



CONTACT

MLTA-ACT Inc. Newsletter—Semester 2, 2020

In this issue:

- President's report
- Dates for your diary
- ACT Bilingual Education Alliance (ACTBEA)
- Canberra Academy of Languages (CAL)
- Chinese Language Network
- French Language Network
- German Language Network
- Indonesian Language Network
- Italian Language Network
- Japanese Language Network
- Spanish Language Network

Language is an anonymous, collective and unconscious art; the result of the creativity of thousands of generations.

Edward Sapir

President's report

Dear MLTA-ACT members,

What a year 2020 has been! Firstly, congratulations to us all on making it through what has been an unprecedented year in history in so very many ways. I am very certain that each and every one of us (teachers and students alike) have most definitely earned our upcoming break, in which hopefully we can all find ways to rest, relax and recuperate in the best ways possible for each of us.

I would like to take some time at this point to thank the MLTA-ACT executive committee – Tina, Annemarie, Lena, Prue, Frank, Veronique, Joanne, Myriam, Margo, Frances – for all their hard work and tireless effort in continuing to work together to provide professional learning and support in so many ways to our Association. In the best of times, having volunteers that can be relied upon to keep our Association functioning and of the most benefit to our members can be a tricky balance with work, family and life in general. This year has seen this group of people at their very best in managing this balance in very extreme circumstances, with a smile on their faces and flexibility to no end to meet in person and virtually, organising member events both face to face and with presenters from different time zones and different countries! As I'm sure that you, our members, would do, I would like to extend a huge thanks to them all.

It has been a privilege for me to be in the role of President this year, having the opportunity to work not only with colleagues within the ACT, but also across the country. Thank you to all members who have participated in the surveys presented by the AFMLTA National Languages Plan and Strategy project group. This information is a vital and valuable resource in helping to shape languages education for the future in Australia, across all sectors. Your voice and experience is important, so if you haven't yet completed the surveys, please head to <https://nlps.afmlta.asn.au/>.

Working with fellow MLTA Presidents across Australia, I have been lucky enough to learn from colleagues both near and further afield. The Presidents group have increased our communication and connection with each other throughout this year, in order to better serve our members across Australia and to better promote languages and languages education in our states and territories. I look forward to this continuing to grow in the future, so that members of MLTAs across Australia are able to connect with each other for professional learning and to strengthen our capacity, both as individual educators and as a group of dedicated professionals.

To finish, I would like to offer a sincere thank you to all of you, our MLTA-ACT members. Throughout 2020 you have been active in attending our professional learning, both through face to face opportunities and over virtual means. Our professional learning session with Dr Gianfranco Conti was extremely well attended, being our first online Zoom presentation of professional learning. Dr Conti was, as always, an entertaining and energetic presenter...as were all of the attendees in their professional discussions and participation in the presentation. Most recently, our review of the ups and downs and roundabouts of 2020 were reflected and celebrated in our TeachMeet where 8 amazing educators from across the ACT shared their learning triumphs and challenges of remote, face to face and blended learning with the audience who attended.

I look forward to continuing working with the executive committee and our members into 2021, starting with our Meet and Greet and Fiona Arthur Language Teaching award presentation – congratulations again to all who were nominated and especially to our winner, Sheree Avar. We are currently in negotiations with Joe Dale for future professional learning, and are greatly looking forward to AFMLTA's International Conference in July. The conference, which was to be held in South Australia, will now be held online, but is shaping up to be just as fantastic as ever. More details will be sent on to members regarding all of these events and more in the future.

For now, be well, be safe, be healthy and be happy...whatever and however you may celebrate over the coming break, please enjoy.

Thank you,

Sharee Harrild – MLTA-ACT Executive President

CONTACT

The newsletter for the Modern Languages Teachers' Association Inc.



Message from the Editor

Welcome to the Semester 2 edition of the MLTA-ACT newsletter, CONTACT. Thank you to all the organisations, networks and educators who have contributed to this issue. Our members love to read about a variety of things that are going on in our language-learning communities. This newsletter provides an opportunity to belong to a community of language educators and to share amongst us.

If you have any articles, comments or photos that you would like to have included in future issues please contact the Editor via email: contacteditor@mltaact.asn.au

Enjoy! ... Prudence Roveta

“A different language is a different vision of life.”

Federico Fellini

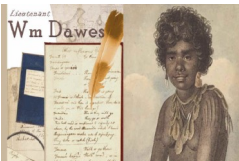
Dates for your diary:

- Sunday, 21 February 2021:
2021 National Multicultural Festival
- Thursday, 25 February 2021:
MLTA ACT Annual Meet and Greet. We will be presenting plans for 2021 and the Fiona Arthur Language Teaching Award for 2020.

ACT Government has postponed the NMF. New date is tba, pending COVID developments.

Patji-Dawes Language Teaching Award:

Nominations Open



Do you know an accomplished language teaching practitioner or team of practitioners?
Why not nominate them for this award?

The Patji-Dawes Language Teaching Award honours outstanding achievements in teaching languages other than English by an accomplished practitioner or team of practitioners in Australia. The Patji-Dawes award is an initiative of the ARC Centre of Excellence for the Dynamics of Language through their Outreach program, which includes a commitment to improving levels of multilingualism and mastery of other languages in Australia through understanding and public debate on how we learn (and teach) second and other languages most effectively. The award is co-sponsored by the two national language teaching bodies, the Australian Federation of Modern Language Teachers Associations and the Languages and Cultures Network for Australian Universities.

The award will include a certificate, small cash prize and, if travel permitted, airfare and accommodation for both the prize-winner and their nominator to attend the award ceremony. In 2021, this is proposed for the AFMLTA conference in Adelaide, 4-6 July 2021.

Deadline for submission of nominations: **8 March 2021**. Nomination forms and more details are [available here](#).

Patji-Dawes link:

<https://www.dynamicsoflanguage.edu.au/education-and-outreach/dawes-award/>

Have you heard about **ELLA** for preschools?

<https://www.ella.edu.au/>

ELLA

Early Learning Languages Australia



ELLA is a digital, play-based language learning program for preschool children. This Australian Government initiative inspires children by driving a genuine interest in a new language and culture.

CONTACT

The newsletter for the Modern Languages Teachers' Association Inc.



ACT BILINGUAL EDUCATION ALLIANCE

The ACT Bilingual Education Alliance (ACTBEA) has continued to celebrate and promote languages and language learning despite the many challenges presented by the global pandemic and restrictions on social gatherings this year.

One of the ways we have done this was through organising 'Taste of Languages', a free fun competition open to all students in the Canberra region from preschool to Year 12. There were prizes for four categories depending on Year level. The competition ran from mid-June to 1 September 2020 and invited students (with the help of parents for the Preschool to Year 2 category) to make a short video and write about a favourite meal or dish that involved another language.

A list of all the prize winners and shortlisted finalists, with details of the schools they attend and the languages featured in their entries, can be seen on the ACTBEA website at <https://actbilingual.weebly.com/news.html>

We held a COVID-safe presentation ceremony for winners and shortlisted finalists at the Theo Notaras Multicultural Centre on Monday 2 November. The photo below shows Chris Steel MLA presenting a prize to two sisters who submitted a joint entry about gado gado salad, watched carefully by a younger member of the family.



ACTBEA is also working with ACT Libraries and selected community language schools on a pilot project to develop simple original children's story books for groups who find it difficult to access suitable books in their family languages. We are encouraging community language schools to involve older students in the writing and/or illustrating of the stories. ACT Libraries may be able to print some of the books, which will then be available for borrowing or reading during the Bilingual Story Times regularly held at various library branches.

We are hoping to continue our collaboration with ACT Libraries and build on the experience gained in this pilot project to help organise story writing workshops for a wider range of languages in the future.

We thank all the teachers who promoted the 'Taste of Languages' competition through their schools and acknowledge the support of Canberra Multicultural Community Forum Inc and funding through an ACT 2019-2020 Participation (Multicultural) Grant which made these activities possible.

Mandy Scott
ACTBEA Secretary

CONTACT

The newsletter for the Modern Languages Teachers' Association Inc.



CANBERRA ACADEMY OF LANGUAGES



CAL programs for 2021

The Canberra Academy of Languages is planning to deliver continuing and advanced programs in French, German, Japanese, Spanish and Tamil in 2020. With the addition of Japanese, we have invited expressions of interest from qualified teachers who would like to take on the role as a member of the CAL teaching team. If CLN members know of any potentially suitable candidates to run the CAL Japanese program, please encourage them to contact us with an expression of interest. Details are on the CAL News page.

End of year ceremony

Our end of year ceremony was held at the Alliance Française de Canberra on **Tuesday 15 December 2020** from 2:30 to 3:30 pm. We had six students graduating in Year 12 – two each in French and Tamil, and one each in Spanish and German. Presenters for certificates of completion included principals from the colleges attended by the French and Tamil students and the languages coordinator from the German student's college. Some of the graduating students spoke briefly at the event about their language learning experience. Our graduating Spanish student was interstate and unable to attend. We are very appreciative of everyone's participation. Pictured above are CAL staff and our advisory panel at the event.

Laros Industries excursion

On Thursday 19 November, for their final face-to-face session in 2020, the CAL German class visited Laros Industries in Fyshwick. The company name is an anagram of the word "Solar". Laros specialises in sustainable building design, using modular solutions air-tight and thermally-broken doors and windows and air-tight breathable membranes. Their principal suppliers include firms in Germany and Austria and the owner-manager's first language is German. Discussion during the visit was almost exclusively in German. The German teacher reported that after returning to the class venue, there was a lively discussion on the insights gained during the visit. We greatly appreciate the generosity and interest of Michael Kingsland in facilitating it.

Partnerships

Plans are on hold for the languages showcase to be held as part of the 2021 National Multicultural Festival. Because of risks with COVID-19, at this stage the timing and implementation for next year's NMF are uncertain.

Meanwhile, Mother Tongue Multilingual Poetry, which has funding auspiced by CAL held its final event for 2020 on Monday evening 23 November 2020. Their program has been highly successful and has had a strong following with many regulars attending either in person or via Zoom. Recent events have offered both options, which also meant that interested people from outside the Canberra region could participate.

Staffing

As noted above, we are looking for a teacher of Japanese for next year. Meanwhile, I am pleased to advise that Anja Ward joined the CAL team for the final quarter-year with CAL German. Anja's first language is German and she has been excellent in the role.

Frank Keighley | Convener, Canberra Academy of Languages

Organisational website: <https://cal.act.edu.au>

Resources repository : <https://languages.org.au>

CONTACT

The newsletter for the Modern Languages Teachers' Association Inc.



CHINESE LANGUAGE NETWORK

This year proved another year to see our Kindergarten -Year 12 Chinese classes from Brindabella Christian College enjoying all that the subject has to offer. We continue to be delighted to see our students engaging in language and cultural practice through a wide range of topics. The highlight of this year has been the Chinese Garden project conducted across Middle School and Senior School. Students have been involved in designing and building models of a Chinese garden and we are now seeing this garden built in reality. This has been such a great experience for them in learning about the traditional Chinese treasure of expressing the harmony between man and nature in a garden. This has matched well with our biblical concept of 'shalom' or 'peace', which is harmony within one's self, harmony with God, with others, and with creation.

May Liu

(Head of Languages, Brindabella Christian College)
Chinese Language Network



CONTACT

The newsletter for the Modern Languages Teachers' Association Inc.



FRENCH LANGUAGE NETWORK

Nouvelle Calédonie

At the French Network's last meeting of the year, the focus was on New Caledonia. Dr Yves Lafoy, Official representative of New Caledonia to Australia, Counsellor at the French Embassy, had organised presentations by CREIPAC Language school as well as a presentation of the curriculum by the New Caledonian Education Department (Vice Rectorate). These presentations were made virtually. Elisabeth Glasgow from the ACT Education Directorate gave a presentation of the Australian curriculum. As the cross-curriculum priorities in Australia and New Caledonia are very similar, i.e. stressing the need to promote connections between the indigenous



and non-indigenous populations to foster more meaningful collaboration, emphasising the need of students to connect with the Pacific and Asian region, and for students to engage with the environment and try to promote a sustainable development in the region and find solutions to problems encountered.

It was great seeing so many teachers interested in collaborating with schools in New Caledonia, and to have the support of the directorate to start arranging exchanges with sister-schools. We are all hoping that a travel bubble will be established with New Caledonia given that there have been a very limited number of COVID 19 cases there as well as here in the ACT. For next year, we are hoping to be able to supply lesson plans for different age-groups and organise virtual meetings of our classes. If you are interested in taking part, let Lena know at lana.britton@ed.act.edu.au.

Excursion by Campbell High School Year 9 students to North Ainslie Primary —December 2020.

The Year 9 French students have written and illustrated children's books this semester, and on Thursday were welcomed to North Ainslie Primary school where Mme Patricia Hamilton's Year 4 students eagerly waited for them. Six groups were organised and the Year 4 students were rapt by the story telling in French. Anahid, Madison and Aidan had created an ABC-book telling a story about a ball lost in play, replaced by buying a new one on the web – one of the few words in French starting on the letter 'W'. Olivia told the story of 'Robert Le Requin', a shark who wanted to be friends with the other fish, where as Kirily and Ida's story was about a bullied, purple butterfly Daisy. Indi and Jenna's book beautifully illustrated told about Lou le Kangourou Bleu's adventures on top of the Eiffel tower and how he gets down with the help of a pink flamingo. Felicity created a story about a cat who wanted to have her own Patisserie when she grown up. George and Harry's story was about the friendship between a rabbit and a frog, and how the rabbit saved the frog's life.

It was lovely to see the enthusiasm with which the Year 4 and Year 9 students chatted, and the questions asked about the books and how the Year 9 students got the ideas were interesting. There were also many questions about high school, love and life in general.



"I think that Campbell High did an amazing job with their stories. I really liked the story about Cookie le Chat, which was about a cat who likes to cook. Also, the one about Lulu, le Kangourou Bleu, and the alphabet story about three animal friends. Their pronunciation was really good and they all put so much effort into

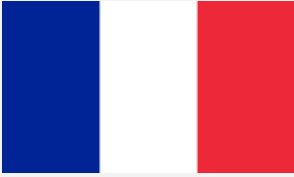
"I liked how the Campbell High students were confident with their French. The drawings in their books were so

"It was a memorable experience for me to say the Acknowledgement of Country in French on behalf of our school. The drawings were amazing. I related to the story of the blue kangaroo who goes to Paris because it reminded me of looking down on Paris from the Eiffel

"The Campbell High students were really smart and knew how to present their stories. They took their time and didn't rush. The stories were great and I loved the drawings too!" – Josie

CONTACT

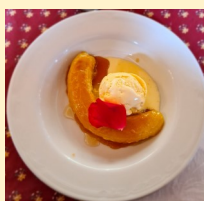
The newsletter for the Modern Languages Teachers' Association Inc.



FRENCH LANGUAGE NETWORK Continued

Au restaurant Le Très Bon

French teachers enjoyed participating in professional learning at Le Très Bon restaurant in Bungendore on a Saturday in December. Chef Christophe designed a class on the lifestyle, culture and cooking of New Caledonia. Chef and his wife Josephine talked about their experiences of living and working in this French part of the Pacific. The PL was conducted as French immersion which was fantastic for we teachers who are not native speakers and are at various stages of learning the language. It was a fabulous opportunity to connect with teachers from different schools who teach from preschool through to college.



Salade de poisson nouvelle
calédonienne & Bananes
flambées, glace à la vanille



High School Year 9 students to North Ainslie Primary

High school students reading to Primary school students



CONTACT

The newsletter for the Modern Languages Teachers' Association Inc.



FRENCH LANGUAGE NETWORK Continued

Concours de poésie française

This year celebrated the tenth year of the ACT French Poetry Competition where ACT schools teaching French are invited to participate. This competition was created by French teacher, Myriam Davies, who was then the French Network Leader. Myriam wanted to provide a way to celebrate a very French tradition of poetry along with a way to help students develop good pronunciation and fluency and experience success. Over the years we have had competitors from government, catholic and independent schools. This year some Years 7 and 8 students took on the challenge. We were still able to conduct our awards ceremony and recitals at the Alliance Française de Canberra in three consecutive sessions. Teachers and parents were very proud of the students' achievements.



Students, French teachers, Nancy Ford-Waites (Director of the Alliance Française) and Hajer Gam (Embassy of France).



Lena Britton (French Network Leader)

Prudence Roveta (French Teacher—Hawker)

CONTACT

The newsletter for the Modern Languages Teachers' Association Inc.



GERMAN LANGUAGE NETWORK

News from the Network Leader

This year, the ACT German community was fortunate to have an exhibition curated at the Canberra Museum and Gallery (CMAG) that told the stories of skilled German workers 'the Jennings Germans' arriving in Canberra to support the construction of the developing city. The Canberra Gallery and Museum offered German classes across the ACT tours of this exhibition to share this cultural history with our students and enrich their learning programs. Several ACT schools took up this offer and were treated to detailed tours by the senior curator of the exhibition. The history was shared through the lens of personal stories and experiences in our local community. This exhibition received support from the German Embassy and will retain the digital resources through the CMAG website – a great resource for future years! Teachers were also upskilled in this local history at our Network Mini-Conference, where the senior curator again presented. The Network is very thankful to the support of CMAG and the senior curator for sharing this resource and history.

For the first time in several years, the German Network offered a Speaking Competition to our Year 7-11 students. This competition was supported by Das Zentrum and the Goethe Institut. Students were offered a range of texts and poetry in three levels. We had a good participation rate and the results will be announced in late November. We are thankful for the support of the language organisations to run this opportunity for our students.

After some delays due to COVID restrictions, we held our German Mini-Conference on Saturday, 7 November. We held this at CMAG to allowed us to link in with the Jennings Germans exhibition. This conference was officially opened by a representative of the German Embassy and included sessions from the Goethe Institut, a very interesting presentation by the curator of the Jennings Germans exhibition and teacher sharing. It was great to come together after a long year!

Throughout this school year the Goethe Institut has offered several online professional development programs which teachers embraced.

We hope to have more events up and running again next year. It has been a challenging year, but also a year of opportunities for growth and adaptation.

Birgit Matwijiw
German Network



Participating teachers at the German Mini-Conference



Show and Tell at the German Mini-Conference

CONTACT

The newsletter for the Modern Languages Teachers’ Association Inc.



INDONESIAN LANGUAGE NETWORK

Orangutan Sponsorship

For the past four years, Indonesian students at Melrose High School have sponsored five orangutans in Indonesia - Charlie, Hockey, Holland, Kobe and Jeffrey Junior. The five orangutans are being cared for at the Orangutan Foundation International rehabilitation centre in Kalimantan, so that they can one day return to living in the wild.

Every year students from Indonesian classes bake cupcakes to sell to the school community – so that they can raise funds to continue sponsoring the “Melrose Orangutans”. The project was the suggestion of current Year 10 students, when they studied about palm oil and orangutans in Year 7 Indonesian classes. We receive updates every six months on the orangutans’ progress and can connect with them via photos and videos.

This year students raised a staggering \$618! This means that we can continue sponsoring our five orangutans for the next 12 months. With the extra money raised this year, we have been able to commit to sponsoring Jeffrey Junior (the youngest) for the next two years. It is so lovely for students to be able to connect their classroom learning with programs that have an impact out in the wider community.

Rebecca Battaglini

Indonesian Teacher, Melrose High School

Students baking cup-cakes to raise funds for five orangutans including Jeffrey Junior (below)



CONTACT

The newsletter for the Modern Languages Teachers' Association Inc.



ITALIAN LANGUAGE NETWORK

ACT Italian Network DVD library

As a response to the extraordinary circumstances of this year, the Italian Network took the opportunity to establish a DVD library. The DVDs are from Palace Cinemas and are anthologies from the popular Italian film festivals screened there. The library will be managed by one of the network leaders and will permit teachers to borrow DVDs for use in their classes as authentic texts for up to 8 weeks.

St Clare's at Trecento pizza-making workshop

Year 9 Italian students visited Trecento Pizzeria on Wednesday 2nd December. 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 wood-fired oven and shared a beautiful lunch together. Thank you to the staff at Trecento for a truly wonderful experience!

Italian F-10 program, St Clare's College

Year 7 F-10 students continued to work on their High School transition video produced in Italian for Year 6 students leaving Yarralumla Bilingual Primary school, providing a snapshot of what life would be like in Year 7. This video was shown at the St Clare's Year 7 2021 Orientation Day and at to the Year 6 students at their former primary school. In addition, the pen pal program between the Year 7 St Clare's F-10 students and Year 6 Yarralumla Bilingual Primary school students began late in Term 4. It is hoped that the program will continue in some form in 2021.

Senior Italian at the Italian Continental Bakery

In order to celebrate the end of eventful year, Year 11 and 12 St Clare's students indulged in an Italian at the Italian Continental Bakery in Mawson. It was a final opportunity for the group to meet informally and speak Italian before classes concluded.

Sonia Conte (St Clare's College) and Antonietta Martiniello (Yarralumla Bilingual Primary school)



CONTACT

The newsletter for the Modern Languages Teachers' Association Inc.



ITALIAN LANGUAGE NETWORK continued

“Italian studies at St. Francis Xavier College, Canberra”

Sara Bavato / Laura Egan; Published “Il Globo News” 8 September 2020.

These are the words of Sidney Shaw, a Year 10 student at St Francis Xavier College (SFX) in Canberra.

“I appreciate this program because we have the opportunity to learn Italian in a fun way and it allows us to make new friends, learn new concepts with language and culture, and even take a trip to Italy with the school,” she continued.

“It helps us to gain knowledge of how other countries work, as well as the languages; not only do we get to learn a new language, but it improves our problem solving, memory and communication skills.”

Italian is one of the two languages offered, as well as Japanese, to the 1200 students at the Catholic high school in the Australian capital.

Classes are presented in a dynamic and stimulating way, providing opportunities to explore the Italian language and culture beyond a textbook.

Languages are compulsory for the first two years (there are currently six Italian classes in both Year 7 and Year 8) but they become optional in the following years, leading to a significant drop in numbers.

The only exception was in 2019, a year that saw record numbers with two Year 9 Italian classes for the first time ever.

Tina Rodriguez teaches Italian at SFX, together with her colleague Silvana Olsen.

Rodriguez has worked at the school since 2008, straight after getting her teaching qualification as a mature-age student once her children were grown up.

“I wouldn’t want to be teaching anything other than Italian; it’s a great passion of mine and I’m proud of my heritage,” she said, adding that both of her parents migrated to Australia from Calabria in the 1950s.

Rodriguez is an advocate of the school’s cultural exchange program with the Liceo “Girolamo Bagatta”, a state upper secondary school located in the municipality of Desenzano del Garda in the province of Brescia, and she made it her personal mission to breathe life into the project.

When she first started teaching at SFX, she applied for a scholarship in Italy and through that, she met the principal of the school in Lombardy.

Since 2013, a strong link between the two schools has been consolidated: Italian students have visited Canberra twice, and SFX students have been to Desenzano four times.

Studying Italian in Year 9 is a requirement to participate in the trip, and the exchange program is a big incentive for students to continue their language studies throughout high school.



CONTACT

The newsletter for the Modern Languages Teachers' Association Inc.



ITALIAN LANGUAGE NETWORK continued

Article continued...

"Learning Italian has given me an insight into the culture as well as the language skills to participate in the Italian trip our school offers," Year 10 student, Indyanna Marshall, said.

"The three weeks I spent in Italy on our school trip were some of the best weeks of my whole life.

"I was able to experience a whole new culture and learn about Italy's history by visiting famous landmarks such as the Leaning Tower of Pisa and Pompeii.

"Because I had been able to learn the language, I was able to spend my time with a host family, experience how they lived, meet new people, and test my skills."

Due to the coronavirus pandemic, SFX students were unable to host their Italian counterparts this year, while the trip to Italy that was scheduled for 2021 has also been cancelled.

Fortunately, the school year is filled with special classes and excursions that keep students engaged.

For both Japanese and Italian, the work units tend to end with more interactive activities.

Year 8 students participate in a cooking class, while Year 9 students explore the theme of Italian fashion and the concept of "la bella figura" by participating in a fashion parade and describing the outfits of their classmates in Italian.

Older students learn about more challenging topics such as the environment, with trips to nature parks in the area.

Last week, a group of senior students had the opportunity to interview some representatives of the Italian Embassy in Canberra and explore the theme of identity in Italy.

"This term's work unit is titled 'Society and Communities' and focuses on regions and regionalism," Rodriguez said.

"Through a series of questions they prepare, the students must understand how strong regional identity still is in Italy today.

"The point is to see whether people in Italy still say 'I'm Calabrian' before they say 'I'm Italian'.

"If they don't have Italian background, students don't fully understand this regional attachment at first."

In the coming weeks, students will also participate in a national language competition that will test their knowledge, and the winners will be announced during a school event at the end of the year.

For those who are already thinking about university, excellent news (and a further incentive) comes from the Australian National University, which adds an additional five points on to the ATAR score of students who study Italian in their final years.

In short, there really is no excuse to not learn Italian at SFX!

Article link contributed by Tina Rodriguez, Italian Teacher, SFX.



CONTACT

The newsletter for the Modern Languages Teachers' Association Inc.



JAPANESE LANGUAGE NETWORK

The Meet session with our sister school in Japan!

This was our second time to run the Meet session with our sister school in Tokushima, Japan, but was still very exciting!

Year 9 class had a first time to meet their email buddy on the screen. They enjoyed the session so much! This activity is such a powerful way to make them closer together and is a great motivator for them to learn Japanese. It is lucky that we do not have much time difference. Students and I would love to do this again later this year.



Ikebana workshops

At the end of term 3, all my classes experienced Ikebana try out sessions. They came to the grip with the concept of Ikebana quickly and created magical Ikebana works! Their talent in this traditional art form of flower arrangement was brilliant. They worked on the Shimputai-Shoka from Ikenobo school (池坊一新風体生花). Their creativity shines in this new wave free style more.



Japanese Network High School Division Speech Contest 2020

Speech Contests are one of the most effective extension tools for our students to learn Japanese. My students were very keen and they tried their best. Many participants say that they learn the language a lot through this activity. They also learn from each other. Every year, we do not have many challengers for the Year 9 and 10 Divisions, sadly. I would like to see more students participating from Year 9 and 10. Two media students filmed all speeches for the contest in Week 10 in front of me.

Contributed by Shizuko Barber

CONTACT

The newsletter for the Modern Languages Teachers' Association Inc.



SPANISH LANGUAGE NETWORK

Tango with the Spanish Network

The Spanish Network has been fairly quiet this semester except for getting back to a regular teaching routine. We had a virtual meeting earlier in the term and decided to have a Spanish competition early next year. Also, when restrictions eased further earlier this term, Macgregor Primary School hosted Ann Smith and Myk Dowling from Tango Capital to run some workshops. Years 3-6 were treated to authentic Uruguayan Tango music and tailor made dance steps. A fun day all round!



Paula Charles

Spanish Network Leader

December 2020

CONTACT

MLTA-ACT Inc. Newsletter—Semester 2, 2020



The role of the MLTA is to promote language learning in the ACT by providing a voice for language teachers and to facilitate professional dialogue among ACT colleagues and with colleagues in other jurisdictions.

WEB: <https://www.mltaact.asn.au/>

EDITOR: contacteditor@mltaact.asn.au