

# NEWS RELEASE

Wilfrid Laurier  
University



## **Laurier lets elementary school students JUMP ahead to university** *Multidisciplinary program gives hundreds of students a chance to experience university*

**For Immediate Release**

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WATERLOO – Nearly 950 students from elementary schools across central and southwestern Ontario will jump ahead to university over the next two months as they attend classes at Wilfrid Laurier University. Though they don't yet qualify for full admission, the grade six, seven and eight students will get a taste of post-secondary life and learning when they participate in Junior University Multidisciplinary Preparation (JUMP).

Beginning May 9, classes of 20 to 40 students from 25 elementary schools will take part in JUMP's three-day sessions. The program includes tours of campus, overnight stays in residence, and courses on education and career choices. The students also attend university classes in archaeology, athletics, biology, business, chemistry, fine arts, mathematics, music, political science, psychology and social work.

"Unlike a lot of other university preparation programs, JUMP is multidisciplinary and offers each school a choice in what they'd like to study. In that sense the program really reflects Laurier's academic approach," says JUMP Co-ordinator Beth Hamilton. "Since Laurier is also known for its sense of community, we make sure Laurier ambassadors are always available to answer questions. In the end students learn a lot about university and that's what is important."

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New to this year's program is a one-hour seminar on university and career choices that gives students an opportunity to ask questions about their personal interests and skills, learn how to prepare for careers that might interest them and find out what post-secondary choices fit best with their goals. Class lectures, which are taught by Laurier professors and graduate students, have also been shortened to keep students active and interested.

Each three-day session includes a two-night stay in the Willison Hall residence and meals in the dining hall. The sessions end with a graduation lunch where students receive diplomas from Laurier deans and administrators.

“Our grade seven classes had a wonderful experience at Laurier,” says Alison Roger, a teacher at Forest Glen Public School in New Hamburg. “Without exception our students were bubbling with excitement and animatedly discussing their favorite courses. What a worthwhile educational experience.”

JUMP, which began in 1994 with six schools and fewer than 200 students, has grown steadily through word of mouth. Schools from as far away as Huntsville and Gravenhurst regularly attend the JUMP program and many schools return year after year.

## JUMP 2001 PARTICIPANTS

<b>Session</b>	<b>School</b>	<b>City</b>	<b>Contact Person</b>
May 9–11	Jean Little P.S. Elizabeth Ziegler P. S.	Guelph Waterloo	Rick Westgarth, (519) 837-9582 Marianne Kuwabara, (519) 742-4402
May 16 –18	Riverside P.S.	Hunstville	Pat Lightfoot, (705) 789-2282
May 23 – 25	Mornington Central P.S. St. Anne School	Newton Kitchener	Linda Schurter, (519) 595-8995 Cathy Renda, (519) 745-7847
May 28 – 30	Listowel Eastdale P.S. North Easthope P.S.	Listowel Stratford	Jodie MacLeod, (519) 291-2930 Sherri Hearn, (519) 625-8398
May 30 – June 1	Saginaw P.S. Tavistock P.S.	Cambridge Tavistock	Dave Allen, (519) 624-7111 Kaja Havella, (519) 655-2350
June 4 – 6	Wilmot Senior P.S. St. Mary's School Watt P.S.	Petersburg Huntsville Utterson	Roger Boettcher, (519) 634-881 Victoria Baumgart, (705) 789-6481 Jim Baumgart, (705) 769-3643
June 6 – 8	Grand View P.S. Alison Park P.S. Avenue Road P.S. Cardinal Heights M. S.	Cambridge Cambridge Cambridge Hamilton	Sheila Richard, (519) 653-3611 Heather Preddie, (519) 621-3910 Alison Godfroid, (519) 623-0860 Joanne Lovell, (905) 385-5344
June 11–13	Harriston Senior School Zurich P.S.	Harriston Zurich	Jim Newton, (519) 338-2508 Bob Redick, (519) 236-7181
June 13 – 15	Gravenhurst P. S. Irwin Memorial P.S.	Gravenhurst Dwight	Mark Hachmer, (705) 687-2011 Trudi MacKinnon, (705) 635-2232
June 18 – 20	Westvale P.S. Precious Blood School Taylor Evans P.S. William G. David Senior P.S.	Kitchener Exeter Guelph Cambridge	Merrill Pierce, (519) 746-6724 Eileen Coxon, (519) 235-1691 Keith Thornton, (519) 766-4544 Riesse O'Keefe, (519) 653-2384
June 20 – 22	Forest Glen P.S. St. Jacobs P.S.	New Hamburg St. Jacobs	Alison Roger, (519) 622-2830 Marianne Dziarski, (519) 664-2272