

Dear Colleague,

Summer term is upon us again, with its usual round of examinations for secondary school teachers. You will perhaps have noted that our new CPD programme features quite a few events towards the end of term, when we know that teachers' schedules may be rather less hectic, and we hope that you will be able to join us then. Following the success of last year's event at Llandudno, we return to Swansea on July 4th for Languages Wales 2008 – our annual conference and exhibition.



FLA competition winners with their FLAs receiving their prizes

Education Minister Jane Hutt will deliver the opening address at what promises to be an exciting day. Her speech is sure to refer to the WAG strategy document for MFL 'Languages Count', which is due to be re-launched this year. The fact that we have recently signed a two-year 'Compact' agreement with Swansea LEA should also ensure a strong local presence.

It was a pleasure to attend the launch of a new Confucius Institute recently. The Institute at Cardiff University is the latest addition to this network, which is funded by the Chinese government and aims to promote Mandarin Chinese, Chinese culture and economic interests abroad. The new centre, which joins the existing Confucius Institute at Lampeter,

is sure to provide a boost to those wishing to learn Mandarin Chinese in Wales. To learn more about these opportunities, go to the Cardiff University Lifelong Learning Department website at www.cf.ac.uk/learn/

Coincidentally, 2008 has also been designated the International Year of Languages by the UN, so we hope that all languages will receive some positive publicity during the year, and that more language-related events will take place, as happened during the

European Year of Languages in 2001. Watch this space!

Finally, CILT Cymru will be on the road again this term, taking its stall to the Urdd Eisteddfod in Conwy during half-term week. So please do call in for a chat, to pick up information on courses, or to have a go at our language activities and quizzes.

A bientôt / Bis bald! / Hasta la vista!

Ceri James
Director, CILT Cymru

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Hawarden High School leads the way for Flintshire's Able and Talented Linguists

Hawarden High School is about to complete a highly successful extension programme for the most able and talented linguists in Flintshire. Schools in the county were invited to nominate pupils to take part in extra curricular Japanese and Italian lessons beginning in January 2008. The sessions have been extremely popular and will culminate in a full day workshop and celebration for both groups over the next few weeks.

Due to the expertise and enthusiasm of the languages faculty, Hawarden High School was able to offer a languages element as part of a wider programme to extend the most able and talented pupils in the county. Science and technology programmes run alongside the Italian and Japanese courses with funding support from the Flintshire 14-19 network.

Young people from all over the county arrive at Hawarden High School each week for their languages sessions over a period of nine weeks. Both language and culture are on the curriculum and pupils enjoy the fast pace and challenge of being in a very able and highly motivated group. Weekly classes of 90mins are supplemented by one half day session and a final one day session for all the pupils concerned.

Feedback from pupils, parents and teachers has been overwhelmingly positive. Pupils especially have enjoyed the chance to learn something completely new while working with and getting to know other young linguists from the county. Staff at Hawarden High School are very much looking forward to running a similar programme next year.

Let's hope that this innovative and successful programme continues in Flintshire and that other areas will be inspired to set up similar programmes.



Partnership with Swansea

We are delighted to announce a new LEA Compact partnership with Swansea. We hope that by working closely together, CILT Cymru and Swansea can raise the profile of MFL throughout the authority. CILT Cymru has agreed to

provide advisory support and focused CPD for Swansea schools. The partnership has already led to advisory visits taking place in Pentrehafof and Gowerton Schools. We hope to meet all Heads of MFL this term to discuss teachers' CPD needs and to develop the programme from there. Plans are already in place for a pilot of alternative qualifications in Key Stage 4 and Swansea's primary headteachers are to meet CILT Cymru's primary advisers with a view to introducing some MFL in Key Stage 2.

We hope this partnership will prove to be as fruitful as previous collaborations with Neath Port Talbot and Denbighshire. We will, of course, continue to maintain a close relationship with schools in those areas and continue to offer support and CPD as and when requested.

As our advisory team has now expanded, with Ciara Brennan now a full-time member of the CILT Cymru team, we hope shortly to be able to announce a similar partnership with Flintshire LEA.

For further information and support contact either Kristina or Ciara in the usual way.

FLA Competition Hits New Heights

We are delighted to announce the winners in this year's "Get to Know Your FLA" competition, run in conjunction with British Council Wales.

It was nice to see French, German and Spanish represented and entries from Key Stages 3 & 4 and AS/A Level students. As ever, the standard of entries was extremely high and the judges faced some difficult decisions.

The winners are:

Key Stage 3

• **1st prize:** Amman Valley School's Deutschklub for their all-singing PowerPoint. • **2nd prize:** Glyn Derw High School's year 7 for their interactive cartoon website. • **3rd prize:** Barry Comprehensive School's year 8 French group for their PowerPoint which was packed with information.

Key Stage 4

• **1st prize:** Bishop Vaughan Catholic Comprehensive School's year 10, who created a pack of resources to use with key stage 3 pupils. The pack included a DVD, a PowerPoint presentation, an information poster, a wanted wall and various quizzes and activities. • **2nd prize:** Ysgol Gyfun Dyffryn Taf's year 10, who produced not only a DVD, but also an album of memories and information. • **Joint 3rd prize:** St Julian's Comprehensive, who produced a PowerPoint presentation in the form of an interactive quiz, making the judges work! • **Joint 3rd prize:** Amman Valley School's year 11 pupils who produced a stunning DVD with a Mission Impossible-style investigation into their assistant.

AS/A Level

• **1st prize:** David Hendy from Crosskeys College produced a radio show and PowerPoint presentation about drugs. • **2nd prize:** Jack Westerland from Barry Comprehensive, who sent us a PowerPoint packed with information about his assistant's musical tastes and views and a recording of his interview. • **3rd prize:** Hannah Crowney of Bishop Vaughan Catholic Comprehensive who sent us a transcript and recording of her interview about the environment were awarded at a ceremony in the Liberty Stadium, Swansea on 17th March. Meanwhile we would like to extend our heartiest congratulations to the winners and thanks to all who entered.

DVD-ROM to show best practice from Compact schools

Work is currently underway on the production of a DVD-Rom to disseminate some of the successful practice from the CILT Cymru Compact project, aimed at raising take-up at Key Stage 4 in MFL.

We hope that the DVD-Rom will be useful as a training resource for schools, with inspirational video clips of some of the fantastic work that's been going on in Compact schools across the country. Filming took place in the run-up to Christmas and we are currently collating the information, tips and lesson ideas that will be included as PDF files in the resource.

We will be launching the DVD-Rom at our annual conference in the Swansea Marriott Hotel on 4th July. A free copy of the resource will be sent to all maintained secondary schools in Wales, so keep an eye on your pigeon holes before the end of the summer term!

La Consejería de Educación en Gales

Como viene haciendo desde el curso 2003/04, la Consejería de Educación sigue apoyando al profesorado de Español del País de Gales a través de cursos de formación, materiales didácticos y atención personal por medio de correo electrónico.

El **14 de Abril** tendrá lugar un **Spanish Improvement Day** en los locales de Cilt Cymru en Cardiff. Este curso, dirigido al profesorado que necesita poner al día su español al tiempo que comparte ideas y experiencias con otros profesores, será impartido por las asesoras técnicas de la Consejería Laura Romero e Inmaculada Naranjo.

Durante la primera parte de la mañana se practicará la descripción física, la descripción de la identidad y la biografía, con actividades tales como: The coach's dog, Una estrella internacional confusa o Pasa ese baaalón, utilizando entre otros recursos, un dictado pictórico, un dictado al trote y un rol play con comentarista de fútbol.

Durante la segunda parte habrá juegos, rimas y canciones para la clase de español, y finalmente, después de la comida se hará una explotación de un extracto de la película "El Espíritu de la colmena" con práctica del vocabulario de las partes del cuerpo y el subjuntivo.

El **14 de Julio** tendrá lugar la última actividad de formación de este curso académico. **Este Spanish Day** está dirigido al profesorado de **A Level**, y versará sobre un tema de interés para este nivel: España y sus Comunidades Autónomas. Sin embargo,

son bienvenidos todos aquellos profesores con un buen nivel de la lengua que quieran aprender más sobre España – geografía, historia, división política y administrativa, etc. – en un día de inmersión lingüística total.

Cardiff Pupils in the European Parliament

Year 9 pupils in Cathays High School, along with pupils from Fitzalan, Willows and Cardiff High Schools, have taken part in a European project called Inclusion & Diversity in Education (INDIE). This involved working with students from 9 other European Countries (Spain, Italy, Germany, Belgium, Netherlands, Portugal, Greece, England and Scotland) to draft a charter on culturally inclusive schools. One pupil from each school then travelled to the European Parliament in Brussels to present that charter to ministers.

Shazia Marquis, who also speaks English, Gujarati and French, addressed the parliament in Welsh. She became the first person ever to address the parliament in Welsh and have her contribution translated by an interpreter.

Congratulations to all those involved in this inspiring project. Who knows, maybe in years to come, we'll be seeing some of these pupils attending the European Parliament as elected representatives.

Reaching wider

One of the great barriers to participation in Higher Education is that many people of all ages still have the notion that degrees "are not for the likes of us" and modern languages are in a similar position to all other subjects in this respect. If the Welsh Assembly Government is to meet its targets for a better educated workforce, this one item must be addressed urgently and not necessarily on a subject-specific basis.

Following a speech by the then Education and Lifelong Learning Minister, Jane Davidson, in March 2002, HEFCW set up the Reaching Wider initiative with the specific task of breaking down these barriers and altering people's preconceptions by encouraging social inclusion and economic up-skilling.

Reaching Wider tries to set people free from the old low aspiration, low achievement syndrome by creating new opportunities to study and establishing new learning pathways to higher education. Its main audiences are people of all ages who are currently under-represented in higher education and four groups in particular have been identified as needing more specific support.

- People living in 'Communities First' areas
- People who wish to study through the medium of Welsh.
- People from ethnic minority communities
- Disabled people.

Targets have already been set for the 'Communities First' areas and for those wishing to study through the medium of Welsh,

whilst targets are still in preparation for the others. Once all the targets have been set, activities are co-ordinated through four Reaching Wider Partnerships in North Wales, West and Mid Wales, South West Wales and South East Wales. Activities include student mentoring, summer universities and tastes of university life workshops.

All higher and further education institutions in Wales are members of Reaching Wider partnerships. Other regional partners include local authorities, schools, the voluntary sector, the Open University in Wales and Careers Wales.

To find out what is going on at your regional Reaching Wider Partnership, contact:

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PRIMARY LANGUAGES

Primary Update – keeping up the momentum!

Following 5 years of pilot activity funded by the Welsh Assembly Government, 2008-09 sees an important development in terms of provision of primary MFL in Wales. Separate funding (some £250k/annum) for the 21 clusters of schools involved with the pilot will cease in 2009, but a larger three-year pot of funding is available (2008-2011) to all schools in Wales via the Better Schools Fund. It has been up to individual LEAs to submit a spending plan for this funding, and the good news is that 18 out of the 22 LEAs in Wales have already submitted plans to the Welsh Assembly Government outlining how they intend to 'get started' with primary languages. Excellent news!

LEAs will obviously look to the 136 schools involved in the WAG pilot (managed by CILT Cymru) to act as beacon schools within their authorities, and CILT Cymru Primary Language Advisers will also have an important role to play in helping their LEA colleagues to deliver CPD and online support.

Having recently joined 800 delegates at the Primary Languages Show in Manchester, there is no denying the momentum that has built up behind the drive to bring MFL into all primary schools in England by 2011. A thousand primary trainees a year are now feeding through the system in England, with each spending a month teaching abroad – usually in France, Germany or Spain – as an integral part of their PGCE course.

WAG has promised to consider the position of primary MFL at the next curriculum review – but that is some years away. In that context, it is essential for us here in Wales to maintain momentum and not to lag too far behind our neighbours in Scotland and England. Being a bi-lingual (indeed plurilingual) nation should be an advantage for Wales but it is one which we need to build upon if we are to remain competitive, both in economic and educational terms, within the UK and the EU.

Looking for a training course?

CILT Cymru are running a 1-day course focusing on how to get started, methodology, skills, good practice and practical ideas and resources for MFL teaching at KS2. This highly practical day is aimed at primary, secondary and peripatetic teachers, showing how the teaching of a Modern Foreign Language can enhance the primary school curriculum and have a positive impact on transition between KS2>KS3. It is currently running in Cardiff (June 3rd) and Llandudno (June 5th) but regional repeats could be arranged on an LEA basis depending on numbers. Contact the KS2 team to book a place (£100 / student fee £30).

Language learning for all? Estyn thinks so!



Congratulations to Mrs. Felstead, Head of Meadowbank Special School Cardiff, who survived a recent Inspection and came out with flying colours, gaining a Grade I – good with outstanding features. We are delighted that special reference was made to the benefits enjoyed by pupils from their foreign language lessons, provided by Whitchurch Comp. Inspectors commented: "Pupils in years 5 and 6 enjoy their French lessons very much and show pride in their achievements. They make outstanding progress in their 'reading' of the French alphabet and common words, using good French pronunciation. They delight in using French greetings to their teachers and respond to questions in French during lessons". So if anyone tells you that children with special education needs don't benefit from language learning... Estyn clearly thinks they do!

KS2 Pilot School Conferences – June 2008

Pilot schools – please remember to book a member of staff at either the South Wales Conference (June 19th) or North Wales Conference (Portmeirion June 26th). Attendance is already paid for from your Project grant. Nigel Pearson is the guest speaker this year. We very much look forward to a fabulous day. Make the most of these training days whilst they are still free!

New Primary Ezine

The new CILT Primary ezine which has now replaced the old NACELL Bulletin can be delivered directly to your inbox, is published three times a year and contains the latest news in the sector, links to good practice examples, information and advice. To subscribe for free, register your details on the CILT website:
<http://www.cilt.org.uk/>



KEY STAGE 2

Modern Foreign Languages Project Phase 2: 2006-09

Supporting primary-secondary transition in MFL

Focus on the Primary Languages Show 2008

The 12th annual CILT **Primary Languages Show**, February 29th and March 1st in Manchester, once again offered a full and varied programme supporting languages in the primary school. The event included an extensive exhibition with information on the latest resources for young learners, their parents and teachers, including materials from cultural organisations. Here, we showcase some of the best new resources and ideas from this important National event.



Ça bouge!

This new resource brings together two major educational initiatives: helping pupils to listen and respond to a foreign language and keeping them fit for learning. It is well known that daily physical activity stimulates the child's ability and

willingness to learn by oxygenating the brain. Recent research shows that learning a foreign language at an early age also stimulates the brain. Activities that combine linguistic and kinaesthetic responses energise connections between the left and right halves of the brain. Fun and enjoyment also improve children's learning by reducing anxiety and encouraging risk-taking. Take 10 – Fit to Succeed is a PE resource/DVD pack published by Devon Education Services, containing a collection of great ideas to get primary children active for daily 10-minute periods. Take 10 en français builds on this, with activities, rhymes and songs in French. It is very easy for teachers to use and contains sections on coordination and manipulation challenges, running and chasing games and activities for small spaces. Lyrics, instructions, classroom and cultural tips are all included. Containing a book, DVD and 2 CDs, the pack is very easy to follow and great fun for children to learn a little language whilst also getting fit. Contact: Publications, Devon Education Services, GMH, PO Box 266, Exeter EX2 7XZ. e-mail: des.pubs@devon.gov.uk Tel : 01392 384839.

Playground games

The World Playground Activity Kit and the Latin Playground Activity Kit feature fun and educational multicultural activities for children and families, fostering multicultural awareness through music. All Kits feature a full-length CD, Sing-a-long lyrics and translations, more than 50 hands-on activities, reproducible pages, "cut, colour and paste" artwork and a Children's Passport Journal. Recommended Ages: 4-12 years.

http://www.putumayo.com/en/putumayo_kids_multi.php

Une visite Sénégalaise!

Pupils from primary schools in the Cwm Rhymni Cluster were busy preparing a show recently, to welcome a special visitor from Sénégal. On the day, the pupils started with a song of welcome



– "Bienvenue au Pays de Galles", followed by performances in French by the children from Years 3-6. The visitor was Dr Alhousseynou Sall, born in Sénégal, having also lived in France, currently living in Canada and visiting

Bienvenue à Sall!

friends in Wales! The children had a chance to practise their French as well as get a taste of other languages – as Sall is fluent in 5 languages: including Wolof (his first language), French, Arabic and Pular (another language spoken in some regions of Sénégal). Did you know that the official languages of Sénégal are French and Arabic? There was also a chance to learn a little about the culture, religion and every day life in Sénégal – not forgetting fashion and music, as Sall came dressed in his traditional dress and gave the children a chance to listen to and have a go at playing the African drums.

Learn French through dance

Why not try using traditional dances and songs to teach basic French? As well as being a fun and pleasurable way to learn, the benefits of combining physical activity with learning are well documented and the communal nature of these traditional dances can also have a positive effect on self-confidence as well as develop team-building skills. The idea has been developed by Yannick Minvielle-Debat and Robin Shepherd, both experienced dance teachers and musicians, in the form of a new DVD and CD, French Dance in the Primary Classroom (although the songs used in the dances can easily be found online). The DVD is for classroom use and will help teachers and children learn five simple, traditional French dances, which bring the language and intercultural dimension to life. Includes:

- Farandole • Jean Petit qui Danse • Polka des Bébés • Cercle Circassien • Galop Nantais

Once the dances have been learned in easy stages using the DVD, the accompanying audio CD can be used to provide the music for the children to dance to. French Dance in the Primary Classroom is available through TLP (Teaching and Learning Publications Ltd) for £52.88 (+VAT).



Barry Comprehensive Hits the Right Note!

On Wednesday, 14th November the French Department enjoyed a day of workshops with Mark Cean, a French singer. He worked with groups of pupils of all ages including some A level students from Bryn Hafren. The boys enjoyed learning through song.

"It was amazing" said Rhys Hocking.

"It was an insight into French culture" Lewis Crompton and Emma Roberts.

In the evening Mark gave a concert which included songs from his latest album. For one song a group of boys accompanied Mark on stage. The concert was "fantastique" and we look forward to welcoming back Mark in the future.



Mark Cean workshop with Barry Comprehensive

Calendar of events

April

German for the Primary School April 5 – April 12, 2008: Goethe Institut, Schwäbisch Hall.

Berlin Aktuell April 10 – April 18, 2008: Goethe-Institut, Berlin.

Language World Conference and Exhibition – Pulling the Threads Together April 11 – April 12, 2008: Examination Schools, University of Oxford.

Spanish Improvement Sessions for Teachers April 14, 2008: CILT Cymru, Cardiff Bay.

Keep them on-board – new ideas for motivating pupils in MFL in year 9 April 15, 2008: CILT Cymru, Cardiff Bay.

Keep them on-board – new ideas for motivating pupils in MFL in year 9 April 17, 2008: The Old College, Aberystwyth.

Keep them on-board – new ideas for motivating pupils in MFL in year 9 April 23, 2008: Venue Cymru, Llandudno.

May

Let's get creative – creating and adapting ICT materials for use in the languages classroom May 20, 2008: Howardian Centre, Cardiff.

Spanish for the Secondary School May 25 – June 7, 2008: Universidad Pública de Navarra, Pamplona.

Spanish for the Primary School May 25 – May 31, 2008: Tordesillas, Valladolid.

June

Teaching foreign languages in Key Stage 2 – how do we get started? June 3, 2008: CILT Cymru, Cardiff.

CILT Cymru News is published at the beginning of each term. It provides information on language teaching in Wales. We welcome your contributions to the next bulletin. Please send your contributions (on disk or by e-mail) by November 1st 2008 to Llinos Jones, CILT Cymru, Mount Stuart Square, Cardiff CF10 5FL.

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Teaching foreign languages in Key Stage 2 – how do we get started? June 5, 2008: Venue Cymru, Llandudno.

Responding to change: MFL in the new National Curriculum June 9, 2008: Deeside College.

Responding to change: MFL in the new National Curriculum June 25, 2008: Liberty Stadium, Swansea.

Enhancing Whole-class Language Teaching using ICT June 27, 2008: Cynnal, Maesincla, Caernarvon.

Enhancing Whole-class Language Teaching using ICT June 30, 2008: Net Cafe, Shotton.

July

Enhancing Whole-class Language Teaching using ICT July 1, 2008: Howardian Centre, Cardiff.

Languages Wales Conference July 4, 2008: Marriott Hotel, Swansea.

Enhancing Whole-class Language Teaching using ICT July 7, 2008: Baglan ICT Centre, Port Talbot.

Enhancing Whole-class Language Teaching using ICT July 8, 2008: Parc Myrddin, Carmarthen.

German Day (Deutschlehrrtag) – with the Goethe Institut July 9, 2008: CILT Cymru, Cardiff Bay.

Two day French Course for A/AS Level teachers: L'actualité française des 12 derniers mois (Day 1)
Day 1 – July 11 2008, Day 2 – October 17 2008:
CILT Cymru, Cardiff Bay.

Spanish Day for AS/A Level Teachers: España: el Estado de las Autonomías July 14, 2008: CILT Cymru, Cardiff Bay.

French for the Primary School July 20 – 26 July, 2008 or August 17 to August 23, 2008: Lille, France.

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We reserve the right to edit items submitted. If you have any comments or suggestions, please contact the Editor.

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