

BBC Active Languages Teachers' Email 103

Welcome to the 103rd BBC Active newsletter

Happy New Year to you all and a warm welcome to our new members. If you have any comments or feedback on the newsletter, please email us at bbcactive.languages.admin@pearson.com

The next newsletter will be sent out in March 2012.

In the meantime, please enjoy this one!

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Contents

News from BBC Active

Check out the great offers available on the Talk series.

News from BBC Languages

BBC Languages has launched Facebook pages for learning languages so you can meet people and start learning together.

National News

There is much talk in the news about the huge drop in numbers of foreign language assistants and find out more about Michael Gove's statement about the National Curriculum review. Plus find out why Iran has launched its very first Spanish-speaking channel.

Events

Take a look at all the events that are planned up and down the country for language teachers – if you are looking for some extra CPD there may just be something for you.

Resources

Lots of resources to browse including online French and Spanish magazines for teenagers, video clips demonstrating good practice, German music plus plenty for primary teaching too.

Surveys and Competitions

Why not register your secondary school for the British Academy Schools Language Awards?

News from BBC Active

There are great offers to be had on the Talk series 'Learn a Language Your way'
<http://www.bookdepository.co.uk/dealsAndOffers/promo/id/618>

And remember to check out the ongoing good deals on the Amazon BBC Active Languages Store.

http://www.amazon.co.uk/Language-Books/b/ref=amb_link_156975627_27?ie=UTF8&node=429978031&pf_rd_m=A3P5ROK L5A1OLE&pf_rd_s=left-

News from BBC Languages

Encouragement for Italian learners

For Italian learners who would like extra encouragement to help them through a beginners course, BBC Languages' have launched weekly email tips for the new Italian video course, La Mappa Misteriosa. Learners who sign up for the emails will receive weekly reminders to complete each episode of the 12-week course, as well as insights into Italian language and culture.

<http://www.bbc.co.uk/languages/steps/lamappa/>

BBC Learn Spanish

Take a look at the first of our newly launched Facebook pages, BBC Learn Spanish:

<http://www.facebook.com/BBCLearnSpanish>

National News

Michael Gove's statement just before Christmas re: the National Curriculum review can be found here:

<http://education.gov.uk/inthenews/inthenews/a00201092/written-ministerial-statement-on-the-national-curriculum-review>.

Talking the talk - trading our way out of recession. The many ways in which languages can boost growth - who's saying what:

http://www.all-languages.org.uk/news/news_list/learning_to_talk_the_talk_trading_our_way_out_of_recession

Three Welsh language support groups in Camarthenshire could see funds from the council cut by £50,000.

<http://www.bbc.co.uk/news/uk-wales-south-west-wales-16438784>

The Scottish government is to meet with foreign diplomats and Cosla to discuss the drop in school language assistants.

<http://www.bbc.co.uk/news/uk-scotland-16379379>

A new Guernsey French book aims to provide a simple introduction to the island's ancient language.

<http://www.bbc.co.uk/news/world-europe-guernsey-16347842>

The Bible is, for the first time, being translated into Jamaican patois. It's a move welcomed by those Jamaicans who want their mother tongue enshrined as the national language - but opposed by others, who think learning and speaking English should be the priority.

<http://www.bbc.co.uk/news/magazine-16285462>

Pupils who speak English as an additional language in England could have their extra language help limited to three to five years.

<http://www.bbc.co.uk/news/education-16251714>

Iran has launched its very first Spanish-speaking channel - funded and run by the Iranian government.

<http://www.bbc.co.uk/news/world-middle-east-16305650>

Islamic experts have created a series of sign language DVDs explaining the teachings of the Koran, in order to help deaf Muslims understand their scriptures better.

<http://www.bbc.co.uk/news/world-middle-east-16289497>

The High Court has dismissed a challenge to laws that require immigrant spouses to be able to speak English in order to live in the UK.

<http://www.bbc.co.uk/news/uk-16214007>

Overseas spouses must speak English before arriving in UK, court rules.

<http://www.guardian.co.uk/uk/2011/dec/16/overseas-spouses-speak-english?INTCMP=SRCH>

The Jersey-French language of Jerriais is not dead, despite a study saying it was in serious danger of disappearing, a carol service organiser says.

<http://www.bbc.co.uk/news/world-europe-jersey-16124984>

A new head of Manx language education has been appointed.

<http://www.bbc.co.uk/news/uk-england-manchester-16125209>

Foreign diplomats have raised concern at the drop in language assistants from their countries in Scottish schools.

<http://www.bbc.co.uk/news/uk-scotland-16018854>

A researcher from Cambridge University has spent a year in a remote part of Greenland to try to save an Inuit language.

<http://www.bbc.co.uk/news/uk-england-15890984>

The lexicographers at the Oxford English Dictionary (OED) have come up with their Word of the Year. Actually, they haven't. They've come up with an expression - squeezed middle.

<http://www.bbc.co.uk/news/entertainment-arts-15854432>

Zambian farmers learn to write their Shanjo language.

<http://www.bbc.co.uk/news/world-africa-15562729>

The number of foreign language assistants in Scottish schools has fallen by 80% in the past six years.

<http://www.bbc.co.uk/news/uk-scotland-15717689>

Foreign language speaking parents are being offered free English lessons at a Nottingham school.

<http://www.bbc.co.uk/news/uk-england-nottinghamshire-15674135>

Teenagers will be forced to study geography, history and a foreign language throughout secondary school, under plans for a radical overhaul of the national curriculum.
<http://www.telegraph.co.uk/education/educationnews/8966856/Michael-Gove-demands-sweeping-GCSE-reforms.html>

Just 3% of pupils in some areas are getting good GCSE pass in key subjects.
<http://www.guardian.co.uk/education/2012/jan/04/english-baccalaureate-gcse-pupils-scandal>

Irish government proposes to cut funding to the Modern Languages in Primary Schools Initiative.
http://www.all-languages.org.uk/news/news_list/irish_government_cuts_funding_to_primary_languages

Labour backs English baccalaureate to boost languages study.
<http://www.guardian.co.uk/education/2011/nov/27/labour-english-baccalaureate-languages?newsfeed=true>

Teacher training applications down by almost 30%, according to official figures. Modern foreign languages, chemistry and English are among the worst hit.
<http://www.independent.co.uk/news/education/education-news/teacher-training-applications-down-6264402.html>

Events

Network for Languages London has a number of exciting courses and events coming up in 2012. For a limited time courses are being offered at a discounted rate.
<http://networkforlanguageslondon.org.uk/courses/>

ALL Adult Education Training sessions 2012

Don't miss 'Top Teaching and Contented Customers': A series of linked training sessions for teachers of languages to adults.

For more information, and to book, see: <http://tiny.cc/ALLAE2012>.

10 Mar 2012: Organised chaos - managing mixed ability groups.

12 May 2012: Is IT working? The purpose and place of IT in adult language learning.

Backing the E-Bacc: Raising achievement in Speaking and Writing at KS3 and KS4

Macmillan Academy, Middlesbrough, TS5 4AG

27th Jan 2012

http://www.all-languages.org.uk/events-list/details/read/backing_the_ebacc_raising_achievement_in_speaking_and_writing

ISMLA Conference 2012

University College School, Hampstead, London NW3

4th Feb 2012

http://www.all-languages.org.uk/events-list/details/read/speaking_one_skill_or_two_ideas_strategies_and_resources_for_the_language_classroom

Maximising the use of your VLE for language learning and teaching
Coventry University
8 February, 2012
<http://www.llas.ac.uk/events/6423>

Something to Say? Promoting Spontaneous Classroom Talk
King Edward VII School Sheffield, Glossop Road, The Michael Lewis Building
9th Feb 2012
http://www.all-languages.org.uk/events-list/details/read/something_to_say_promoting_spontaneous_classroom_talk

Using Facebook for (Language) Teaching
The Language Space, University College London
14 February, 2012
<http://www.llas.ac.uk/events/6414>

Effective strategies for languages teaching at KS3 and 4
Goethe Institut, Oxford Road, Manchester
25th Feb 2012
http://www.all-languages.org.uk/events-list/details/read/effective_strategies_for_languages_teaching_at_ks3_and_4

Action and Interaction: ICT in languages - A series of 5 workshops for languages teachers
Comberton Village College, Cambridge
1st Mar 2012
http://www.all-languages.org.uk/events-list/details/read/action_and_interaction_ict_in_languages_4

Effective language teaching in the virtual classroom
The Open University, Milton Keynes
1 March, 2012
<http://www.llas.ac.uk/events/6418>

A morning conference with a choice of workshops - keep up to date with the many changes to the languages curriculum
Bradley Stoke Community School, Bristol
3rd Mar 2012
<http://www.all-languages.org.uk/events-list/details/read/allsorts>

Primary Languages Show 2012
University of Westminster
Saturday 3rd March.
http://www.primarylanguages.org.uk/teaching_learning/active_learning/primary_languages_show.aspx

King Edward VII School: German Sixth Form Days 2012
The Showroom Cinema, Sheffield
6th Mar 2012
http://www.all-languages.org.uk/events-list/details/read/king_edward_vii_school_german_sixth_form_day_2012

Top Teaching and Contented Customers

A series of linked training sessions for teachers of languages to adults

University of Leicester

10th Mar 2012

http://www.all-languages.org.uk/events-list/details/read/top_teaching_and_contented_customers_2

King Edward VII School: French Sixth Form Day 2012

The Showroom Cinema, Sheffield

16th Mar 2012

http://www.all-languages.org.uk/events-list/details/read/king_edward_vii_school_french_sixth_form_day_2012

King Edward VII School: Spanish Sixth Form Day 2012

The Showroom Cinema, Sheffield

21st Mar 2012

http://www.all-languages.org.uk/events-list/details/read/king_edward_vii_school_spanish_sixth_form_day_2012

Language World 2012

Languages for all - defining today, transforming tomorrow!

University of Manchester

29-31 March 2012.

http://www.all-languages.org.uk/events/language_world/language_world_2012

Life and work in academia: event for new and aspiring lecturers in languages, linguistics and area studies

Conference Aston, Aston University, Aston Triangle, Birmingham, B4 7ET

12 April, 2012

<http://www.llas.ac.uk/events/6398>

The LOC tool for teachers: authoring your own online learning materials

The Language Space, University College London, 1-4 Malet Place, London, WC1E 7JE

17 April, 2012

<http://www.llas.ac.uk/events/6495>

CfBT Education Trust is delighted that the **DFE will fund a programme with the aim of** raising standards in languages teaching/learning in schools across the country. They are looking to appoint a number of programme mentors for Languages to support this work. The programme mentor posts are on CfBT's website - <http://careers.cfbt.com>, type in 00429 into the Quick Vacancy Search box.

Resources

Thanks to forum users for some of the resources listed below.

Association Language Learning Corporate Member FILMCLUB is a network of after-school clubs, offering free weekly access to thousands of classic and popular titles, as well as to film

industry news, events and talent. Currently the nationwide scheme has around 145,000 members in over 5000 schools and colleges. For information, or to register for free sign-up, visit: www.filmclub.org.

Welcome to popKultur, an ongoing project by the Goethe- Institut London bringing the learning of German alive with music!

<http://www.goethe.de/ins/gb/lon/prj/pop/enindex.htm>

Discover some of the many free websites with online and downloadable materials for teaching primary languages

http://www.primarylanguages.org.uk/resources/online_resources.aspx

14-19 Reshaping languages contains hundreds of video clips illustrating good practice.

<http://www.cilt.org.uk/secondary/14-19.aspx>

Resources developed by Our Languages, a project that ran from 2007 to 2009 to promote community languages in complementary and mainstream schools. The ideas and powerpoint presentations can be easily adapted; altogether there are over 700 files

<http://www.ourlanguages.org.uk/teaching-learning/resources>

French online magazines for teenagers

<http://www.phosphore.com/>

<http://www.girls.fr/>

<http://www.lekiosquenumerique.com/>

Spanish online magazines good for KS3/4

<http://www.elgancho.es/>

Idea's for activities to use to settle the class as soon as they come in using a projector or interactive whiteboard.

<http://taskmagic.posterous.com/getting-them-settled>

A couple of recommended websites useful when preparing to teach French Food Groups

<http://classe5.voila.net/sciences/alimentation/alimentation.htm#groupes>

www.fraichattitude.com

Resources to introduce 'The comparative & the superlative' in French

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=qRZGLxPio7s>

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=tgAqt58Cn4g>

Free resources Spanish LISTOS

<http://www.pearsonschoolsandfecolleges.co.uk/Secondary/Scotland/Spanish/ListosforKeyStage3/FreeResources/FreeResources.aspx>

Deutsch: Lehren und Lernen: Book Reviews

Four reviews have now been placed on the ALL website *Deutsch: Lehren und Lehren* page.

The books reviewed are: Palgrave *Foundations German 1*, Malvern Languages Guides (German), *Reverb German* by Jim Flewker, and the third edition of the Routledge *Modern German Grammar* (including workbook).

To read these reviews, go to www.all-languages.org.uk and click on Publications, then on Journals, then DLL – or go direct to:

http://www.all-languages.org.uk/publications/journals/deutsch_lehren_und_lernen

Surveys and Competitions

The British Academy Schools Language Awards is aimed at secondary schools in the UK. It promotes language learning and teaching.

http://www.britac.ac.uk/policy/Schools_Language_Awards.cfm

The annual ALL Essex "Have Your Say" speaking competition returns on 1st March 2012.

http://www.all-languages.org.uk/events-list/details/read/all_essex_have_your_say_competition

Routes into Languages Spelling Bee

The Foreign Language Spelling Bee is a competition for students in Year 7 to practise and improve their vocabulary, spelling and memory skills in French, Spanish or German. The competition began in September, but we're offering schools the opportunity to trial it with a small group of pupils. You'll need to prepare your pupils with the first 100 words by half-term, so that the final 4 will be ready with 150 words for the Regional Finals by the middle of March.

To register, go to www.flspellingbee.co.uk and follow the instructions.