

NEWS RELEASE

Wilfrid Laurier
University



Elementary students jump ahead to university with Laurier JUMP program *Multidisciplinary program offers hundreds of students a taste of university life*

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WATERLOO – Wilfrid Laurier University is welcoming hundreds of elementary students as they arrive to sample university life. The Junior University Multidisciplinary Preparation (JUMP) program encourages young students to pursue higher education by exposing them to university courses, residence and campus life.

Between May 8 and June 21, 1200 students in grades six, seven and eight, from 47 classes at 31 different schools, are participating in a series of three-day programs featuring interactive courses taught by Laurier professors, senior students and graduate students. Classes cover archaeology, athletics, biology, business, chemistry, fine arts, mathematics, music, political science, psychology, social work and theatre. The students experience other aspects of campus life, living in residence and eating in the Terrace Food Court.

“JUMP is our way of promoting higher education and encouraging younger students to explore topics not offered in elementary school or even high school,” says Glennice Synder, Laurier’s conference services co-ordinator. “All of the classes maintain a high level of hands-on, interactive learning that the students have always responded well to.”

JUMP also offers a university-life and careers-choice seminar designed to help students address any concerns they have about university, and to develop the skills and attributes necessary for post-secondary education.

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Each three-day session includes participation in seven university-level courses, the university-life and career-choices seminar, campus tours, a two-night stay in Willison residence and meals in the Terrace Food Court. The third day finishes with evaluations and a graduation lunch where students receive JUMP diplomas.

“JUMP is not only about classes and learning, but also about gaining independence, meeting students from other schools and developing the skills needed to make the decisions that will shape their academic careers,” says Snyder. Evening activities will include theatre performances by the students themselves, swimming and outdoor sports.

Created in 1994 with six participating schools, JUMP has expanded over the years to include 31 schools and 1200 participants and many schools return year after year.

JUMP 2002 PARTICIPANTS

CITY	SCHOOL	CONTACT	PHONE
Brantford	St. Bernard S.	Heather Harrow	(519) 756-5751
	St. Leo S.	Dalia Sevillo	(519) 759-3314
	St. Mary's S.	Michelle Lanoue	(519) 753-0552
Cambridge	Avenue Road P.S.	Allyson Godfroid	(519) 623-0860
	Saginaw P.S.	Stephanie Romer	(519) 624-7111
Dwight	Irwin Memorial P.S.	Pat Best	(705) 635-2232
Elmira	Floradale P.S.	Jason Gropp	(519) 669-5194
Fergus	Victoria Terrace P.S.	Ken McDougall	(519) 843-2720
Flesherton	MacPhail Memorial P.S.	Jeannette Paquette	(519) 924-2752
Gorrie	Howick C.S.	Sheree Feischauer	(519) 335-6566
Gravenhurst	Muskoka Beachgrove P.S.	Linda Hachmer	(705) 687-2162
Guelph	Jean Little P.S.	Rick Westgarth	(519) 837-9582
	Taylor Evans P.S.	S. Tubbs	(519) 766-4544
Hamilton	Cardinal Heights P.S.	Jim Harrison	(905) 385-5344
Harriston	Harriston Senior P.S.	Jim Newton	(519) 338-2508
Ilterton	Oxbow P.S.	Mr. Goulux	(519) 666-0310
Kitchener	St. Anne P.S.	Cathy Renda	(519) 745-7847
	Westvale P.S.	Merrill Pierce	(519) 746-6724
Listowel	Listowel C.S.	Sandy Earl	(519) 291-3250
	Listowel Eastdale P.S.	Jodie MacLeod	(519) 291-2930
New Hamburg	Forest Glen P.S.	Alison Rodgers	(519) 662-2830
Newton	Mornington Central S.	Linda Schurter	(519) 595-8995
Palmerston	Palmerston P.S.	Dan Belair	(519) 343-3520
Petersburg	Wilmot Senior P.S.	Jeff Lovell	(519) 634-8851
Sebringville	Central Perth P.S.	Laurie Long	(519) 393-5300
St. Jacobs	St. Jacobs P.S.	Marianne Dziarski	(519) 664-2272
Tavistock	Tavistock P.S.	Don Waldie	(519) 655-2350
Waterloo	Elizabeth Ziegler P.S.	Rebecca Fleisig	(519) 742-4402
	Harold Wagner P.S.	John MacPhail	(519) 885-6480
	MacGregor P.S.	Katherine Edgecomb	(519) 885-6200
Wingham	Turnberry P.S.	Dave Martin	(519) 357-2548