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November 13, 2008

Dear Parents of Preschool and Kindergarten Children,

**PLEASE READ BOTH SIDES CAREFULLY BEFORE  
FILLING OUT YOUR 2009-2010 REGISTRATION FORMS**

PARENTS OF PRESCHOOLERS:

Thank you for your interest in our school. We would like to take this opportunity to introduce you to our Preschool classes.

**2AM:** This is a Tuesday and Thursday morning class from 9:00 - 11:25 a.m and is offered to children between the ages of 3 years and 3 years and 4 months of age by September 1 of the year in which they are registering. This may be your child's first preschool experience and it is an exciting and special time for your little ones. Please note that your child must be toilet trained to attend this class.

**3AM:** This class is offered Monday, Wednesday, and Friday mornings from 9:00 - 11:25 a.m. and welcomes children who are between the ages of 3 years and 5 months and 3 years and 9 months of age by September 1 of the year in which they are registering. These children are a little older than the children in 2AM and programming differences exist between the classes. Please note that your child must be toilet trained to attend this class.

**5AM and 5PM:** These half day classes, either five mornings from 9:00 – 11:25 a.m. or five afternoons from 1:00 – 3:25 p.m., welcome children who are 3 years 10 months and older on September 1 of the year in which they are registering. It is a formative year prior to starting Kindergarten at the age of 5. Families with children already enrolled in CFIS are given priority when registering for 5AM. Due to the overwhelming demand for the morning class, not all requests can be granted.

When registering your child in preschool, please indicate the class you are interested in based on the age specifications mentioned above. The classes are not identical and are tailored to meet developmental milestones.

Should you require some assistance in choosing the right class for your child, please contact our Admissions Officer, Katharine Ray, at 403- 240-1500 ext. 329.

## PARENTS OF KINDERGARTEN STUDENTS:

We now offer **Three Full-Day Kindergarten classes** from 9:00 a.m. to 3:25 p.m.

Our School is concerned about automatically accepting students without evaluating their readiness to come into our full-day French Immersion Kindergarten programme. In the past, our Kindergarten teachers have recognized that there is often a noticeable gap in maturity between the students depending upon their overall readiness, regardless of age, when they arrive for Kindergarten.

For this reason, prior to accepting your child into our programme, all children on an individual basis, will be assessed as we appreciate that readiness for formal schooling is not only age related. It is necessary to consider whether your child would benefit from spending a year in our five half-day Preschool programme to allow them the opportunity to learn through a play-based programme rather than through our more structured activities in our Kindergarten programme.

We appreciate that every child is unique and matures at their own rate. Many years of experience corroborate our view that readiness is an important factor in ensuring your child's happiness, positive self-esteem, and academic success throughout their years in school, especially given the challenge of learning a second language. Assessing your child's readiness is a crucial first step in starting your child's education on the right path. As a professional team, we wish to make the best decision for each child. Because we value the happiness and success of each of our students as they attend our School, the Board of Directors of the Calgary French & international School has developed the following policy:

Should it be decided, in our view, that we are not acting in the best interest of the child by promoting the student from Preschool to Kindergarten, given the intensity of our programme, the options for the parents are as follows:

- a) To abide by our recommendation to have their child remain in Preschool
- b) To find an alternative school

The Board of Directors has rendered their support behind the Principal in executing this decision where applicable.