

### Dear colleagues,

Statistics play an important role in the lives of teachers these days, given the constant emphasis on improving pupils' performance and mapping their progression. Whilst the conclusions that can be drawn from sets of statistics are not always crystal-clear, there was no doubting the message that accompanied WJEC's figures for MFL examination entries this year: MFL in Wales is in crisis. From 2010 to 2011, MFL GCSE entries dropped by 10%, AS entries by 10% and A Level entries by 6%.

With alarm bells ringing, CILT Cymru therefore decided to take stall to the Senedd in order to discuss the issues surrounding MFL's decline with our elected representatives. We were accompanied by staff from partner organisations that share our concerns – The European Commission Office in Wales, British Council Wales, Swansea and Cardiff Universities. We spoke to AMs from all the main political parties, and were pleased to be able to meet Education and Skills Minister Mr Leighton Andrews in person. We presented the Minister with a five-point plan, which if implemented could transform the fortunes of MFL in Wales. Here are the five points in brief:

1. **Schools should be set an appropriate target for MFL take-up at KS4.** This target could vary according to the school's circumstances and might be linked to the new school 'banding' system. On average, we think a target of 40% take-up would be appropriate for Wales in the first instance.
2. **Assessment of the 20-hour language module** within the Welsh Baccalaureate Qualification should be made more rigorous, and new accredited language modules being

developed by WJEC in partnership with CILT Cymru should be promoted vigorously. Schools and colleges should be required to allocate teaching resources to the language module.

3. The Welsh Government should lend its support to a drive to increase participation in the **Leonardo and Erasmus** schemes within FE colleges and HEIs. All institutions should be required to ensure that their students are linguistically prepared for their experience abroad. Targets should be set for increasing the number of outgoing students across the sectors.
4. The next review of the National Curriculum in Wales should include consideration of **the phased introduction of MFL at Key Stage 2**, taking into account the evidence gathered by evaluators ARAD during its six-year pilot project.
5. Efforts to develop **entrepreneurship** in young people should take into account the international dimension of business, and the enhanced employability of school-leavers possessing 'Triple Literacy' skills (English, Welsh and MFL).

With the fortunes of MFL in England apparently on an upward curve as a result of the English Baccalaureate, we urge our policy-makers in Wales to take the appropriate steps to save our subject. As a nation Wales will be the poorer if this decline continues unchecked.



**Ceri James**  
Director, CILT Cymru



*"YOU'RE hired... because of your language skills!"*  
Blackwood pupils' sketch at the BLC Awards 2011  
(read more on p.4)

## Contents

### PAGE 2

- European Day of Languages and Culture
- Erasmus Foreign Language Assistants
- Mandarin in Ysgol Gyfun Cwm Rhywni

### PAGE 3

- Diversity in the Language Offer!
- Welsh Baccalaureate – Language Modules
- CollegesWales is officially international

### PAGE 4 BLC

- Minister sees top businesses awarded for great work with schools

### PAGE 5 Primary

- Bon voyage, buon viaggio, ibuen iviaje!
- ¡Muy bien!
- China Week
- "Como ser una Pirata"

### PAGE 6

- Developing Literacy across Languages
- CILT Cymru INSET and Events Calendar

**Pullout –  
Routes into Languages  
Cymru Newsletter**

## European Day of Languages and Culture

On the 23rd September Barry Comprehensive School Year 7 pupils celebrated the European Day of Languages with a range of activities celebrating the diversity of language and culture across Europe and the world.

Taster lessons were given in a wide range of languages; Danish, German, Italian, Norwegian, Slovakian, Spanish and Japanese (we then renamed the day International Day of languages!). The lessons were delivered by the Languages Department along with expert help from colleagues from other departments, visiting retired colleagues and our Sixth Form exchange students, making this a truly International event.



*African masks in the classroom*

The Art Department focussed on Africa, with pupils making colourful masks representing different countries whilst the Music Department explored European themes in music.

Pupils also had the opportunity of preparing, cooking (and eating) a selection of tasty International dishes including Indian onion bhajees, Spanish tortillas and Italian bruschetta and meatballs.



*These Indian onion bhajees taste as good as they look!*

European themed quizzes were organised in other lessons and the Learning Resource Centre throughout the day.

The day was a great success and Ms Evans and the Languages Faculty were grateful to everyone for their help.

## Mandarin at Ysgol Gyfun Cwm Rhymni

By attending the Schools Wales-China Forum organised by the Confucius Institute, Cardiff in March 2011, teachers from Ysgol Gyfun Cwm Rhymni were inspired by all the great opportunities that were available to promote Mandarin and Chinese culture in their school.

Chinese teachers from the Confucius Institute came to conduct a Baccalaureate Week with Year 12 pupils. The excitement as a result of all the activities was amazing, from learning the language, painting letters and cooking, to Tai Chi. A number of pupils showed an interest in continuing to study the language in the future.

Through sponsorship from the British Council, the school applied to have a Mandarin Language Assistant to come from China for ten months. Everyone at the school was delighted to hear the good news that an experienced Guangdong teacher would be joining the staff in September. To welcome her, all KS3 pupils worked on a China project during the summer and created a display in the main school foyer.

Xiafei Su is an English teacher with 17 years' experience. She teaches in a huge school in Foshan, Guangdong which houses 3000 pupils and has 60 pupils in each class. It is an honour for her to leave her country and her family to improve her career by working in a British school. She has been a teacher now at Ysgol Gyfun Cwm Rhymni since September, and teaches Mandarin to small groups of Year 9 pupils who come out of their Modern Languages lessons (instead of going to see the French Assistante). The pupils love it. She will also teach the language to Year 13



pupils who want to continue to study Mandarin, and to some pupils in Years 12 and 13 who want to start learning. In terms of Culture, Xiafei has already been teaching across the curriculum in a number of subjects – Chinese music, Buddhism in Religious Education, the Economy of China (Economics), Communism (History), presenting information (Welsh), and other departments will be using her during the year.

Xiafei runs a Lunchtime Club where she teaches Mandarin and arts and crafts and gives Mandarin lessons to the teachers. Ysgol Gyfun Cwm Rhymni has also offered her services to primary schools. Currently, she teaches at Ysgol y Castell, Caerphilly and at Ysgol Penalltau. In 2012, she will visit all the other primary schools that feed into the secondary school.

The school is delighted to be able to offer this wonderful experience to her pupils, considering the growing importance of Mandarin in the World economy. It is a privilege to work with Xiafei Su.

## Diversity in the Language Offer!

As many schools are aware the need to take action and diversify the language offer has never been more pressing. In the spirit of the 14-19 Learning Pathways, schools or consortia need to ensure that they are fulfilling this requirement within the MFL curriculum. The GCSE is particularly useful for students wanting to focus on languages with the aim of continuing to A-level and university language study. What about the student who wants to work in engineering, in business, in sales, in law and cannot see a connection to language learning and their future career? What about the student who claims they are not good at remembering vocabulary or who does not like the exam format?

A Health Check will be sent out to all 14-19 Networks throughout Wales asking them to review their MFL provision in KS4. Are all students able to choose between a GCSE course and a vocational language course across local consortia?

In England the introduction of the English Baccalaureate dictates that GCSE languages be part of the core curriculum. This has already had a dramatic impact on take-up across the border. In Wales the aim is to provide choice in terms of course provision coupled with a drive to create demand from employers for the need to have employees who have foreign language skills to at least level 2 competence.



## Welsh Baccalaureate – Language Modules

In partnership with the WJEC, CILT Cymru is developing QCF language units which will be available as part of the Welsh Baccalaureate (WBQ) Language Module from September 2012. At the beginning of term a survey was carried out amongst all WBQ centres asking for detailed information about the language provision. The language module is a great opportunity for students in KS4 to experience the benefits of engaging with a foreign language.

The new units will offer students the opportunity to have an enjoyable language learning experience including cultural experiences which will enable them to gain qualifications in a Foreign Language. The units will be small 10 hour modules covering five themes: Personal Information, Social Activities, Organising and Planning, Giving and Receiving Information and Instructions and Education and Employment. Initially the units will be available for Entry Level and Level 1 and 2 in French, Spanish, German, Italian, Mandarin and Japanese. The introduction of these language qualifications will enable MFL specialists to be involved in the Language Module of the WBQ and work with other language partners such as the Confucius Institute.

The units will be internally assessed via candidate evidence and CPD for language assessors will be delivered in the summer term.

## CollegesWales is officially international

Ambitious and adaptable college students and apprentices who want to enhance their vocational skills in workplaces abroad have more opportunities than ever now that the organisation that represents further education colleges in Wales, ColegauCymru, has launched **CollegesWales International**.



Spain and Italy are the first European countries to experience **CollegesWales International** in action. It is organising two or three-week work placements with employers in Europe for apprentices from Wales. It also works with employers in Wales to place students from Europe in workplaces here.

This work-based learning exchange scheme is ambitious and challenging for learners. The apprentices' tutors settle them in to the host country and then leave the apprentices to take on the responsibility of doing a job of work in a company in Europe. They will have to adapt to a new culture, get along with new colleagues and communicate in an unfamiliar language for the duration of their stay.

International Coordinator at ColegauCymru / CollegesWales, Siân Holleran, said: "ColegauCymru is working hard to provide opportunities for learners in Wales to broaden their horizons and find their place in the global economy. There has never been a better time for ambitious school pupils and college students who have set their sights on a vocational career path to add a modern foreign language to their suite of vocational skills.

"Internationally portable vocational careers can be found in beauty therapy, business administration, catering, construction, education, engineering, and more. High level technical and soft skills plus experience of other cultures and a grasp of another language make for an unbeatable combination."

Siân Holleran, International Coordinator, CollegesWales  
sian.holleran@colegaucymru.ac.uk



### Erasmus Foreign Language Assistants

Since October fifteen Erasmus students from France, Germany, Italy and Spain are working as FLAs in north Wales, having opted to take the FLA Module as part of their course at Bangor University. Some are based at the School of Modern Languages in Bangor itself, but most are have placements in secondary schools across the region. Before beginning their placements students were given training by CILT Cymru, and an introductory meeting for the students and the teachers from the schools involved was held at Bangor at the beginning of October. This is an excellent opportunity for the Erasmus students, who respond enthusiastically and positively to their placements. More particularly it is an excellent way of helping pupils develop their speaking and listening skills and hear at first hand about the culture of the country whose language they are learning. If you would like to know more about this programme please email [s.b.beidas@bangor.ac.uk](mailto:s.b.beidas@bangor.ac.uk).

# Minister sees top businesses awarded for great work with schools



Leading Welsh businesses gathered at the historic Pierhead Building in Cardiff Bay on Wednesday 19th October 2011 to celebrate the outstanding work going on across the country to show young people the true value of languages at work.

**Deputy Minister for Skills Jeff Cuthbert** watched as 10 successful businesses scooped awards for the work they have been doing with school children to highlight the links between learning foreign languages and being successful in business. The initiatives are all part of the Business Language Champions (BLC) programme, which aims to address the decline in language take up and beyond by showing young people how useful languages can be in a whole range of careers.



*Jeff Cuthbert Deputy Minister for Skills celebrates with pupils from Blackwood Comprehensive School and their winning Business Language Champion, Eriez Magnetics Europe.*

**The BLC Scheme** aims to support the development of vocationally-related language learning (i.e NVQ) offering an alternative learning pathway for language learners. Students studying **Business Languages at NVQ** will undertake at least one visit to a local business which uses languages and has international links.

Businesses explained that because of a shortage of people who can combine language skills with other practical skills in our country, many employers are relying more and more on recruiting from overseas.

If Wales and the UK want to be able to compete in a global market, we need more people on our shores who are able to speak other languages.

Our BLCs all understand the challenges facing language learning in schools and highly value their engagement with language learning. They are forward thinking and realise that in encouraging young people to continue with their language studies, there are potentially clear benefits for their own business.

**Eriez** Magnetics Europe Ltd walked away with the prize for **innovation** thanks to their work with Blackwood Comprehensive School. Head Teacher Ravi Pawar is delighted with the partnership which will see a group of language students actually being offered a future apprenticeship with the company. Sales Director John Curwen said: "Over 75% of our orders so far this year are from overseas. The aggressive growth that we demand of our business would not be achievable if we did not have employees with a range of language skills. Simple as that."

The award for **outstanding commitment** was scooped by **Cassidian**, part of the massive EADS Defense group, based in Newport, for their work with several local schools and hundreds of pupils. Guest speaker Helen Cherré from the company said

"Obviously languages are key to business and they're key to Wales for the future. Only this morning I hired someone who speaks German... If all else is equal on a CV, it's the language that makes the difference". **Scott Evans** from Cassidian was also presented with the **ambassador award** for his personal commitment to talk, tours and role-model status with aspiring linguists.

From world security to tourism: **Catrin Elis** and Remé Muños from Cardiff Airport received the **ambassador award**. Danielle Parry, MFL teacher at Bryn Hafren Comprehensive stressed that the partnership has had a huge impact on students' motivation for learning with their GCSE classes increasing from 6 to 8 because pupils now see relevance of their language studies. **Siân Enticott** from Crespo olive company in Seville held Skype sessions from Spain with Ysgol Maes Garmon and has brought language learning to life.

Amongst the highly commended for their outstanding commitment was Eversheds international law firm, Schools into Europe and the National Waterfront Museum whilst Big Pit National Coal Museum and TaTa Steel were recognised for their innovative work with local schools.

To close the day, Siân Holleran and Ellie Jones spoke about the many and varied opportunities for students to spend time abroad (see page 3).

The Business Language Champions programme so far has been instrumental in raising awareness of how important languages are for employability. A BLC could be on your very own doorstep. To join the BLC programme, simply contact us.

For more information about the BLC read the CILT Cymru website or contact: [carolyn.goodwin@ciltcymru.org.uk](mailto:carolyn.goodwin@ciltcymru.org.uk) or [bethan.enticott@ciltcymru.org.uk](mailto:bethan.enticott@ciltcymru.org.uk)

# PRIMARY LANGUAGES

Supporting primary-secondary transition in MFL



## Bon voyage, buon viaggio, ibuen iviaje!

In just a few weeks, 24 lucky primary teachers will be jetting off to Murcia in Spain, Nantes in France and Tuscany in Italy for an admittedly daunting yet amazing week abroad, job-shadowing an equivalent primary teacher and being totally immersed in the language and culture of the country. Fear not though, they will have received an intensive week of language training with us and will be raring to go! Check our website after Easter to read their experiences post-visit and how the experience is subsequently helping them develop language learning with their classes. Expressions of interest are now being sought for the next 2-week Primary Teacher's Project 2013. If you would like to be on our provisional list for 2013, email one of our primary advisers, indicating your country of preference.

Townhill primary school Swansea took part in the PTP 2011 where the introduction of Spanish has been a huge success. . .

### Here's what Rachel Adams has to say:

"¡Muy bien! The children at Townhill Community School have embraced the Spanish language. For the last three years Miss Adams (Year Two) has been providing after-school clubs for children from Year One to Six. Rachel Adams says "When they began the children hadn't had any experience of the language before. However, many of the children had been to Spain for a family holiday and so they already knew lots about the Spanish culture. Now, as I walk through the school corridors, it is a joy to

hear a child greet me with '¡hola!' and we often stop to have a little conversation! The PTP 2011 made me a much more confident teacher of Spanish; it provided so many opportunities for me to speak the language and immerse myself in the culture. Living with a Spanish family made the job-shadow so much more than just that. Teaching in a Spanish school was the most amazing experience that I will remember forever. I came back into my own school with both renewed enthusiasm and a link which is still flourishing"

## Chinese Week

A Chinese Week was held with pupils in Year 2 and 5 under the care of two teachers from the University. They learned how to count in Mandarin, write their names, create masks, greet each other as well as learning how to move in the style of Tai Chi. Following these workshops at the school, Year 6 pupils attended workshops at Cardiff University to learn more about the history, language and culture of China. As a school, we hope that we can develop the relationship further with this country by twinning with a school there in order to further enrich the experiences of pupils in Pencae School.



Pupils in KS1 and KS2 learn calligraphy

## "Como ser una Pirata"

Crazy Spanish pirates in costumes, a hunt for treasure, Spanish puppets, storms at sea and a lot of laughter. . . what a treat for the pupils from schools in Wrexham and Llangollen. Theatrical group 'Vagabondi' (based in Powys) used the power of puppets, play, poetry and theatre to inspire and enhance the learning experience. Pupils needed no prior knowledge to understand, enjoy and get involved in the performance. Adding simple vocabulary, using lots of audience participation and repetition meant that the fun was accessible by all. Adios amigos!



Vagabondi photo of puppets

For any advice about primary languages or triple literacy in KS2, contact one of our Language Teaching Advisers: carolyn.goodwin@ciltcymru.org.uk or nia.jones@ciltcymru.org.uk

## Developing Literacy across Languages

“As a bilingual nation, we start from a positive position because we provide education through the medium of English and Welsh. Both languages are embedded in our education and training system. Our young people therefore have a head start by developing language and literacy skills that they can readily apply to other European and world languages. Conversely, the study of a foreign language can support learners’ literacy in English and Welsh.”

*Making Languages Count: Modern foreign languages in secondary schools and Learning Pathways 14–19* (Welsh Assembly Government, 2010)

With the current focus on Literacy by the Education Minister, Leighton Andrews, and its core role in the new ESTYN Inspection Framework, the Welsh Government has recently revised the guidance for schools on developing literacy skills across languages.

opportunities to develop language and literacy skills across English, Welsh, Welsh second language and modern foreign languages. It includes practical ideas for teaching and learning through case studies of good practice and provides a common glossary of language terms.

The following extract from the guidance provides a range of questions that schools, language departments and teachers can ask in order to develop triple literacy activities and shared strategies to make links between languages in their own school.

### A checklist for Triple Literacy

Secondary school English, Welsh, Welsh second language and MFL teachers

- How do we build on language learning in Key Stage 2?
- Are we aware of what happens in other language departments?
- How can we meet together to plan?
- How could we benefit from observing one another’s lessons?
- What key literacy issues do we need to tackle?
- How can we focus on these across languages?
- Which activities could we adapt easily in order to make some initial links across language departments?
- Which areas would we most like to develop further?
- What is the best way for us to keep joint planning and approaches under review?
- How can we measure the impact?

### “Supporting Triple Literacy: Language learning in Key Stage 2 and Key Stage 3”

takes into account developments in Wales including the focus on skills development and the ‘Skills framework for 3 to 19-year-olds in Wales’, the revised National Curriculum (2008), the Key Stage 2 primary languages pilot, developments in the Foundation Phase and the renewed focus on literacy through the literacy plan for Wales.

The guidance supports language teachers working together across languages so that they can build on learners’ other language experience and prior learning, and assist in their progress in whatever languages they are studying. It shows how connections can be made to support improved literacy in all languages and highlights a range of

To view and download the new guidance go to <http://wales.gov.uk/docs/dcells/publications/111017literacyen.pdf>

For more information and funding opportunities for developing literacy across languages visit the CILT Cymru website at [www.ciltcymru.org.uk](http://www.ciltcymru.org.uk) and click on the primary or secondary triple literacy pages.



## CILT Cymru INSET & events Calendar

**March 8 2012** - Challenge strategies to improve communication in MFL: (The Learning Core, Development Centre, Deeside College)

Course code: SC209. Cost; £110.00

**March 9th 2012** - Challenge strategies to improve communication in MFL: (CILT Cymru, Cardiff)

Course code: SC210. Cost; £110.00

Keep an eye out for further courses which are being held, by going to the training and events page of our website: <http://www.ciltcymru.org.uk/training-and-events/>

The Routes into Languages Cymru project is now in its third year, and it is pleasing to look back upon what has been achieved in such a short time. You can read about some of our recent successes in the pages of this newsletter. Improved links between schools and universities have brought with them a greater understanding of the challenges facing teachers and lecturers in both sectors. Similarly many school pupils now have a much better appreciation of what it means to be an undergraduate studying MFL at a Welsh university.

When CILT Cymru took a stall to the Senedd at the time of the European Day of Languages, we were boosted by the support of lecturers from our partners at Swansea and Cardiff Universities. The Routes Cymru project is enhanced immensely by such partnership, and allows us to strengthen the message that we deliver to policy makers.

Our Student Language Ambassadors are now delivering an equally strong message to schoolchildren about the benefits of FL skills and mobility schemes when it comes to their future employment prospects. Our newly

launched DVD will allow thousands more young people to broaden their horizons. We are also engaged in dialogue with Welsh Government colleagues about the place of MFL within 14-19 Learning Pathways and the qualifications framework.

Much work remains to be done if we are to restore the fortunes of MFL at all levels in Wales, but we are encouraged by the continued support of the Welsh Government and HEFCW for measures which address the serious challenges ahead. With the educational context in Wales becoming increasingly different from that in England, we know that it is impossible and indeed undesirable to mimic measures such as the English Baccalaureate here. We need 'Made in Wales' solutions to our own problems, and only through partnership will these solutions be found.



**Ceri James**

Director, Routes into Languages Cymru

## Keep in touch

Routes into Languages Cymru have now joined the world of Social Media. To keep up to date with the latest news, follow us on Twitter; @RoutesCymru. You can also like us on Facebook, see snaps from our events on Flickr and watch videos that we create on YouTube.



## Brand new resource to Broaden Horizons

Routes into Languages Cymru have now launched a fantastic DVD resource that aims to highlight the benefits of studying and working abroad. The job to create this DVD was awarded to students from the University of Glamorgan's BA in Media Production course. Over the past 18 months they have been travelling the country, filming interviews with students from Bangor, Aberystwyth and Cardiff universities.

The result is this fantastic DVD resource, *Learn a language, live abroad! Broaden your horizons*. It is aimed at young people and highlights the opportunities

available to study and work abroad with the Erasmus and Leonardo student mobility programmes. The DVD showcases students in Wales who have all recently returned from trips abroad. They share their stories about learning languages, feelings of apprehension and excitement, the challenges they faced and overcame and how they plan to use their experiences abroad to embark on their careers.

This snapshot of experiences abroad will raise awareness of the Erasmus and Leonardo mobility programmes amongst young people in Wales. It will

give them a taste of the exciting opportunities on offer to students in Europe and will reinforce the message that skills in another language can enhance experiences abroad and also employability at home.

A complimentary copy of this DVD will be provided to every secondary school in Wales. It will also be made available to Careers Wales.



Brand new DVD aims to raise awareness of student mobility programmes

## Wales joined the rest of Europe to celebrate languages!

On Saturday, 24th September, hundreds of people attended a special event to celebrate the European Day of Languages at the Wales Millennium Centre in Cardiff Bay.

The audience was treated to performances from Ysgol Pencae, Lansdowne Primary School, Ninian Park Primary School, Cantonian High School and Darling Buds Nursery.

Visitors were able to have backstage tours of the magnificent building in Welsh, French, German, Italian and Arabic. Languages taster sessions were also on offer and many enjoyed the opportunity to learn a little in Mandarin, Arabic and Italian.

Many partner organisations showed their support by bringing exhibition stands to share information about languages in Wales. Meanwhile, young



Pupils from Ninian Park school shared their love for languages

linguists queued to have their faces painted or to have a go at making a puppet in traditional dress.

The end of the event was marked with 'The Big Sing' in which we all sang "Hey Jude" in Welsh, English, French, Spanish and German.

Routes Cymru would like to thank all partners who supported this event and all schools which made a tremendous effort to make sure that Wales celebrated languages with style!

## News from England

### HEFCE announces continuation funding for Routes into Languages in England

The Routes into Languages programme in England has received an additional £1.2 million continuation funding from HEFCE. The programme consists of nine regional consortia of universities throughout England and two national networks for translation and interpreting.

An independent evaluation of Routes found that the programme had been successful in establishing collaboration within the higher education sector and between universities and schools.

The additional funding from HEFCE for the period to end July 2012 will allow the programme to focus on the activities that have proved to be most successful – these include Student Ambassadors, sixth-form events and focused activities such as linking languages with sport and film.

For the full HEFCE press release, go to: <http://www.hefce.ac.uk/news/hefce/2011/lang.htm>

## Student Language Ambassadors

The new Student Language Ambassadors from Bangor University, Swansea University, Aberystwyth University and the University of Glamorgan joined those from Cardiff University to take part in their training session at the beginning of November in Cardiff. This year, these motivated students with a passion for languages are ready to visit any schools in their local areas which request them, in order to promote the take-up of languages. Language awareness talks, and taster sessions will be run by these students. Among them there are students in their second year language degree who will be able to adopt a class during their year abroad, sending videos and contacting the school to keep the school up to date with their experience abroad. There will also be final year students, ready to talk about their experience abroad as part of learning a chosen language. Routes into Languages Cymru want to encourage this year's ambassadors to be as successful as previous generations of SLAs.

## Forthcoming events

**Opening Doors: Languages in Wales and the world**  
Swansea University, Wednesday, 25th January 2012

**Wales, Europe & the World**  
Cardiff City Hall, Friday, 3rd February 2012

## International Day, Porthaethwy

During the first week of December, sixth form students at a school in Menai Bridge (Ynys Môn) held a World Culture Day for younger students. For this event, a set of stalls were set up and informative talks were given about four countries chosen at random from all over the world, namely: China, Denmark, Venezuela and Egypt. Routes into Languages Cymru got in touch with Bangor University students originating from these countries to help out with the organisation and execution of the event. Also, as the national language is an inherent element of the culture of any country, some basic phrases from the languages of each of these nations were taught. This was definitely an event that will be remembered by all the students at the school.