- and 13-year-olds attending university, but this summer the halls of Wilfrid Laurier University will be filled with students enrolled straight out of elementary school.

Approximately 800 students from grades six, seven and eight will visit Laurier from May 10 to June 18 as part of the Junior University Multi-Disciplinary Preparation (JUMP) program. JUMP, now in its fourth year, introduces elementary school students to post-secondary education.

Twenty Ontario schools will participate in the series of three-day sessions, each involving 20 to 40 students. Some schools are coming from as far away as Windsor and Huntsville to live on campus and participate in subjects ranging from archeology to athletics.

"They come here to experience what university is like, from living in residence to attending classes. The program lets them know it's not so frightening and that they can do it too," says Glennice Snyder, Laurier's conference services co-ordinator. "They get a lot of things out of it and want to do better in school so they can go to college or university."

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JUMP participants in each session choose seven courses from a list that includes athletics, archaeology, biology, business, chemistry, computing, fine arts, geography, music, psychology, social work and theatre. Social work is proving to be this year's favorite. Snyder believes it is because kids are getting becoming more socially minded and are more aware.

Students also sample university life. Participants stay in residence, eat in the dining hall, and use the academic and athletic facilities. The three-day sessions end with a graduation ceremony, complete with diplomas handed out by Laurier deans and administrators.

JUMP started with just eight schools in 1996 and has grown through word of mouth. "Without a doubt, the JUMP program is the best off-campus field trip I've ever been involved in," says Don Oberle, a teacher at Northlake Public School in Waterloo.

- JUMP '99/3 -

DATE	SCHOOL	
May 10 – 12	Jean Little P.S. (Guelph) Rick Westgarth (519) 837-9582	Falstaff P.S. (Stratford) Sharon Spier (519) 271-6618
May 12 – 14	Elizabeth Ziegler P.S. (Waterloo) Marianne Kuwabara (519) 742-4402	Blair Road P.S. (Cambridge) Reiss O'Keefe (519) 621-5620
May 17 – 19	Wallace P.S. (Gowanstown) Bob Woods (519) 291-2380	McGregor P.S. (Waterloo) Kathryn Edgecomb (519) 885-6200
	Wilmot Senior P.S. (Petersbury) Roger Bechtel (519) 634-8851	
May 19 – 21	Plattsville P.S. (Plattsville) Joan Robinson (519) 684-7436	Riverside P.S. (Huntsville) Pat Lightfoot (705) 789-2282
May 26 – 28	Sunshine Montessori Christina Brean, Pat Townsend (519) 744-1423	Clemens Mills P.S. (Cambridge) Andy Goulden (519) 7400-2364
May 31 – June 2	Northlake P.S. (Waterloo) Don Oberle (519) 885-1115	Watt P.S. (Utterson) Lorna Walking (705) 769-3643
	Morningside Central P.S. (Newton) Linda Schurter (519) 595-8995	
June 2 – 4	Hamlet P.S. (Stratford) P. Robinson (519) 271-2826	Eastdale P.S. (Listowel) Mary Kerr (519) 291-2930
June 7 – 9	Bellwood P.S. (Windsor) Carol Kui (519) 966-3890	
June 9 – 11	Taylor Evan P.S. (Guelph) Sandy Tubbs (519) 766-4544	
June 14 – 16	Lincoln Heights P.S. (Waterloo) Carolyn Beke (519) 884-4010	
June 16 – 18	Forest Glen P.S. (New Hamburg) Alison Roger (519) 662-2830	