

French Network News

3 July & 8 July 2020

Bonjour à toutes et à tous,

Last news for the semester, and what a semester it has been! I think the year can only get better 😊

La compétition de récitation de poèmes - Poetry Recital Competition

This year, we are expanding the competition to include the Year 7 students as well as many of them have had the opportunity to take part throughout their Primary school years. Please answer this Google form <https://forms.gle/5JM99mPhRHg4GjkaA> if you want to take part (even if you have let Prue and me know before – it helps with the administration). A maximum 2 students per year level for the non-francophone students and 3 students per year level of the francophone students can be entered in the final to be assessed by our juges. The contributions have to be uploaded by **Friday 25 September 2020** (week 10, Term 3).

The Poetry recital competition also has a poem for the Year 8 students. If you are interested in your students participating, please fill out this form <https://forms.gle/PfaBnRkvUTzDiHncA> and you will get access to the lovely poems selected by Prue. If you have any questions, don't hesitate to ask Prue at prudence.roveta@ed.act.edu.au or me. The contributions have to reach us by Week 10 Term 3, (Friday 25 September) and we are looking at holding the Prize giving ceremony at the Alliance Française week 6, Term 4 in connection with the Alliance Française's Open Day.

Prue has chosen a wonderful selection of poems for the different levels and year groups which you will be able to access once you have signed up. I am attaching the competition rules. If you have any questions, please contact Prue (prudence.roveta@ed.act.edu.au) or me.

French Conversation Group

We will restart the French conversation group on Thursday the 30th of July at 17:00. This group is led by Floriane Henneaux who chooses topics and develops material that are relevant to current events. I have been able to use the selected material with my Year 10 students and it has been very interesting to hear the opinion both of colleagues and of students.

The cost for this term's five meetings is \$75, payable to Campbell High School. Please let me know if you are interested and able to attend. The meetings will be on 30/7, 13/8, 27/8, 10/9 and 24/9.

French Network Meeting Thursday 6 August

The French Network meeting will take place on Thursday the 6th of August from 15h30. I will send you a link to sign up when I know whether we can hold the meeting at Alliance Française or not.

At the end of this meeting we will divide in primary and secondary schools to share resources and ideas.

Prize-giving Ceremony for La compétition de la Francophonie

Due to COVID 19, we are still waiting for a final date to announce the prizes for the competition. Hopefully this will be resolved during the stand-down period. All contributions are still at the Alliance Française and will be displayed again when a decision is made.

Professional Learning

With COVID 19 still active, we have had to cancel the professional learning with Dr Gianfranco Conti – again. We will, however, organise PL with the Alliance for Term 3.

Taste of Languages Competition

I am attaching an invitation from ACT Bilingual Association to take part in the Taste of Languages-competition. If you want to take part, the entries need to be sent to Email canberrabilingual@gmail.com by the **1st of September**.

Call for Abstracts to Postgraduate Conference on Multilingualism Saturday 10th October, 2020

The exciting student-led, web-based conference, co-hosted by Multilingualism Research Centre, Dept. of Linguistics & School of Education, Macquarie University School of Education, University of New South Wales, providing a valuable opportunity for current postgraduate students and early career researchers, affiliated to universities in Australia and New Zealand, to present on completed or on-going Masters or Doctoral research.

I am attaching the flyer.

Reminder regarding contacts with Embassies

Please remember the following instructions from Assistant Director of Universal Support, Meg Owens, regarding contacts with the French-speaking embassies :

Dear language teachers,

First and foremost I'd like to thank you for your hard work, and passion in the delivery of languages across our schools in the ACT. Your work is greatly appreciated and your active advocacy for your languages and communities does not go unnoticed.

It is very important to remember that as members of the Education Directorate, you are public servants and part of the ACT Government. This means that when you meet with external bodies, organisations and embassies, you are seen as such and a voice for the ACT Government rather than an individual from your language community. For this reason, regular clearance processes must apply if you are acting in any public capacity. Which includes conversations with embassies and external organisations. The process of approval includes approaching your principal for approval whilst simultaneously informing the Directorate.

The Directorate has a request in regard to your relationships with Embassies, International community and any non-Directorate organisations.

1. Embassies –

- It is very important to remember that an Embassy represents a foreign government body, and all discussions and agreements that are made can be considered to be between the ACT Government and that foreign government.*
- If you are meeting with any Embassy, Embassy official, ambassador, or embassy staff you **must** inform the Directorate.*
- The reason for this is that we must inform another area of the Directorate who monitor international stakeholder relations.*
- It is also often important to have someone attend from Universal School Support to take note of any agreements or decisions made. No agreements or decisions can be made without Directorate approval.*
- If you are planning to contact the Embassy related to your language to request support for language teaching assistants, prizes, funding or any other support, it is important to do this through the Directorate.*
- If there is a member of an Embassy community visiting your school, you must also inform the Directorate.*

2. External organisations –

- if you are presenting at public events, conferences, professional learning or other capacity about language provision or ACT Education matters, as a teacher from the Directorate, you will be seen as the face of the Directorate.*
- You must obtain Directorate permission to speak at events; this includes clearance of materials and topics for speaking.*

3. *Any other agreements regarding teaching arrangements through external organisations for language network events, network meetings, language teaching assistants must come through the Directorate.*

These arrangements are being put in place to ensure your safety and security, and in most instances there will be no issue at all. It is about ensuring that we are informed of all interactions in the language space, so that there are no double ups in information or agreements.

Who to contact:

Meg Owens

Assistant Director Universal School Support

Meg.owens@act.gov.au

6205 1262

Thank you once again for your assistance. Please do not hesitate to contact me if you have any questions about this.

Kind regards

Meg Owens

Assistant Director | Universal School Support

Phone: +61 2 6205 1262

Service Design and Delivery | Education Directorate | ACT Government

Hedley Beare Centre for Teaching and Learning

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Contact with feeder primary schools

I would like to encourage contact between Primary and High Schools to promote kids choosing to study French. Could you please let me know if you have any joint activities?

Immersion Day for Year 9/10

Please let me know if you are interested in taking part at the end of Term 3/beginning of Term 4.

Alliance French Film Festival

Do you want to have any School sessions for the Film Festival? I would like to take my school to "Donne-moi des ailes - Spread your wings" if possible. If you would like to go with your classes to any of the films offered, could you please let me know urgently so that I can tell the Alliance? They would like to accommodate us if possible.

MLTA

Next event by MLTA will be at web seminar with Dr Conti on August 15. Please register via [the MLTA ACT membership renewal form](#). Bank details for payment of membership fees are as follows:

- BSB 062 902
- Account number: 009 027 82
- Account name: Modern Language Teachers' Association of ACT Inc.
- Reference: Memb. 2019 + Your Name

Membership of MLTA ACT provides the benefits of newsletters, events, affiliation to the [Australian Federation of Modern Language Teachers' Associations](#), (AFMLTA), including a subscription to the national language teachers' journal, *Babel*, as well as FIPLV (see "Role and activities" above).

Update contact details

If you have changed schools, teaching area, etc please let me know 😊

La remise de prix de la compétition de la Francophonie

We are looking to organise this ceremony the first week of September, dependent on the COVID social isolation development.

News from the Alliance Française

Nous recherchons des professeurs habitant dans la région de Canberra. Contrats temps partiel : 2h à 10h d'enseignement par semaines.

<https://www.afcanberra.com.au/about-us/job-opportunities/current-teaching-opportunities/>

The Alliance Française French Film Festival - Take 2

There may be a possibility to organise school projections of the film "Donne-moi des ailes - Spread your wings". If you would like to go with your classes to any of the films offered, could you please let me know urgently so that I can tell the Alliance? They would like to accommodate us if possible. Tickets will be on sale from Thursday 9 July.

MLTA

Next event by MLTA will be at web seminar with Dr Conti on August 15. More information to come, but please keep the date!

If you need to renew your membership, please do so through [the MLTA ACT membership renewal form](#). You can pay via TryBooking <https://www.trybooking.com/BICGJ> but don't forget to fill out the form as well.

Fiona Arthur Language Teaching Award 2020

This information comes to us from Annemarie Power, the Executive Secretary of MLTA

"Dear MLTA ACT members,

The 19th of June 2020 saw the five-year anniversary of the passing of our dear friend and colleague, Fiona Arthur.

The MLTA ACT Inc. is pleased to announce that nominations for the *Fiona Arthur Language Teaching Award* for 2020 are open. Members are able to nominate themselves or nominate another member for the award. Nominations must be supported by a Principal or Senior Executive Teacher. The award recognises the contributions that a member of the MLTA ACT Inc. makes to the teaching and learning of languages in the ACT.

The nominated candidate must demonstrate that they are:

1. *Engaging with current theories of education.*
2. *Modelling and promoting effective and innovative language teaching practice.*
3. *Contributing to the education and professional development of language teachers.*

Nominations should clearly address each of the three criteria. **Nominations must be submitted by COB Friday 30 October, 2020** at <https://forms.gle/deHPXuPKLthMP1e79>

A panel comprised of MLTA ACT Inc. Executive will meet after the nomination due date and assess all nominations against the criteria. The successful recipient of the 2020 award will be announced in Term 4, 2020.

The recipient of the *MLTA ACT Inc. Fiona Arthur Language Teaching Award* will receive a perpetual plaque for their school, an Award Certificate and a voucher to the value of \$450 for the purchase of resources from INTEXT.

Please see a flyer attached containing the above information.

If you have any queries, please feel free to contact me.

Best regards,

Annemarie POWER

Education Perfect

If you are using Education Perfect, there is a competition for teachers called Studio Competition that you may find interesting.

“To showcase the launch of our new EP Studio, we're excited to announce our global teacher competition. Create a resource using EP Studio's intuitive authoring tools, and share these with your colleagues wherever they are in the world. The best lessons will earn a generous tech package for the school, and a voucher for the creator.

[click here for more !](#) “

Professional Learning

We are looking at providing Professional Learning with teachers from Alliance Française on two Saturday afternoons in September. More information to come as soon as it is finalised 😊

Carrousel Theatre

As per my previous message, Carrousel Theatre plans to tour the ACT from 19 to 23 October with their bilingual show suitable for primary & early secondary students of French, Italian, German or Spanish.

The price: \$ 6.90+ GST /student

Duration of show: 50 min.

Contact Carrousel Theatre for dates & availability at 0430 539 888 or by email

info@Carrousel.com.au

Enjoy the stand-down period!

Lena

Passe des très bonnes vacances, et Stay safe !

Bien à vous,

Lena

Lena Britton

Languages Faculty (French)

French Network Leader