

Modern Languages Teachers' Association of A.C.T. Inc

CONTACT



MLTAACT Inc. President's Report

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Thank you to all those who presented and shared at our Term 2 TeachMeet

Report from Véronique Canellas, President of the MLTAACT Inc.

Welcome to the Semester One wrap-up of MLTAACT Inc. activities and I take this opportunity to welcome any new members to the MLTAACT Inc. and thank our members who have rejoined for their ongoing support and participation. The MLTAACT Inc. is the only non-profit professional association which represents languages teachers in the ACT.

Our annual *Meet and Greet* was held on Thursday 28 February and we were privileged to be joined by David Wentworth-Perry who presented the *Fiona Arthur Language Teaching Award* to the 2018 recipient, Rebecca Battaglini. Our congratulations to Rebecca who received a perpetual plaque, a certificate and a voucher to the value of \$450 for the purchase of language resources from INTEXT.

The 2019 *Fiona Arthur Language Teaching Award* was launched on 19 June 2019 and I strongly encourage you to consider nominating a colleague or yourself for this prestigious honour.

A new committee was elected at the AGM on 28 March 2019. The MLTAACT Inc. currently has 95 members including 6 life members. The Committee continues to work on several initiatives to support its members in the ACT such as:

- delivering professional learning and networking opportunities to its members
- supporting beginner teachers through the New Educator Project, a mentoring program led by Annemarie Power
- writing resources for the National Gallery of Australia through the MLTAACT Inc./ NGA partnership coordinated by Myriam Davies.
- the delivery of professional development for teachers of the Community Language Schools Association

The theme for our Term 2 TeachMeet held on Friday 10 May was 'Differentiation in the Languages Classroom'. We thank the presenters who volunteered their time and shared differentiation strategies they use in their language classroom. This was followed by an informal dinner and we thank *The Tradies - Dickson* for providing the venue.



MLTAACT Inc. President's Report Continued

The MLTAACT Inc. was able to provide sponsorship for 11/12 financial members to attend the recently held [2019 AFMLTA International Languages Conference in Hobart](#) from 7-9 July 2019. Members who attended were Prudence Roveta, Annemarie Power, Sharee Harrild, Tina Rodriguez, Mary Thorp, Frances Szeremet, Clementine O'Sullivan, Frank Keighley, Margo Smith, Sheree Avar and Lynden Lawton. We look forward to their newly gained knowledge being shared with our members throughout the rest of this year.

Prior to the *2019 AFMLTA International Languages Conference* in Hobart, the AFMLTA held its annual Assembly and Sharee Harrild attended as the MLTAACT Inc. Liaison Officer and I attended as the AFMLTA Treasurer. Sharee will be the contact for further communication from the AFMLTA until the next Assembly in July 2020. I would like to thank Sharee for accepting this role and for representing the MLTAACT Inc. so professionally. This experience provided Sharee with the opportunity for personal and professional growth whilst participating in a national Association.



Some of our members at the official welcome by Her Excellency the Governor Kate Warner at Government House in Hobart as part of the AFMLTA International Languages Conference

Our annual Mini-Conference will be held on Saturday 17 August and will reflect the *2019 International Year of Indigenous Languages*. We have numerous presenters and an official *Welcome to Country* by Tyronne Bell. We will also enjoy Indigenous Bush Tucker kindly sponsored by the ACT Education Directorate (Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Section). Further information will be provided to members via an email early Term Three.

We have also secured Dr Gianfranco Conti to deliver a workshop on Saturday 19 October 2019 – save the date and further information will be available during Term Three.

Details about this year's *FIPLV Congress 1988 Scholarship* opportunities will also be made available during Term Three.

I would like to thank the new MLTAACT Inc. Committee for their endless contributions they make as volunteers to make our Association so active and which supports its financial members.

Véronique Canellas | MLTA ACT Inc. President

Dates for your diary:

Saturday August 17

'Embedding Indigenous Perspectives and Making Connections'
- with Welcome to Country presented by Tyronne Bell

Saturday October 19

Professional Learning with Dr Gianfranco Conti

The Newsletter for
the Modern
Languages Teachers'
Association of A.C.T.
Inc





Canberra Academy of Languages June 2019 Update

Planning for ANGLS Conference

The Canberra Academy of Languages, with collaboration by the Canberra Languages Network, will host the annual ANGLS Conference in Canberra this year, on Thursday-Friday 15-16 August 2019. We greatly appreciate the kind invitation from Kerrie Blain, Telopea Principal, to hold the conference in the Conference Room at Telopea Park School. It is timed to enable delegates to stay on for the MLTA Conference on Saturday 17 August. We anticipate attendance of about 20 to 30 participants, most of whom will be principals and members of leadership teams from schools of languages and languages centres in Australian states and territories.



be:longing Migrant and Cross-Cultural Story Share



be:longing hosted an event from 4 pm to 6 pm on Saturday 22 June 2019 at Smith's Alternative, 76 Alinga Street, Canberra, at which 10 contributors performed their creative works for a live audience – poetry and other written works published on *be:longing*. If you'd like to share your own poetry or story at a future *be:longing* event, get in touch: Website: belonging-mag.com; Facebook: [@belongingmag](https://www.facebook.com/belongingmag); Instagram: [@belongingmag](https://www.instagram.com/belongingmag).

ACT Multicultural Framework Second Action Plan 2019-2020

The ACT Government has published the ACT Multicultural Framework Second Action Plan 2019-2020. Following input from the Canberra Academy of Languages, Canberra Region Languages Forum and ACT Bilingual Education Alliance, priority actions are included under Strategic Objective 3 to foster recognition and use of languages other than English. See the link on the website of ACT Community Services Directorate at the [ACT Multicultural Framework 2015 - 2020](#) page.

ACT MULTICULTURAL
FRAMEWORK 2015-2020

Second Action Plan
2019-2020



Mother Tongue Multilingual Poetry event

The most recent Multilingual Open Mic took place on Monday 13 May 2019 from 7 pm to 9 pm at Smith's Alternative. The feature was Ngunawal (Ngunnawal) language lesson with Tyronne and Jai Bell. Participants learned some basic words and phrases in the language of the traditional custodians of this land with Ngunawal Elder Tyronne Bell and his son Jai. Email mothertonguemicro@gmail.com to sign up in advance for MTMLP events. Congratulations to everyone who presented poems at this well-attended event, with more than 40 attending the evening!



CAP Expo

At our stall at the ACT Government's Connect and Participate Expo (CAP Expo) at the Kingston Bus Depot Markets on 4 May 2019, 11 am to 4 pm, with a focus on learning languages in the ACT, we had information from ACT Bilingual Education Alliance (ACT BEA), the Canberra Region Languages Forum, and the Canberra Academy of Languages. This was the sixth year of CAP Expo, which ran for the first time in 2014. There was information about the benefits of languages for cultural, educational and personal development as well as ideas and information on how to learn and develop language skills in the ACT area. Thanks to those who ran the stall, including the Convener of the Canberra Region Languages Forum, Dr Mandy Scott and our CAL German teacher, Stephanie Borst.

Additional information about CAP Expo is at [the 2019 CAP Expo home page](#).

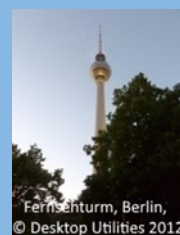




Canberra Academy of Languages June 2019 Update

German program commences with Canberra Academy of Languages

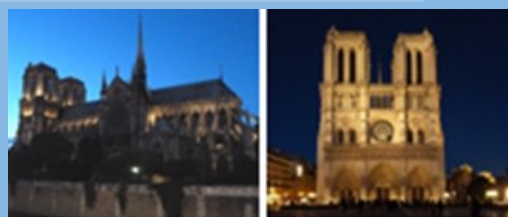
We are pleased to announce the commencement of a German program with the Canberra Academy of Languages. We are delivering Advanced German and Continuing German. Classes commenced on 24 April 2019 and will then be held on Thursday evenings for 2019. Year 11 students who have commenced with us in the program this year will complete a major in German by the end of Year 12, for which they will gain credit towards their ACT Senior Secondary Certificate. We welcome Stephanie Borst, our highly qualified teacher for this program.



Fernsehturm, Berlin,
© Desktop Utilities 2012

Notre Dame de Paris

At right, views of Notre Dame de Paris at night in 2012. We are very sorry to see the effects of the fire in April 2019.



Information/registration evening for Term 2 intake (French and German)

We held our **Term 2 information/registration evening** on Thursday 11 April 2019, for interested students and their families at the Alliance Française de Canberra, 66 McCaughey Street, Turner, to provide an overview of the program for the remainder of 2019 and plans for 2020. The CAL course implementation plan is the same for French and German:

2019 - Semester 1: The World Around Us
2019 - Semester 2: Lifestyle and Traditions

2020 - Semester 1: The Individual's Experience
2020 - Semester 2: Society and Community



Supporting language learning in Canberra

The Canberra Times

Elizabeth Lee's endorsement of the pathways concept for language learning in schools (not a new idea, but perhaps an extension of the existing one), was reported in *The Canberra Times* on 25 March (<https://www.canberratimes.com.au/story/5992203/liberals-plan-to-revamp-act-language-teaching/>); a concept that needs effective teacher supply, recruitment and retention provisions to make it work.

There also needs to be effective central provision supported by ACT government for language learning so that families who move between districts or who have a specific language connection can access the language learning that is relevant to them. It is available in most jurisdictions except ACT. We wrote to ACT Government about this in December 2017, which CAL will follow up with government this year.

The online version of an article in *The Canberra Times* on 9 April on languages education in the ACT (<https://www.canberratimes.com.au/story/6006721/shake-up-in-act-school-language-teaching-planned/>) includes points we raised with CT about this.

ACT BSSS Modern Languages Framework draft for consultation

Draft BSSS courses developed during 2018, including those written under the Modern Languages Framework, were available for public consultation until 22 March 2019. The draft modern languages courses are [available for viewing on the BSSS website](#). For each course there was an online questionnaire. Feedback, including ratings and detailed comments on key elements of the paper, was provided directly via the online questionnaire. We hope readers were able to take the opportunity to contribute to the process.

French Film Festival

The CAL French class visited Palace Electric Cinema in New Acton on Friday evening 15 March to see *Au Bout des Doigts* (advertised as "In Your Hands" in English, but we think better translated as "At Your Fingertips") as part of the Alliance Française French Film Festival. An excellent choice for Year 11-12 students of French. Students agreed that the choice of film for Years 11-12 was a good one.



af Alliance Française
Canberra



Canberra Academy of Languages June 2019 Update

Mother Language Walk

IMLM

The [Mother Language Walk 2019](#) took place on Sunday 24 February 2019. The walk commenced at 10:30 am, at the International Flag Display near Questacon carpark and finished at Kings Park, near the Police Memorial. The first photo below is from the ceremony held at the International Flag Display at Commonwealth Place on the shoreline of Lake Burley Griffin. The ceremony was followed by a walk via Kings Avenue Bridge with songs from around the world performed by the Lyneham High singers and by Thomas Laue at the National Carillon and a sausage sizzle in Kings Park.



Multilingual Canberra Stall at National Multicultural Festival



On Sunday 17 February, the Canberra Academy of Languages, ACT Bilingual Education Alliance and Canberra Region Languages Forum were some of the organisations represented on the Multilingual Canberra Stall in Civic Square at the National Multicultural Festival (NMF). There were also other languages-related stalls nearby on the Sunday, as well as other languages-related activities on the weekend of the NMF, such as the Languages Showcase on Stage 2. There were excellent responses to the greetings in multiple languages competition - more than 100. Great to see Azra Khan, festival organiser, who visited the stall. Thanks to all the ACT BEA members who helped at the stall with enquiries from stall visitors.



Registration Evening

At our **registration evening on Thursday 7 February 2019**, held from 6 pm at the Alliance Française de Canberra, 66 McCaughey Street, Turner, we finalised enrolments and provided an overview of this year's program.



Canberra Region Languages Forum updates

The Canberra Region Languages Forum publishes regular updates on current events and issues related to languages. Overviews and links are published on the news pages on CAL and MLTA websites. In the January 2019 update, readers will see that the Forum has a new logo, thanks to Taiwanese artist, Wen-Ying Shiao. [The January Update can be accessed electronically here](#). Copies of previous Forum Updates are available at <https://canberrallanguages.blogspot.com/p/forum-updates.html>.

From Dr Mandy Scott, Canberra Region Languages Forum Convenor



CAL events schedule for 2019

As of 8 January 2019, our new-look **Canberra Academy of Languages calendar for 2019** went live on [our Events page](#). Included for 2019 are Icons/logos for CAL events, CAL assessment tasks and external events; colour-coding for CAL events and CAL assessment tasks; and assessment task dates listed in advance for both



KOREAN LANGUAGE NETWORK

'2019 Ban-Gap Day! Korea!'

Our annual event 'Ban-Gap' Day, which is exclusive to the students undertaking Korean language course, was once again held at the Korean Embassy on Friday, 10th May 2019. Teachers, principals and around 110 students from Gungahlin College, Narrabundah College, Calwell High School and Gold Creek Public School were invited and warmly welcomed by Ambassador Lee and spent enjoyable time together at his 'lovely residence'.

Although the event is held annually, every year remarks different cultural activities hosted by the Embassy as well as marvellous speeches and performances showcased by students from each school.

This year, the college students had the opportunity to learn Korean martial arts called 'Tae Kwon Do' whilst the primary and high school students had fun in decorating Korean traditional masks called 'Ha-Hoe'.



Life at school can be dull and stressful, especially for the college students suffering from seemingly never-ending assessments, but this kind of cultural event does make a huge difference in their life as language learners.



"Ban-Gap Day' was a great opportunity to meet with other people who share the same passions as me. I really enjoyed the performances, the food, and the feeling of the community." - Bea, Gungahlin College

"It was really fun. The food was good and I learnt a lot about Korean culture." - Daria, Gungahlin College

"The best Korean-related experience I have had so far!" - Julia, Gungahlin College

Nam Kim

ACT Korean Language Network Leader



ITALIAN LANGUAGE NETWORK

2019 has got off to a busy start across the many preschool, primary, secondary, and tertiary classrooms where Italian is taught in the ACT.

Italian @ Yarralumla Preschool and Montessori School

The Yarralumla Primary School has a Preschool and Montessori Program where 3 to 5-year-olds learn about Italian Language and Culture in twice weekly Italian classes. Italian classes are taught by a mainstream Italian teacher and the course includes the ACARA topics covered in English at the two Early Childhood Programs. It is a joy to see these little people learn Italian so quickly and with such enthusiasm.

New Italian Pathway for Bilingual Students

Traditionally, students leaving the Italian Bilingual Primary School in Yarralumla faced limited choices as far as their continued learning in Italian was concerned. Although learning half the curriculum in Italian for their primary school years, they were faced with Beginning courses (the 7-10 sequence) in Italian in Year 7. This year for the first time, the ACT Education Directorate offers a continuing option for Year 6 students graduating from the Bilingual course at Yarralumla. This Year 7 cohort at Alfred Deakin High School are attending an Italian class where they will follow the F-10 sequence following on from their studies at Yarralumla. This is a wonderful addition to Language learning at Alfred Deakin High School, who now offer a genuine pathway for the students of the Bilingual Program.

Pasta Extravaganza at Yarralumla Primary School

Class Corallo fa farfalle alle dieci del mattino....

Martedì 13 marzo una delle bravissime Mamme della classe Corallo, la Signora Emiko (la mamma di Mariù) ha dato del suo tempo per imparare alla Classe Corallo come fare della pasta fresca.... Emiko è l'autrice di un nuovo ricettario intitolato "Tortellini a Mezzanotte". Sono state bravissime come vedete delle foto! La Signora Emiko spera di tornare nel futuro a lavorare con le altre classi nella nostra scuola.

On Tuesday 13th March one of our talented parents from Year 1 Corallo, Emiko Davies (Mariù's mum) generously gave us her time to run a Pasta Workshop where the Corallo class were taken through how to make fresh egg pasta. Emiko has recently released a new cookbook entitled 'Tortellini a Mezzanotte' (Tortellini at Midnight). The students were engaged and skilled pasta-makers, as is evident in these photos! Emiko hopes to return in future to work with other Yarralumla classes and spread her amazing pasta-making skills.



Settimana della Lingua and Commedia dell'arte

La Settimana della Lingua 2019 will take place between the 21st and 27th October. To coincide with this, the Italian Network hopes to schedule a Commedia dell'Arte performance and workshop by Fools in Progress scheduled for Term 3. Keep an eye out for updates on this event from the Italian Teachers' Network.



ITALIAN NETWORK CONTINUED

Italian Exchange Program Canberra WAATI (ACT) @ St Clare's College

The WAATI Student Exchange program was successfully launched at St Clare's College in Term 1 of 2019. A number of students have signed up to participate in the Sending Program at the end of 2019. This program has been running in the ACT since 2008 and has successfully united 30 families from Italy and Australia in the very first local Canberra Italian exchange student program. The program is an 8-9 week cultural and academic full immersion program, run in partnership with *AFS Intercultura* (Italy). Through the program parents and families become involved in the life of the school and lifelong relationships are forged between students.

The exchange program motivates not only language students at all levels, but also involves many other classes attended by the exchange students. This fosters a greater sense of intercultural understanding and builds community links across the school.

Stage 1 – Hosting

In late June/early July students arrive from Italy for a 2-month stay in Canberra. The students are hosted by an Australian family in and around Canberra. They attend school and are fully immersed in Australian family life. It is an opportunity for the students to improve their English and really experience the Australian way of life.

Stage 2 – Sending

The Sending Program offers Canberra students the opportunity to spend two months in Italy. Students leave in late November and return in late January. They attend school and many experience a white Christmas for the first time. For students studying Italian it is an opportunity to immerse themselves in the language. For those who go simply for the cultural experience, it is the opportunity to explore the Italian way of life and culture.

If you are interested in learning how your school can participate in this program, please contact Antonietta Martiniello and Sonia Conte at ScambioACT@outlook.com.

Sonia Conte
ACT Italian Language Network Leader



JAPANESE LANGUAGE NETWORK

On Saturday 25th May, the ACT Japanese Network was treated to a Professional Development day hosted by The Japan Foundation. Each year The Japan Foundation provides invaluable professional development specifically for Japanese language teachers on current trends and teaching ideas for the classroom.

The Japan Foundation shared ideas on creating a unit of work around Japanese Curry: the history, styles and how technology has changed the way people in Japan make curry. Traditionally only trained chefs created this amazing meal, but now it can be as simple as adding vegetables, meat, water and cubes of curry concentrate.

The Japan Foundation demonstrated some ICT ideas for use in a language classroom, from specific language based apps, interesting ways to design quizzes and also to broader websites including google maps. Another current cultural trend that could be used in a classroom focused on aromas used in the community. Public places are using aroma to enhance visitors' experiences. We had samples of Japanese incense and tried to identify the fragrance and imagine an airport or department store with this scent.

Louise Poulakis
ACT Japanese Language Network Leader



JAPANESE NETWORK CONTINUED

Year 9 Japanese Elective Day at Marist College Canberra

On 22nd May 2019, twenty-two year 9 Japanese students at Marist College Canberra spent the whole day immersed in Japanese language and culture. They started their day with language games using the vocabulary and grammar they had learnt in the unit about housing. Then they went on an excursion to the Japanese household item and stationary shop called “Muji” to study its minimalistic style and look for culturally significant and useful items. They also feasted on Japanese food at “Iori” restaurant. I was so impressed with how well-behaved they all were, comfortably sitting and quietly eating in a Japanese style. They came back to school to finish their day by watching “Your Name”, a body-swap comedy and time-travel adventure anime, which they loved.

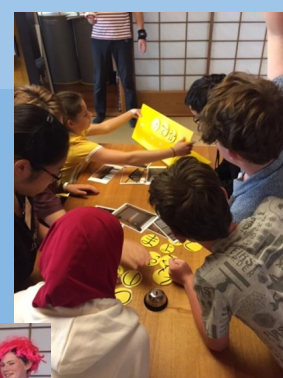
Megumi Noble
Japanese Teacher
Senior School at Marist College Canberra



Alfred Deakin High School Japanese

I definitely think we need to create a place like “Nihongo Tanken Centre” in the ACT. I took my Y9 students there in March and 25 students had great fun there! Mieko and Taka collaborate very well and students enjoyed and learnt enormously in an immersion environment. It is ideal to have two people team teaching for the effective immersion environment. A big thank you goes to Mieko and Taka!

Shizuko Barber – Teacher of Japanese, Alfred Deakin High School



FRENCH LANGUAGE NETWORK

Bonjour à tous!

The French Network is a team of educators from Primary through to College and beyond. Our network meetings are 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.

We started the year with a celebration of French-speaking with La Semaine de la Francophonie. Many francophone countries were represented by their diplomatic missions at the Alliance Française de Canberra. All schools teaching French are invited to participate in the activities. It was great to see the number of countries, schools and francophiles celebrating this special week.



Chef Christophe, Le Très Bon restaurant and Patrice Gilles, Alliance Française at the French stall.



Looking at the senior school entries.



Mme Davies, Aranda Primary and Mme Roveta, Hawker Primary.



Primary school posters of francophone countries.



Fun at the High Commission of Canada stall.



Mme Britton, Campbell High and secondary school students at the Embassy of Belgium stall.

FRENCH NETWORK CONTINUED

La semaine de la Francophonie

This year, the Embassies of countries who are members of the Organisation Internationale de la Francophonie (OIF) organised a week of activities, highlighting the importance of French as a world language. In Canberra, la Francophonie is represented by France, Belgium, Switzerland, Ivory Coast, Mauritius, Morocco and Canada as well as Vietnam, Egypt, Argentina and Greece. It is a non-aligned organisation, based on similar traditions and perceptions of democracy.

The week started with the Royal Embassy of Morocco hosting a cocktail to inaugurate the week. On the Tuesday, the Australian National University hosted a panel discussion on the about the role of OIF. The topic 'Can L'Organisation Internationale de la Francophonie be a Tool for Multilateralism?' was discussed by the Ambassadors of France and Morocco, the High Commissioner of Canada as well as a representative of the Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade, led by the journalist David Rowe. The panel's discussion was followed by a presentation by the President of the Francophonie Organisation in Ivory Coast. The number of French-speaking people in the world is increasing quickly as was pointed out by H. E. the Ambassador of France. It is interesting to note that the centre of the French-speaking world is now in Kinshasa rather than in Europe as many countries in Africa use French as their common language.

The Alliance Française French Film Festival

The week of the Francophonie coincided with the French Film Festival, and the Canberra audience were treated to films from Belgium and Canada as well as the many French films during this week. Many schools took advantage of Palace Electric Cinema's offer for school screenings, further enhanced by workbooks developed by the Alliance Française schools around Australia.

The Competition 'Dis-moi dix mots' and Les Pays Francophones for students of French

French students from the High Schools in Canberra participated in the competition 'Dis-moi dix mots' (Tell me ten words) which is organised annually by the International Organisation for the Francophonie, and Primary Schools took part in a local competition to describe an assigned country.

The Prize Ceremony was held at the Alliance Française where the Embassies of French-speaking countries had organised an Open Day showcasing their culinary and artistic culture as well as highlighting different tourist venues in their countries. One of the prizes was awarded to Myra Hughes and Isaac Davis from Campbell High School by the Deputy High Commissioner of Canada, Ms Isabelle Martin who is seen here with Ms Flavie Coulbault who co-ordinated La Semaine de la Francophonie.



The ACT French Teachers Network wish to thank the Embassies for their generous contributions towards our students. The souvenirs from all the different countries are great memories for the winners. The books will be of use to all students, and the winners generously shared the culinary delights and pins with their classmates.

Concert by Marc Aymon

As a closing event of the week, the Embassy of Switzerland sponsored a free concert by the Swiss songwriter Marc Aymon who held a lively, well attended concert at the Alliance Française in Turner. Students at Telopea Park High School had been treated to a concert at school and some brought their parents along to listen to more of Marc's songs. It was a fabulous end to a week of intense French activities!

This was the first year of extending the Francophonie Day, and with the success it had, the plans for next year are for even more activities to be offered.

Lena Britton
French Language Network Leader

FRENCH NETWORK CONTINUED

ANU Language Day 2019

The Year 10 French students from Campbell High School had the opportunity to take part in ANU Languages Day in April. It was a great experience for the students to learn of all the advantages Language studies do provide as they progress in their studies. Hearing about different exchange programs and internships that languages students from the ANU have participated in through the asset of having studied foreign languages, was inspiring to the Year 10 students and will hopefully set them on course to continue to persevere with their studies of languages through the college years.

The day was very well organised, and the students thoroughly enjoyed being on campus. The timing on the Thursday before stand-down was perfect as it was when all assignments had been handed in, and the students felt a bit more serene and able to look to the future. The day ended with an Bollywood Dance class which had all the students engaged and dancing.

This is the experience as described by one of the Year 10 students, Rebekah Kim:

On the 11th April 2019, I got the opportunity through Campbell High School's French program to participate in the Australian National University Languages Day. A day where current students studying languages gave us a taste of language studies at university level. The day commenced with an overall introduction and followed with a fascinating panel. The panel involved language students, either as a major or a minor, who had had the chance to study abroad in their chosen country different scholarships. The opportunities to go out to workplaces that were aligned with their degrees (global studies, law) were also discussed. In alignment with that aspect of the day, I learnt the importance of languages within the global and local workplace and employment world. The employment rates are eminently higher for those who are able to speak another language. Throughout the day, there were seminars run by students and along with my friends, I participated in Ancient Greece, French, German and Spanish classes and got the feeling of university life.

Before starting High school, I had been determined to study the French language and culture for the four years offered. Now as a Year Ten student, a semester away from graduating I am happy to say that I have learnt and come far and will be most definitely be continuing French along with other languages in future years. A current dream I have is, within a gap year travel to France and work as an Au Pair getting the experience of living like a local and putting my hard work into practice in my daily life.

A Chinese proverb says 'To learn a language is to have one more window from which to look at the world' and it could not sum up the experience better. The friends I have made in the four years of language classes are the greatest, and as a class, we have grown close by encouraging and learning with each other. Learning a new language does not promise to be easy, but if you put your mind to it and are determined, you will most certainly go places.



CHINESE LANGUAGE NETWORK

Semester 1, 2019 Update

The sector comprises private, public and community schools with Mandarin LOTE or Immersion program.

Semester One of 2019 began with an auspicious Lunar New Year Eve on 4th of February. The Chinese New Year of the Pig was celebrated on Tuesday across the sector in various cultural learning.

Mawson Primary School's students were lucky to enjoy the 15 days of celebration incorporated in their lessons along with a Chinese New Year assembly. Other schools may have incorporated cultural learning as well.

Most noteworthy of all in Term 2 was the Chinese Recital Competition held on Sunday 5th of May at the CGS. It was the first of its kind to be held in the ACT opened to all schools in the sector from Kindergarten to university students, as well as community groups. The categories were native and non-native speakers. More than one hundred individuals participated in this competition.

This event was organised by Chinese Teachers Association of ACT and the Contemporary Chinese Community schools endorsed by the Department of Education.



MLTA-ACT MINI-CONFERENCE

Embedding Indigenous Perspectives and Making Connections

Join us at our annual mini-conference, this year celebrating the 2019 International Year of Indigenous Languages, to look at the important work being done in the preservation, revival and promotion of Australia's Indigenous languages and dialects.

When: Saturday 17 August, 2019

Where: HBCTL

Time: 9am to 1pm

The mini-conference will begin with an official Welcome to Country, presented by Tyrone Bell, a Ngunawal descendant. Tyrone will also provide a presentation on his work in helping to revive and promote the Ngunawal language.

Other presenters will be announced very soon...look for our upcoming email to members regarding the mini-conference and how to book your place.



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