



NEW BRUNSWICK
French International
Student Program

NewsLETTER



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ALSO,
IN THIS
EDITION...



Host Family
Testimonials



Jimena & Annemieke
Soccer Champions



Halloween: Norbert
from Slovakia

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Sinem (in the centre) with her host sisters for this year, Andrea from Mexico (on the left) and Meri from Finland (on the right).

My Second Year in Canada

By : Sinem Uysal, Grade 12 student at the Polyvalente Roland-Pépin

After a really great experience in Campbellton, New Brunswick in 2016–2017, I decided to come back to Canada for a second year. I'm from Istanbul in Turkey.

Last year was a year of great change in my life. When I left my home country, I had no idea what was awaiting me. I must admit that when I was on the airplane, I was really scared; but when I met my Canadian Mom, all those fears flew out the window. In no time at all, I started feeling at home.

My two host sisters were also international students, one from Austria and the other from Italy. We shared many things and experienced some wonderful moments together. Even if they're far away now, it hasn't prevented us from staying in touch.

This year I'm living with the same host Mom, but I have two new sisters; one from Finland and the other, Mexico.

Because I was studying in a French school in Turkey, I decided on a francophone school here, and it's really helped me to improve the language. I also find that my experience in Canada has helped me to get out of my comfort zone and to discover myself. When I returned home over the summer, everyone said that I had grown and changed a lot.

So, this is why I decided to come back and finish my high school studies in Canada. I'm very satisfied with my decision, and I recommend this experience to everyone that would be interested! ★





Emre (on the left) with his host brother, Jérémie, are both in Grade 11 and members of the senior soccer team at the [Polyvalente Thomas-Albert in Grand Falls](#).



Family photo, from left to right: Sylvie, Jérémie, Emre Sanoğlu from Turkey, Justin and Émilie Michaud.

All in the Family!

This is the second year that the Michaud family from Grand Falls opens its home to an international student. Their two teenagers, Émilie and Jérémie, now have a new Turkish brother. They're involved in many activities together. "This international student program has allowed us to discover other cultures and to learn different ways of being and doing things. Our children really enjoy the interaction. Last year we hosted a girl from Germany, and now we have Emre from Turkey," explains host mother, Sylvie. ★

Leger Family from Moncton A Big Sister for Lucie

The Leger Family from Moncton is hosting Paula for the entire school year. The German student is in Grade 11 at [École L'Odyssée](#).

Louis and his wife Shoko first heard about the New Brunswick French International Student Program through a message sent to parents, from their daughter Lucie's primary school. Two main reasons compelled them to become a host family.

"Shoko is from Japan, and had participated as a student in a similar program in the United States. And it also gives our daughter the opportunity to experience what it's like to have a big sister," explains Mr. Leger.

Paula and her host family were paired last spring. "We talked on Skype and prepared before she arrived. It was really exciting. Since she got here, it's been going really well. It was a change for us, that for sure, but it's been fairly easy because the coordinator is always available if we need anything. It's well organized," he shares.

International students and their host families are accompanied throughout the stay by coordinators in every region of the province. Tutoring and other services are also available to help them adapt and integrate. ★



Shoko, Paula, Louis and Lucie during an apple-picking outing this autumn.



Jimena and Anniemieke

Provincial Soccer Champions



The "Vedettes" girls' soccer team at École Mathieu-Martin in Dieppe, winners of the provincial junior AAA championship. Upper right: Jimena (centre left) and Anniemieke (centre right) and two teammates pose with their gold medals.



Two Grade 9 students at [École Mathieu-Martin in Dieppe](#) are proud of their gold medals.

Jimena Juarez Garcia from Mexico and Anniemieke Mock from Germany are members of the junior soccer team, the "Vedettes", this year's provincial AAA champions.

The final game took place on October 28th, against the team from [École Sainte-Anne in Fredericton](#), the provincial capital. The score was 5-0.

It's the third consecutive year that the girls' team from this school takes home the provincial championship. ★

"I really enjoyed playing soccer with the Mathieu-Martin team. I found many good friends with whom I share lots of fantastic memories!" - Anniemieke Mock, Grade 9

Celebrating a Canadian Halloween

Norbert from Slovakia

Norbert Depta is a Grade 11 student at [École L'Odyssée in Moncton](#). The young man from Slovakia had a lot of fun getting ready for Halloween this year with his two young host brothers, Nicholas and Jonathan. He says they celebrate the holiday in his country, but not exactly in the same way.

"Our tradition is to decorate pumpkins a few days before, and then on November 1st, we go to the cemetery to pay our respects to those that have departed. What is really different here, is that kids get dressed up and go out trick-or-treating," he explains.

Norbert is also one of two students from Slovakia to participate in our program for the first time this year.



Norbert (on the right) with his host brothers, Nicolas and Jonathan (centre).

This was also the first time he got dressed up in a costume to go to school. "And, in the evening, I went door to door with my friends for about an hour. I came back home, very happy and with my backpack full of candy! I really enjoyed the experience," he adds. ★



Swimming Competitions

New Challenge for Charlotte from Germany



Charlotte in action at her first swimming competition, and with Vittoria (on the right).

Charlotte Sommer, a Grade 10 student at [École Marie-Esther in Shippagan](#) on the Acadian Peninsula, has joined the Swim Club at the regional pool in her community.

She will also represent her school at the provincial level at a competition in Moncton at the end of November.

Charlotte, who loves sports, is a member of a swim club in her home country. "In Germany, I swam mainly to stay fit; so, adding the competitive aspect is a new experience for me. It's been really positive so far, and I'm getting good results," she explains. In addition to swimming seven hours a week, she's also a member of her school's badminton club.

At her first competition at the regional swimming pool in Shippagan on October 21st, her friend, Vittoria from Italy, who lives in the neighbouring community of Caraquet came to cheer her on. ★

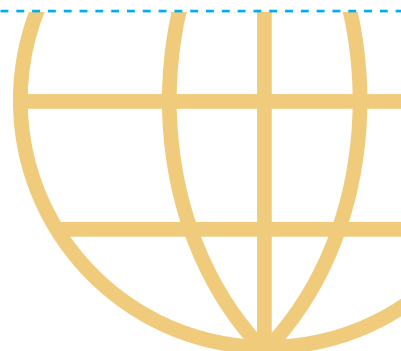
Vittoria Plays Violin at our AGM

Vittoria Vignaroli, from Italy, is a Grade 12 student at the [Polyvalente Louis-Mailloux in Caraquet](#). We invited her to entertain the audience at our Annual General Meeting at the beginning of November. She also shared some thoughts about her experience in Canada.

"I really enjoy living in French in New Brunswick. I feel at home here with the people in the community, because they're very friendly and welcoming. I chose this program because I felt it would allow me, not only to improve my French language skills, but to also acquire personal experience." ★



Vittoria was invited to perform during the meal at our Annual General Meeting in early November.



PLACE AUX COMPÉTENCES

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