



Hola!



SEPTEMBER 16, 2009 — Smithville Christian welcomes students from Colegia San Bartolome de Merced in Bogota, Colombia.

For the month of October, 20 Spanish-speaking Grade 9 students from Colegia San Bartolome de Merced will be enrolled at Smithville Christian High School, practicing their English-speaking skills and learning about life in Canada. They will be living with families from the school and participating in the school's daily activities, including devotions, assemblies, spirit days and school clubs. They will also be going on a number of excursions to local attractions, such as Niagara Falls and a pumpkin farm.

The students are coming to Canada through Red Leaf Student Programs, a Toronto-based agency that specializes in offering safe, friendly Canadian educational experiences to international students. Each student from Colegia San Bartolome de Merced will be paired with a buddy at Smithville Christian to make sure the integration goes well.

Red Leaf co-ordinator Joanna Kocsis says the students and teachers of San Bartolome love coming to the Niagara Region, and she is excited to be placing them in such a well-run and friendly school, with such good facilities.

The students, staff and families of Smithville Christian High School look forward to extending warm hospitality to their guests. Hola!



Red Leaf co-ordinator Joanna Kocsis points to a map of Colombia in the Smithville Christian High School office.