

# CONTACT

The Newsletter for the Modern Language Teachers' Association of ACT Inc.



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## Report from the President of the MLTAACT Inc.

Semester Two began with all state and territory MLTA presidents attending the AFMLTA Assembly in Adelaide in July 2018. All MLTA presidents and AFMLTA executives shared their reports and discussions took place about languages education and projects currently happening on a national scale. During the Assembly meeting, I was elected as the Treasurer for the AFMLTA, this is a wonderful opportunity for the ACT to be involved in the languages space at the national and international level.

Our partnership with the National Gallery of Australia, led by Myriam Davies, continued with the successful upload of Chinese and Indonesian resources onto the NGA website. A huge thank you to the members who worked so productively within a short timeframe to produce such quality teacher resources. We look forward to supporting the NGA in creating language resources for some of the exhibitions coming to Canberra in 2019 and for some of the permanent exhibits.

Annemarie Power and Prue Roveta have been working collaboratively on the New Educator Program which has matched experienced mentors with new language teachers throughout the year. We would like to expand this valuable program in 2019 so if you are aware of any new language teachers then please ask them to contact us so we are able to include them in the program.

Our Mini-Conference which was held on Saturday 18 August was TQI Accredited for four hours and provided our members with the opportunity to upskill in the areas of using Google Forms and Google Sheets as formative assessment tools, implementing games and other engaging online activities in the classroom and how to use in-flipped classroom strategies in a language learning environment.

Our Term 4 event was a presentation by Prue Roveta and Myriam Davies about their journey in implementing TCI strategies within their classrooms. They provided a beginner's guide to what has worked, what was challenging and the future direction of TCI in their individual classrooms.

This presentation by Prue and Myriam was the result of their attendance at the TCI workshops in January 2018 when the MLTAACT Inc. supported them with a scholarship to cover the cost of registration at the TCI conference.

Mandy Scott, Fuxin Li, Frank Keighley and myself attended a meeting with the ACT Minister for Multicultural Affairs in October to discuss the need for a bigger focus on languages at the ACT Multicultural Festival. This was a positive meeting and we look forward to the recognition of Canberra as a multilingual community as part of the Multicultural Festival in February 2019.

I recently represented the MLTAACT Inc. at the ACT Chief Minister's Reading Challenge Awards Ceremony and it was extremely pleasing to hear the promotion and importance of reading in another language.

The ACT Multicultural Summit was held on Friday 23 November, I was able to attend and participate in the discussions around inclusiveness, health, youth, community engagement and the future. Community languages and languages education was a common thread during many of the discussions.

The *2018 Fiona Arthur Language Teaching Award* was closely contested with several high-quality nominations. The MLTAACT Committee assessed all nominations and we announced Rebecca Battaglini as this year's worthy recipient. We congratulate Rebecca and she will be officially presented with the award at the 2019 Meet and Greet on Thursday 28 February 2019.

The 2018 round of *FIPLV Congress 1988 Scholarships* has been decided with three of our members been awarded financial assistance to undertake a variety of projects such as supporting individual language proficiency development, assisting with the costs of presenting research findings at an international conference and to provide opportunities for ACT students to further their understanding of language and culture during a visit by their sister school to Canberra.

The MLTAACT Inc. was recently invited to join the discussion on languages education in ACT schools on ABC Radio. I thank Frank Keighley for taking on the role as our spokesperson and confidently advocating for languages education and for highlighting some of the current and ongoing issues around languages education in the ACT.

We are excited about the ongoing ELLA program in ACT preschool services and look forward to hearing about the rollout of the 2019 ELLA K-2 Trial in some of our ACT schools.

The MLTAACT Executive Committee have agreed to make available scholarships to its members through the subsidising of the registration costs up to the equivalent of 6 attendees at the 22<sup>nd</sup> AFMLTA International Languages Conference in Hobart, Tasmania from 7-9 July 2019. Information about applications for the scholarship opportunity will be provided to members via email.

The call for papers for the 22<sup>nd</sup> AFMLTA International Languages Conference has been extended to Monday 4 February 2019 and early-bird registrations will be available until Monday 1 April 2019.

Our MLTAACT Inc. AGM will be held on Thursday 28 March 2019 and you are invited to attend the meeting and become involved in the committee. We look forward to acknowledging that 2019 is the Year of Indigenous Languages.

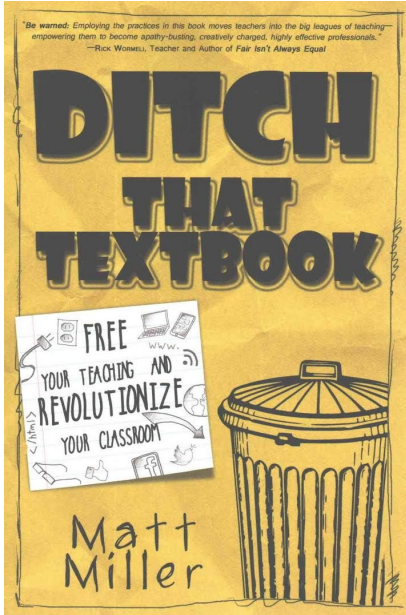
I would like to thank the MLTAACT Inc. Executive Committee members for their ongoing enthusiasm and commitment to their voluntary role within the committee. I am truly fortunate at being able to work with such an enthusiastic team of colleagues. On behalf of the MLTAACT Inc. Committee members I would like to thank you for your membership support and wish you all happiness and good health over the festive season.

**Véronique Canellas | MLTAACT Inc. President**

## From the Vice-President of the MLTAACT Inc.

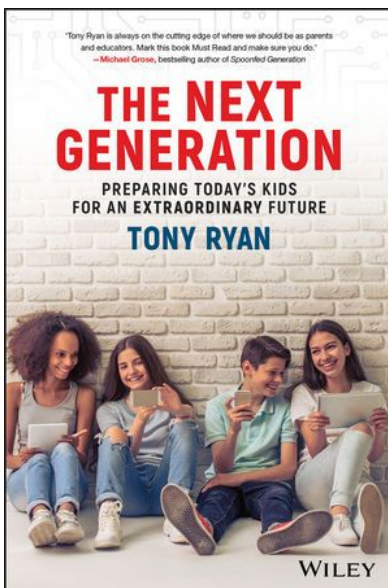
### Book Reviews

#### *Ditch that textbook, Matt Miller*



If you are looking for simple ideas to incorporate technology into your classroom while motivating your students, look no further. Matt Miller, a former Spanish teacher, has compiled a range of ideas that simplify teachers lives and that can be applied to many classes. He also runs a website at <http://ditchthattextbook.com> where you will get many more ideas, as well as an ebook that you can download for free. And if you still don't have enough, you can also subscribe to his newsletter! He is genuinely trying to help teachers reduce their workload while engaging students, and has many suggestion easily and quickly applicable.

#### *The next generation- Tony Ryan*



I admit that this book has not much to do with language teaching as it is more about dealing with teenagers, but I have enjoyed it so much that I thought I will share it with you anyway, as many of you work with them every day, and many of you also have your own at home! This book has a very positive outlook on this young generation and suggests many ideas on how to help them (and us) be more engaged and more positive about the future. I strongly recommend to all parents of teenagers.

**Myriam Davies | MLTAACT Inc. Vice-President  
NGA-MLTAACT Inc. Project Officer**

## MLTA ACT Inc. Community Language Schools Association Professional Learning Program



This semester a further three workshops were provided for CLSA teachers.

*Get Up Out of Your Seats* was presented by Rowena Stevens. This was followed by *Multi-age and Ability Classes* by Arika Bassett and myself and a final workshop *Ideas for Assessment and Reporting to Parents* by Clementine Sullivan. They were all well attended and appreciated by the participating teachers.

The MLTA ACT Inc. will be organising further workshops in 2019. If you would like to present at one of these, please email me at [joanne.chilver@cg.catholic.edu.au](mailto:joanne.chilver@cg.catholic.edu.au)

**Joanne Chilver | Indonesian Teacher, Rosary Primary School  
| MLTA ACT Inc. CONTACT Editor**

## MLTA ACT Inc. New Educator Program

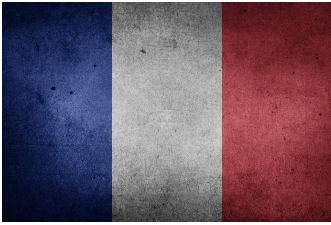
This year the MLTA ACT has facilitated the New Educator program whereby teachers of languages, this year French and Indonesian, have been coached by experienced language teachers. This has been a great opportunity for language teachers to share ideas and support others within our community. Albeit exciting to have the language teacher role, it can at times be daunting as often we have a small group of peers and in Primary schools we are usually the only language teacher. The New Educator Program supports our new teachers by matching up experienced educators in the role of Coach to New Educators.

We had a New Educator catch up during Term 3 at A Bite to Eat in Chifley. The teachers who came were very positive and enthusiastic. The new educators were Camille Landy (French@Stromlo), Margo Smith (Indonesian@StClaire Assisi) and Kirrilly McKenzie (Indonesian@Lyneham) and Kirrilly's mentor, Rebecca Battaglini (Indonesian@Melrose) attended. Teachers suggested that they would like the opportunity to observe other language teachers in action across the Directorate, Catholic and Independent schools. If you are willing to be observed in the future, we would love to make connections between you and New Educators. We will send out a survey next year to gauge interest from members.

Each Coach and New Educator pair are able to work at their own convenience with the amount of coaching that works for them. Please spread the word amongst your networks, colleagues and schools as we look forward to facilitating more connections for New Educators in 2019.

**Annemarie Power & Prudence Roveta | MLTA ACT Inc. New Educator Program**





## NEWS FROM THE FRENCH NETWORK

Bonjour à tous!

Once again the French Network has been wonderfully busy in Terms 3 and 4 with educators from Primary through to College and beyond attending our network meetings held in the third week of each term at the Alliance Française de Canberra. We welcome and encourage teachers of French of all levels and from all schools to attend network events.

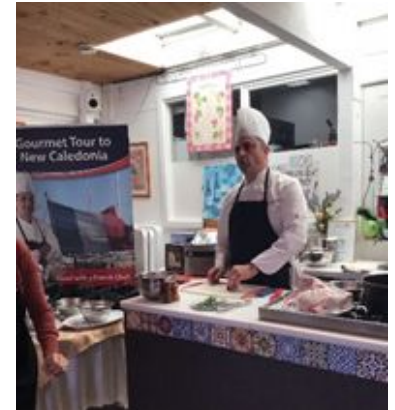
All primary schools, government and independent, teaching French in the ACT are invited each year to participate in the *Concours de poésie récitée*, where this year we had eight schools entering: Aranda, Hawker, Lyneham, Majura, Maribyrnong, Miles Franklin, Red Hill and Telopea. There are francophone and non-francophone sections of the competition.



*Poetry competition winners with Prudence Roveta (Teacher) and Flavie Coulbault (Embassy of France)*

The entries were judged by Flavie Coulbault of the Embassy of France and an awards ceremony was held at Alliance Française de Canberra in November. The students recited their poem to an audience of teachers, parents and families.

Chef Christophe and Josephine Gregoire of *Le Très Bon* restaurant at Bungendore have long been great supporters of French language and culture education in our region. In Term 4 a group of teachers and students of French attended a French cooking class at *Le Très Bon*. Chef Christophe conducted the lesson in French which was a great opportunity for those of us developing our French language skills. The menu included *Poulet Chasseur* and *Îles Flottantes*.



The afternoon concluded with *une petite formation* facilitated by Floraine Henneaux of the Alliance Française de Canberra.



*Le plat - Poulet chasseur  
– made with organic and locally*



*Sonia Conte, Mia, Floriane Henneaux  
and Mary Thorp (teachers and student)*



*Ros and Frank Keighley,  
Canberra Academy of Languages*

**Prudence Roveta | French Teacher, Hawker Primary School**



## NEWS FROM THE GERMAN NETWORK



This year has been a busy time for German teachers and their students. We have had good representation at each of our Network Meetings this year and involvement in events from many schools across, including community schools. We were very lucky to have the support of the ACT Government to run our Network together with ongoing support from the Goethe Institut. These organisations have meant that our students are receiving enriched German studies programs and are connecting with their studies beyond their school walls. We have also appreciated the support from the German Embassy and ANU this year in connecting with us and our students.

Some of our highlights in the second part of the year, included our ACT German Mini-conference, our visit to the Queensland Oktoberfest for Teens, our Year 8 Autobahn activity day, our Year 9 German STEM day and our Senior student immersion day. Each of these activities provided students with the chance to make connections to the German speaking world, whether it be to culture, science, technology or global sustainability.

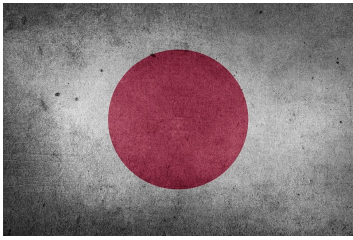
None of these events happen without many hours of preparation by teachers and by the organisations that support us. We are thankful to everyone that has been involved in making these events happen next year and look forward to a restful Christmas and another big year of activities next year.

*The Goethe Institut STEM day was a great experience for everyone. It was a great way to test our German vocab and learn about some cool science. We got to learn about parasites, DNA, space and more. All of those with links to our German knowledge. – Xander, Year 9 student*



**Sheree Avard | German Network Leader**

**| German and Science Teacher, Telopea Park School/Lyceé franco-australien de Canberra**



## NEWS FROM THE JAPANESE NETWORK

### Japan Foundation PD

On The 15th of September the Japan Foundation returned to Canberra to hold a PD for Japanese teachers from the ACT. The PD covered many engaging teaching ideas that included current trends/pop culture in Japan and the culture behind students cleaning their own schools in Japan.

### The Canberra Nara Candle Festival

On the 27th of October was the annual Canberra Nara Candle Festival. Students from Fadden Primary, St. Monicas and Kaleen Primary performed Japanese songs in the Combined Canberra Primary Schools Choir. Their teachers, Mari Kitasaka, Tammi Beardmore and Anne Hodgkin, did an amazing job to have their students singing together so wonderfully.



### 2018 Japanese Symposium of Japanese Language Education

On November 2nd and 3rd, many ACT Japanese Network members travelled to Sydney to participate in the 2018 Japanese Symposium of Japanese Language Education. The ACT network had a large number of attendees, including a current and a previous member that presented. Kyleigh Howell of Bonython Primary School presented "How Can Inquiry Learning Assets Increase Creative Thinking for Language Learner?" and Andrew Mitchell currently St. Peter's College in Cranbourne presented "Journey for Engagement: Project Based Language Learning and CLIL." Both of these presentations were well received and generated many audience based questions from enthusiastic teachers. We have had several requests from ACT Japanese teachers to have Kyleigh present to those unable to attend at a PD in Canberra next year.

**Louise Poulakis | Japanese Network Leader**  
**Japanese Teacher, Wanniasa School**





## NEWS FROM THE INDONESIAN NETWORK

### Indonesian Idol Concert



On 15 August, Melrose High School was very proud to host the Canberra leg of the "Michael J School Concerts in Oz 2018". Michael Jakarimilena is a former star of Indonesian Idol. He is a regular on Indonesian television programs and works closely with Indonesia's president, Joko Widodo, on projects to promote national pride amongst the youth of Indonesia. Over 350 students from the Canberra region attended the concert. The concerts are specially designed for Australian students, studying Indonesian, in Years 6 – 12. Teachers are provided with song lyrics and a wealth of resources and lesson plans, to help their students connect with the songs and to get the most out of the concert.

Michael and his guitarists (Toni and Deon) gave a spectacular performance. They performed 14 popular/contemporary songs in Indonesian, and then stayed for a "meet and greet" session after the concert. Students were able to take photos, have merchandise signed and, most importantly, practise their Indonesian skills. Toni, Deon and Michael were very generous with their time, and have continued to

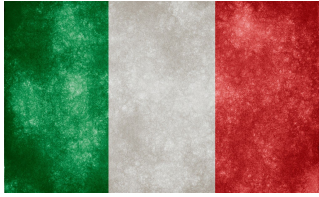
interact with students via their social media pages since the concert. Students have learned so much Indonesian in the process.

I would like to thank all the teachers who brought their students to this year's concert. The students sang, danced, cheered and participated in such an enthusiastic manner. To have a room full of Australian teenagers singing their hearts out in Indonesian, was a truly special thing to see! It was a special day that will be remembered for a very long time.



**Rebecca Battaglini | Indonesian Teacher, Melrose High School  
ACT Indonesian Network Leader**





## NEWS FROM THE ITALIAN NETWORK

In the second half of the year, the Italian Network in Canberra continued to busily work across the many preschool, primary, secondary and tertiary classrooms where Italian is taught in the ACT.

### **NEW FACES**

We are very fortunate this year to be collaborating with the newly appointed Convenor of Italian Studies at the ANU, Dr Joshua Brown. Joshua brings with him an interesting background in Linguistics and Italian language expertise. Mrs Bruna Carboni has also been an active network member, and is the current Lettore of Italian Studies at ANU. Bruna brings with her another perspective to the Network. It is very encouraging that within our Network we can gather as a group of educators from all sectors. If you would like to meet Joshua or Bruna, they are active members of our Network Meetings.

### **ITALIAN STUDENT EXCHANGE PROGRAM**

In August Sonia Conte (St Clare's College) and Antonietta Martiniello (Yarralumla Bilingual Primary School) presented to the Italian Network a proposed Italian Exchange Program for High School Italian students. Both Sonia and Antonietta have extensive experience in sending and hosting Italian students and they are keen to share the experience with other ACT High Schools. If you are interested in hosting Italian exchange students at your school, contact them at [ScambioACT@outlook.com](mailto:ScambioACT@outlook.com).

### **BOOKCLUB ITALIANO**

The Italian Book Club is open to anyone who is an Italian speaker and is interested in reading Italian books and discussing them in an informal setting... For more details and to be included in the WhatsApp group for updates, please contact the Italian Network Leader, Larissa Shihoff at [Larissa.Shihoff@ed.act.edu.au](mailto:Larissa.Shihoff@ed.act.edu.au).

### **ROME: City and Empire**

On October 30, approximately 15 members of the ACT Italian Network were treated to a private viewing of Rome: City and Empire - The British Museum Collection showcasing the mighty Roman Empire currently on show at the National Museum of Australia. The Italian Network was able to fund this event for the ACTED teachers.

"The Roman Empire's legacy endures in modern Australia, encompassing our languages, our art and our architecture, the design of our towns and cities and the laws by which we live" - National Museum of Australia

We were fortunate to be led through the exhibition by the curator. Her knowledge and visible passion for the artefacts and her ability to relate them to the history of Ancient Rome and to situate them in the context of larger events made for an extremely interesting tour. The exhibition is open until 3 Feb 2019.





### St Clare's at Trecento Pizza-making workshop

Year 9 Italian students visited Trecento Pizzeria on Monday 26th November. Trecento has been certified by the AVPN (the True Neapolitan Pizza Association). The students learnt how to make Neapolitan pizza according to the characteristics, ingredients and preparation rules provided by the Association. They then topped their own pizza before placing it in the woodfire oven and shared a beautiful lunch together. Thank you to Josh, John and Muhammed at Trecento - a truly wonderful experience! - Sonia Conte St Clare's College



### St Clare's Italian Games @ Yarralumla Sept 11

#### *Year 9 Teaching in Italian*



Year 9 Italian students from St Clare's College were given the chance to practice their language skills in a real-life setting when they visited Yarralumla Italian/English Bilingual Primary school on Tuesday 11th September.

As part of their Semester 2 assessment, St Clare's students were tasked with devising a PE game which they would run with the Year 5/6 students from the bilingual stream of the school. Students explained the rules and ran their individual game entirely in

Italian. Although initially very nervous, the students rose to the challenge and successfully communicated and managed their game.



The excursion gave the St Clare's girls the chance to immerse themselves in the language, strengthen links across the Italian speaking and teaching community, and also have a lot of fun engaging with the younger students.



The Yarralumla Year 5/6 classes were very excited to be part of this visit from St Clare's and found the activities engaging and fun!

**Sonia Conte Italian Teacher - St Clare's College**

### ***DR GIANFRANCO CONTI ITALIAN CLASSES***

A small group of Italian teachers observed Gianfranco teach a Year 7 Italian class at Telopea Park School. Gianfranco presented an engaging, high energy Italian class in which he was very positive and affirmative towards the students. Teachers were inspired to use his methods in their own classrooms, particularly the knowledge organiser and the games that followed. The Italian Network has been very fortunate to have several opportunities to experience Dr Conti's methodology and we thank the Languages Networks of the Education Directorate for providing these opportunities.

### ***YARRALUMLA PRIMARY COMMUNITY TRIP 2018***

In Week One of this Term, 31 students from La Scuola Bilingue Italo-Inglese di Yarralumla had the opportunity to travel to a small town outside Bergamo in Italy to immerse themselves in Italian school and home life. They travelled with their parents and three teachers and took part in a week long immersion at three Primary and a Secondary school in Scanzo Rosciate in the province of Bergamo in Lombardy.

"Italy was the most amazing experience that I will never forget. The families welcomed us into their homes and looked after us for a week. For me, it was my second time with the same family. I really loved it. In fact, I sobbed all the way to Milan! The best part was going to school, staying up late, eating new foods And spending time with different people who speak a different language. I don't think there was a boring moment! It was the most amazing experience that I will ever have and I realise the students who were able to have this experience were extremely lucky. The school was very welcoming and generous and I am thankful to all the families who hosted us!"

- Isabella Hartley Year 5 YPS



Isabella and her family.

**Antonietta Martiniello**

**| Italian teacher, Yarralumla Italian Bilingual School**





## NEWS FROM THE SPANISH NETWORK

The ACT Spanish Language Network had a great Term 4. We were lucky enough to have a full day PL with Dr Gianfranco Conti who demonstrated two lessons with Year 7 and Year 9 students at Telopea Park School. It was great to see Dr Conti in action delivering lessons and to see his activities live. The students loved the dynamic lessons as much as the Spanish teachers enjoyed watching them!



**Dr Gianfranco Conti**

@gianfrancoconti9

Loved teaching Spanish to children at Telopea Park School as part of two demo lessons. Great fun !



Many thanks to Anne Marie Annemarie Power for organizing the event at Telopea Park School Canberra and to Veronique Canelas for approving the funding for it (and also for sending me the pictures below).



There was also a Year 8 Immersion Day held at Telopea Park School in Term 4. The Year 8 students undertook Day of the Dead themed activities and language game activities. They also had a salsa dancing lesson delivered by two instructors from Salsabor.

In Term 3, Celia Bazalar undertook the role of Language Network Leader and ran a term meeting for the network as Annemarie Power was on leave. Whilst on leave Annemarie purchased some flamenco skirts and dresses in Spain for the Spanish Network which will be used by Spanish teachers running flamenco or other cultural activities related to Spanish culture.

**Annemarie Power | Spanish Network Leader**  
**| Spanish Teacher, Telopea Park School**  
**| MLTA ACT Inc. Executive Secretary**

# Canberra Academy of Languages - December 2018 Update



## Canberra Academy of Languages

### December 2018 Update

### MLTA ACT Contact Newsletter

## A not-for-profit organisation

In our June article, we mentioned briefly that the Canberra Academy of Languages is a not-for-profit organisation. However, like any not-for-profit organisation, we need to ensure that we have the revenue to carry out the activities that relate to our purpose. The purpose of the Canberra Academy of Languages is outlined in our charter, which is in Schedule 2 of our Articles of Association. The charter is available via the home page of our website. Many not-for-profits are associations that derive their revenue mainly from membership fees – a good example being MLTA. In our case, our major revenue source is enrolment fees. These enable us to cover the cost of program delivery, including teacher salaries, venue hire, public liability insurance and teaching resources.

## CAL End-of-Year Ceremony, 18 December 2018

The CAL End of Year Ceremony for 2018 will be held on Tuesday 18 December from 2:30 pm at the Alliance Française, 66 McCaughey Street, Turner 2612.

If you would like to attend, please email [info@cal.act.edu.au](mailto:info@cal.act.edu.au) and let us know your name, preferred phone contact details and the number of people wishing to attend with you.



## Languages education discussion on ABC Canberra, 28 November 2018

On the Mornings program on Radio ABC Canberra with Adam Shirley today, the Convener of the Canberra Academy of Languages discussed future directions for languages education in the ACT. We have an mp3 extract on the News pages of MLTA website and an mp3 extract and summary of points on the News page of CAL website.



## Multicultural Summit, 22-23 November 2018

At the launch of the ACT Multicultural Summit on Thursday evening, one of the speakers was Andrew Barr, ACT Chief Minister. Among other points, Andrew Barr said that Canberra is uniquely placed to be an exemplary internationally-focussed community and to model inclusivity.

Dr Mandy Scott, Convener of the Canberra Region Languages Forum and Frank Keighley, Convener of the Canberra Academy of Languages had a good & positive conversation with Chief Minister Andrew Barr about future of languages education for the ACT.

Pictured: Deputy Chair and Chair of Multicultural Advisory Council; Chief Minister Andrew Barr; Minister for Multicultural Affairs Chris Steel.



Languages received a high profile in reporting back at the end of the summit. We look forward to reading the draft report of the summit, which we understand will be circulated to participants in the near future.

Pictured here: Veronique Canellas, President of the Modern Languages Teachers' Association of the ACT; Dr Mandy Scott, Convener of the Canberra Region Languages Forum; and Frank Keighley, Convener of the Canberra Academy of Languages.



## Languages as a resource for all, 20 November 2018

A position statement on "[Languages as a resource for all](#)" was endorsed on 20 November by ACT Bilingual Education Alliance, Languages Forum of the ACT and the Canberra Academy of Languages. The statement will be tabled at the next meeting of the Canberra Languages Network, to be held on Thursday 22 November 2018.

## Launch of the October 2018 edition of Canberra en français magazine, 26 October 2018

Launch of the October 2018 edition of Canberra en français magazine on 26 October at Mount Majura Vineyard - Nancy Waites and Flavie Alvarez with two of the guests, from Parkes NSW. In this edition, there are items written by two of our CAL French students. Three others had items published in the June edition.



## Meeting with Minister for Multicultural Affairs 10 October 2018

A discussion on language resources in the ACT was held with the ACT Minister for Multicultural Affairs, Chris Steel, on 10 October, with the Convener of Canberra Academy of Languages, President of the Community Language Schools Association of the ACT, President of the Modern Language Teachers' Association, Convener of the Languages Forum of the ACT.



## Information Evening, Thursday 20 September 2018

We held an information evening on Thursday 20 September at the Ainslie Arts Centre to provide students and their families with advice on learning languages in Years 11-12, receiving credit for languages studies towards the ACT Senior Secondary Certificate and towards the ATAR, and programs offered in Continuing and Advanced French, German and Indonesian.



## Multilingual Poetry Workshop

One of the organisations auspiced for ACT Government funding applications is Mother Tongue Multilingual Poetry. They ran a workshop at Civic Library on Sunday 5 August exploring writing and performing poetry in languages other than English and a Multilingual Poetry Night on Monday 13 August 2018 at Smith's Alternative, in languages including Mandarin, Cebuano, Hindi, Bengali, French, German, Shona, Dari, Farsi, Japanese, Mongolian, Sinhalese, Serbian and Spanish.

## Soirée littéraire

A "soirée littéraire" was held on Thursday 21 June, with author Karen Viggers reading extracts from her writings and Flavie Alvarez reading French translations. Nancy Waites launched the second edition of the magazine Canberra en français - a beautiful local publication. Three CAL French students had items included at page 13 of this edition, under the title "témoignages", alongside an item about the Canberra Academy of Languages. The other two items were held over for the October edition, for reasons of available space.



**Frank Keighley | Convener, Canberra Academy of Languages Inc.**

Organisational website: [www.cal.act.edu.au](http://www.cal.act.edu.au) | Resources repository : [www.languages.org.au](http://www.languages.org.au)



## “La Fiesta de la Paella” at Radford College Junior School

This week Radford Junior School celebrated our second annual ‘Fiesta de la Paella’. Students decorated our courtyard to resemble a Spanish ‘plaza’ and we listened to lively Spanish music while dancing and enjoying paella prepared especially for us on school premises.

Leading up to this event students learnt about Paella, its regional differences, town celebrations, the ingredients and also the Spanish for ordering paella. They created small phrase booklets which they brought along to the Fiesta and each ordered in Spanish, requesting ‘mucho’ or ‘poco’ and ‘más chorizo’ etc. Their order ended with “¡Que aproveche!”.

In the led up to the event students were very excited. After waiting all year the day was finally approaching. They had heard about ‘Fiesta de la Paella’ from their older siblings and other students and their anticipation and motivation levels rose. Every student took the event very seriously focusing on their pronunciation when ordering and participating in the fiesta in every way they could.



One thing to note about the event was the ease in which it was organised. The planning was quite straightforward for staff and students. We had a chef prepare the paella using a traditional recipe and traditional ‘paellera’ pans with gas rings. We also had students bring a container or bowl from home along with a fork to avoid creating waste.

After such a successful event there are already murmurings from our Year 4 students who are wondering whether they will get to take part in ‘Fiesta de la Paella’ in 2019.

**Rowena Stevens | Japanese Teacher  
Radford College**

## Visit to the Rome City & Empire Exhibition

On Monday, November 12<sup>th</sup>, 2018, the students of Prof. Rodriguez’s Year 10 Italian class took a trip to the Rome City + Empire Exhibit at the National Museum of Australia. It was amazing to learn how similar these people from 2000 years ago lived in comparison to us today. It was mind-blowing how these people could create such impressive things like statues and jewellery without any of the technology we use now. Many of their systems were very much the same as ours, like their political systems and their economic systems. Although everything in the exhibit was from the ancient Roman empire, there was still clear differences between the cultures since the empire was so large. We could see the different alphabets (Ancient Greek and Latin) and distinctive styles in pottery and architecture. The final thing that shocked us was the jewellery displayed there. Everything was made of gold with other precious stones. There were earrings with pearls and amethyst, necklaces with garnet and emerald and a huge brooch made almost entirely of lapis lazuli. The Rome City + Empire exhibit was an exceptionally eye-opening experience never to be forgotten.

**Isabella Topp | Year 10 Italian student  
St Francis Xavier College**

## Indonesian Language Learning Ambassadors (ILLA) Holy Family Primary School

Holy Family Primary School is taking part in the Indonesian Language Learning Ambassadors (ILLA) Programme this semester. The programme is coordinated by the Asia Education Foundation (AEF) and the Australia Awards Indonesia (AAI). ILLA is one of many AEF projects and the main goal is to promote teaching and learning of the Indonesian language and culture in Australian schools.



We have been lucky to be granted 2 Indonesian native speakers (ambassadors) to volunteer, visit and help in our school. Our ILLA ambassadors are Ibu Via, an ANU PhD student, majoring in Policy and Governance and ibu Anita is a Master student at ANU studying Environmental Economics. Originally ibu Via is from Kalimantan or Borneo and ibu Anita is from Aceh.

I hope with the help from Ibu Via and Ibu Anita, students would learn more

of the Indonesian language and culture and that the students would be more confident using the target language, even in the simplest form. At the same time I hope students would teach and share our Australian culture to the ambassadors.



**Arika Bassett | Indonesian Teacher**  
**Holy family Primary School**

## Alfred Deakin High School



Alfred Deakin High School has the good fortune to have a language assistant in the Indonesian programme. Working with Desi Vicianna this year has been a delight. The students and I have benefited greatly from her work in our language classroom. Please see attached Google slide for more! [ILTA 2018](#)

At Alfred Deakin High School, we are situated close to a wonderful cooking school called Kids Pantry. Indonesian students, as well as students of other languages have enjoyed walking over to the cooking school to learn how to cook a dish or two from the target country. Lizy and Theresa are very happy to work with language teachers to find suitable recipes for classes. Happy silly season, colleagues! Regards, Ibu Kirsten

**Kirsten Stobbe | Indonesian Teacher**  
**Alfred Deakin High School**

## The ACT Bilingual Education Alliance (ACTBEA) at Charles Weston School

ACTBEA was pleased to be invited to give a talk to parents at Charles Weston School on Thursday, 1 November. We gave a short presentation, entitled 'How families who speak another language at home can enhance their children's future', to about 25 parents, mostly of preschool and kindergarten-aged children. The families were from a range of cultural and language backgrounds. Charles Weston is a very multicultural school; 80% of the student population have a parent born overseas in 48 different countries. The talk was followed by a lively Q and A session. The three ACTBEA presenters shared their experiences as educators, linguists and parents. The Principal also joined in the discussion, and parents shared their ideas and made new connections. The school has invited ACTBEA back to speak to new parents at the beginning of the 2019 school year.

ACTBEA is happy to give talks and presentations to parents, students and/or staff at schools. There is no charge, and talks can be tailored to suit the audience. For more information about ACTBEA, a local non-profit community group, please visit our website at <https://actbilingual.weebly.com/> or our Facebook page @ACTBEA





## The ACT High School Division Japanese Speech Contest

Alfred Deakin High School, for the first time, hosted the High School Division Japanese Speech Contest on Saturday, 4<sup>th</sup> August this year, after four years of no speech contests. Seven ACT high schools took part and 49 students contested the event. A big congratulation goes to all participants.

It was a huge success as a large number of students participated and the committee members worked very well with lots of fun had by all. I was given an opportunity to feel synergy and I must thank all the members: Kiraly Middleton, Yuko Leffers and Megumi Noble who shared the workload with me and supported me enormously to make this contest happen.

To my surprise, Alfred Deakin High School recorded a phenomenal achievement. My students won first place in three different divisions and other places too. Although I did not place an emphasis on winning, rather, focussing on enthusiasm in participation and taking the challenge. The result was very rewarding to them for their hard work. Also, my students realised that it was a great opportunity to learn from each other and they appreciated the entire event.

As I believe it was a much-needed event to provide students who want some extension and more challenge in learning Japanese, I would like to run this speech contest annually in the hope of encouraging all Japanese students in the ACT to continue learning the language and culture and work well.

We, the committee, would like to have more members so if you are willing to join us, let me know please at [shizuko.barber@ed.act.edu.au](mailto:shizuko.barber@ed.act.edu.au). We will organise and run another speech contest on Saturday, 31<sup>st</sup> August, 2019. All welcome!



**Shizuko Barber | Japanese Teacher**  
**Alfred Deakin High School**

## Maribyrnong Primary School

In first term Maribyrnong Primary students took part in the Francophonie Competition making posters that told of a year in the life of our allocated country, Morocco. As part of this learning experience Mr Issam Brinsi, our contact at the Moroccan Embassy, visited Maribyrnong and contributed to a school assembly.



In second term we had an unexpected invitation, with Mr Brinsi inviting the school to participate in Moroccan Independence Day celebrations to be held at the Albert Hall in August. We were asked to consider providing a small choir of children to sing the Moroccan national anthem in Arabic at this event. An enthusiastic group of students took on this challenge with remarkable dedication, attending weekly practises and committing to practise at home. Representatives from the Moroccan Embassy attended a practise late in Term 2 and reassured us that our accents were good, and that we were successfully articulating a song that many who know Arabic find difficult to sing.

There were understandably challenges along the way. Accessing a music script and transposing it to a key the students could sing, and ensuring correct pronunciation with no knowledge of Arabic were among them. Communication with the accompanying band – no less than the Royal Military Band from Duntroon – wasn't possible till the event had commenced. Nevertheless, as you can see from the

photos, participation in the event provided our students with a unique opportunity to experience a taste of Moroccan culture. Families received formal invitations to the event which included a Moroccan feast. The students were greeted by the ambassador who shook hands with each child and placed a scarf ordered in from Morocco around their shoulders.



Over the last years through participation in the Francophonie Competition, students at Maribyrnong have developed insights in to life in Vietnam, Canada, Belgium, and Morocco. The

more schools that we have engaging with this competition, the richer the experience will become for all. And who knows what unexpected opportunities it will bring!



**Lyn Lisacek | French Teacher  
Maribymong Primary School**



# Save the date

**Term 1 MLTAACT Inc. Meet and Greet**

Thursday 28th February 2019 (Week 4) at the Loft at Duxton (O'Connor)

**Term 1 MLTAACT Inc. AGM**

Thursday 28th March 2019 (Week 8) at Telopea Park School Conference Room

**Term 2 MLTAACT Inc. TeachMeet**

Friday 10th May 2019 (Week 2). Venue to be confirmed

**Term 3 MLTAACT Inc. Mini Conference**

Saturday 17th August (Week 4) at Hedley Beare Centre for Teaching & Learning (HBCTL)

**Term 4 MLTAACT Inc. GianFranco Conti Workshop**

October (TBC) at Hedley Beare Centre for Teaching & Learning (HBCTL)

**Semester 1 2019 - CONTACT newsletter**

Please email your articles by Friday 14th June (Week 7, Term 2).

If possible, email your articles using Google Docs.

**2019 AFMLTA International Languages Conference -**

The 22nd AFMLTA International Languages Conference: Hobart, Tasmania, 7-9th July 2019.

**22nd AFMLTA International Languages Conference: Online registration and Call for Papers NOW OPEN!**

**Date: 7-9 July 2019**

**Venue: Wrest Point Conference Centre - Hobart, Tasmania**

You are encouraged to submit a workshop proposal to share your experiences with Languages Education or to register to attend this valuable professional learning opportunity.

Click here for more details: [www.afmlta.asn.au](http://www.afmlta.asn.au)

**Call for papers due by Friday 7 December 2018**

**Early Bird registrations are available until Monday 1 April 2019**

**Full registration rates applicable after Monday 1 April 2019**





The Patji-Dawes award is named in honour of Patjigaring and William Dawes. Find out more at [www.dynamicsoflanguage.edu.au](http://www.dynamicsoflanguage.edu.au)

## Teachers Deserve Our Recognition!

Ciao, Kon'nichiwa, Salut, Yaama. Who taught you that language? Why not nominate them for the Patji-Dawes award? The purpose of the award is to honour outstanding achievements in language teaching other than English, by an accomplished practitioner in Australia.

Achieving proficiency in another language is one of the great learning experiences and our language teachers deserve our recognition.

**Nominate today!**

**Deadline:** 18 March 2019

**Background and application form:** [www.dynamicsoflanguage.edu.au](http://www.dynamicsoflanguage.edu.au)



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## MLTA ACT

### Executive and Committee Members

President:	<b>Véronique Canellas</b>
Vice-President:	<b>Myriam Davies</b>
Treasurer:	<b>Clementine O'Sullivan</b>
Secretary:	<b>Annemarie Power</b>
Committee Member Contact Editor:	<b>Joanne Chilver</b>
Committee Member Public Officer:	<b>Tina Rodriguez</b>
Committee Member Webmaster:	<b>Frank Keighley</b>
Committee Member:	<b>Cissy Lu</b>
Committee Member:	<b>Prudence Roveta</b>
Committee Member:	<b>Frances Szeremet</b>
Committee Member:	<b>Sharee Harrild</b>
Committee Member:	<b>Louise Poulakis</b>

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*For further reading about languages teaching in Australia, please visit the following website:*

**<http://www.afmlta.asn.au/>**



**Are you doing something interesting at your school with your languages teaching?**

## **We would LOVE to hear about it!**

We have so many experienced and dedicated language teachers in the ACT and they should definitely be promoted and acknowledged for their amazing work. If you are doing something special at your school, the members of the MLTAACT Inc. would love to hear about it. You might even inspire someone to have a go at something different too. You might like to ask a student to write a review of their learning in class. We would love to hear about any schools going overseas this year and any excursions you do with your language students.

Please forward all anecdotes and photographs to the Contact editor Joanne Chilver.

[joanne.chilver@cg.catholic.edu.au](mailto:joanne.chilver@cg.catholic.edu.au)

We look forward to hearing your stories!

## **The MLTAACT Inc. WORKS 4 U!**

Modern Language Teachers' Association ACT Inc.

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[www.mltaact.asn.au](http://www.mltaact.asn.au)

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