

Welcome to the 70th BBC Active Tutors' Club Newsletter

And Happy 70th Newsletter! By the time you read this, I will probably be on my way to Primary CILT 2008, where I hope to see many of you. Don't forget to come and say hello.

This month you responded in style to my request for top tips, so I hope this month's winners will inspire you to send your tips, as well as giving you some great ideas for your teaching. There is also a reminder to sign up to Language World 2008, which this year runs from April 11th-12th in Oxford. There is also still the chance to buy your favourite BBC Active courses on cassette at half price whilst stocks last.

Enjoy celebrating our 70th newsletter, and have a great Easter break.

Susie

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NEWS FROM BBC ACTIVE

Tip of the Month

This month we have four winners, so two will feature in this newsletter and two in Newsletter 71...Our first tip comes from Una Storey, who wins a BBC Active Polish Phrase Book and Dictionary. Her top tips are:



If you wish to get everyone saying something and learning to listen more carefully then try the CHAIR GAME!
The key objective is to create a dialogue (usually Qs and As) in a group (whole class or smaller). Each person must try and say a line in a dialogue but also stand up when doing so. They cannot repeat or pre-rehearse lines. They also need to listen carefully to ensure what they say next makes sense. It is excellent in getting everyone active - literally and orally. It also helps the more able students

model language for the less confident students who will become faster the 2nd or 3rd time round. It works well if you explain to the whole class first, practise in groups and then demonstrate in a 'gallery' at the end which can lead to a discussion on which was the best dialogue and why and how to improve!

Another one I play a lot with KS4 is Fat/Juicy Sentences which is good for analysing how to improve their speaking and writing:

In groups the students must offer one word at a time in order to create a sentence on something they have just learned ie.past holidays. Only 1 (spontaneously or around the table) student per group can offer 1 word at a time and as the sentence progresses it must make sense. Once they think they have a sentence they must start again and improve it.

ie. I went to France/I went to France by plane/I went to France by plane/last year I went to France by plane with my mum etc...

The fatter/juicier the sentence the better and an analysis of what makes it fat/juicy ensues! This can then end with the students writing their own versions after having used the model from the game. It can be quite competitive if students slip up on the 'little words' or become too boring in their choice of adjectives, connectives etc..!

Our second winner is Stephan Bridge, who has won a BBC Active Spanish Phrase Book and Dictionary. His top tip to help adults and school learners revise is the game of TENNIS:



- 1) pick a theme eg beach/town centre/free time activities anything
- 2) split class in 2 down the middle - any size class.
- 3) tell class to (without repeating) take turns to say vocab on the theme
- 4)scoring -first team to give up (count them out - 5-4-3-2-1) gives point to opposition
- 5) then winning team gains a point for every new word they say

6)any repetition loses points at any time.

If you have any tips of your own, then please do get in touch. Don't forget, as well as sharing your brilliance with your fellow Club members, you also get a free BBC Active phrase book of your choice. Email me at susanna.jones@pearson.com. Next month, we will be having another two tips from readers who emailed me in February, but do send your tips in for the April newsletter.

Special offer on language course cassettes - 50 % off - now includes all *Talk* titles

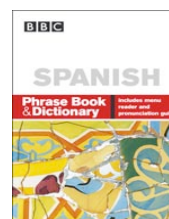
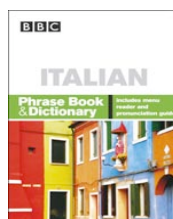
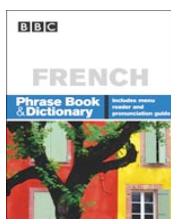
Owing to falling demand we are, unfortunately, going to have to phase out our cassettes over the next year, so we are making them available at half price in case you want to stock up. All you need to do is go to <http://www.pearson-books.com/voucher/> and enter voucher code VR002S, and a page listing all audio cassettes and audio cassette packs included in this offer at 50 % off will appear.

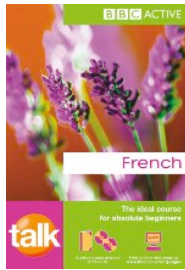
Since the last newsletter went out, this offer now also includes all the *Talk* cassette packs, as well as the cassette packs for *Buongiorno Italia!*, *España Viva* and *The French Experience 2*.

Free Phrase Book with Talk French, Spanish and Italian packs

This is advanced warning of a special offer running in Borders for the month of April...everyone who buys a *Talk French*, *Talk Italian* or *Talk Spanish* pack, will receive a free BBC Active Phrase Book and Dictionary in the corresponding language. Click on the packshots to find out more about each course.

You can find your nearest Borders store by going to www.borders.co.uk and clicking on the 'Borders Stores' link near the top of the page.





NEWS FROM
"Having another
another soul."
Easter - Quick
Escaping to
Whether you're
roaming around
Lithuania or



THE BBC
language is
Carolus Magnus
Fix phrases
Europe for
off to sunny
Romania, living it
skiing the slopes



having
Easter?
Seville,
up in
of

Switzerland, don't forget to take away our holiday phrases. Print them off or download them to your MP3 player: <http://www.bbc.co.uk/languages/other/quickfix/> or your mobile:

<http://www.bbc.co.uk/languages/mobile/>

Ski phrases: <http://www.bbc.co.uk/languages/quickfix/ski/>

Finished French Steps? Try Ma France!

If your students have completed French Steps, printed out their certificates and are ready for a new challenge, let them try the popular broadband video course, Ma France. They can enjoy entertaining, short films shot in Provence, the Alps and Lyons before trying the fun, interactive exercises. Move them on to Ma France now!

<http://www.bbc.co.uk/languages/french/mafrance/>

25th March: Greek Independence Day - Talk Greek

March marks Greek Independence Day, so why not get a taste for the lingo? Talk Greek is a gentle introduction to basic Greek in ten sections, featuring slideshows, video clips as well as useful phrases with tips on pronunciation and grammar. Also this month on BBC Two (see Learning Zone schedule below) Give Greek a go!

<http://www.bbc.co.uk/languages/greek/>. Buy the course at

<http://www.bbcactive.com/languages/other/30.asp>

Spanish Steps - buying a property

Thinking of buying a Spanish casa or piso? Learn some property language to help you on the way to that dream home in the sun:

Beginners: <http://www.bbc.co.uk/languages/spanish/lj/home/flat/>

Crossword for intermediates:

http://www.bbc.co.uk/languages/spanish/news/crossword/flash/index_property.shtml

Languages on TV - BBC TWO Learning Zone

04 Mar: set video on the evening of Mon 03 Mar

02:00-04:00 Talk Greek 1-6

<http://www.bbc.co.uk/languages/greek/>

04:00-06:00 Mediterranean Cookery: Greece/Turkey/Morocco/Spain

06 Mar: set video on the evening of Wed 05 Mar

03:00-04:00 KS3 French Shorts

13 Mar: set video on the evening of Wed 12 Mar

02:00-03:00 KS3 German Shorts

03:00-04:00 KS3 Spanish Shorts

Language programmes on the Learning Zone will then take a spring break. Programmes will resume in mid-June.

See the full schedule: <http://www.bbc.co.uk/learningzone/langtravel/>

NATIONAL NEWS

Call for cash for primary language training

The government's schools inspector today urged the Department for Children, Schools and Families to put more money into training primary school language teachers.

<http://education.guardian.co.uk/schools/story/0,,2248688,00.html>

Month abroad for trainee teachers

Trainee teachers who will provide compulsory language lessons in primary schools are benefiting from a month's placement abroad, say inspectors.

<http://news.bbc.co.uk/1/hi/education/7215016.stm>

Shake-up of GCSE language orals

Are they being 'ditched' or aren't they...major changes proposed in language orals causes confusion...

<http://www.telegraph.co.uk/news/main.jhtml?xml=/news/2008/02/17/noral117.xml> and

<http://www.telegraph.co.uk/news/main.jhtml?xml=/news/2008/02/17/nfrench117.xml> and

<http://www.telegraph.co.uk/news/main.jhtml?xml=/news/2008/02/19/nlanguage119.xml>

<http://news.bbc.co.uk/1/hi/education/7249090.stm>

<http://www.independent.co.uk/opinion/commentators/philip-hensher/philip-hensher-how-can-you-learn-a-language-and-not-speak-it-783975.html>

GCSE languages grading: the battle continues

Headteachers and language specialists are calling for language grading at GCSE to be brought in line with other subjects.

<http://news.bbc.co.uk/1/hi/education/7254744.stm>

Community languages do not have sufficient status

Ofsted has called for community languages to be given a higher status in schools to encourage pupils to take them up. Read the report at

<http://www.ofsted.gov.uk/publications/070030>

<http://news.bbc.co.uk/1/hi/education/7255493.stm>

<http://www.telegraph.co.uk/news/main.jhtml?xml=/news/2008/02/21/nedu121.xml>

Wanted: English speakers with fluency in sarcasm

There is a critical shortage of interpreters with adequate skills in their mother tongue. Why? Peter Kingston reports.

<http://education.guardian.co.uk/egweekly/story/0,,2248180,00.html>

Evolution of languages

Language development mirrors species evolution

<http://www.telegraph.co.uk/earth/main.jhtml?xml=/earth/2008/01/31/scilang131.xml>

Working abroad works wonders

How working abroad is on the increase as a fast-track to improving language skills and just about everything else...

http://www.timesonline.co.uk/tol/life_and_style/education/student/how_to_get_a_job/article3363791.ece

Chinese with dummies

High-achieving parents are rushing to sign up Mandarin-speaking nannies. Tamsin Kelly reports.

<http://www.telegraph.co.uk/education/main.jhtml?xml=/education/2008/01/26/fanannie126.xml>

New Chinese GCSE announced

Owing to increasing demand from schools and businesses, a new GCSE in Chinese has been announced. <http://news.bbc.co.uk/1/hi/education/7233443.stm>

The curiously pleasant world of Chinese hip-hop

'We ain't no ganstas...'

http://entertainment.timesonline.co.uk/tol/arts_and_entertainment/music/article3320153.ece

Au revoir Mister Franais

You may have seen the extensive discussions on Linguanet regarding the death of Miles Kingston, author of the 'Franais' books. <http://news.bbc.co.uk/1/hi/magazine/7221918.stm>

Start them early, make them bilingual

Two-year-olds learn French

<http://www.telegraph.co.uk/education/main.jhtml?xml=/education/2008/02/09/fafrench109.xml>

Bookswap is good news for Poles

An exchange of books between an English and a Polish library hopes to provide lending material for Poles in Cumbria <http://news.bbc.co.uk/1/hi/england/cumbria/7240011.stm>

Libro de cara?

Facebook, the popular social networking site, is to become available in Spanish

<http://news.bbc.co.uk/1/hi/business/7234591.stm> and

http://technology.timesonline.co.uk/tol/news/tech_and_web/article3334792.ece

Fabio Capello loses linguistic footing in the regions

Fabio Capello is pleased with his progress in learning English, but confesses to finding regional accents a particular problem...

<http://www.timesonline.co.uk/tol/sport/football/article3412751.ece>

EVENTS

Language World 2008

I hope you have all had your chance to book your places at ALL's Language World 2008. We will be there on Stand N38 to chat to you about the newsletter, our courses, or anything else you would like to discuss. We should also have some print outs of our greatly anticipated *Talk Mandarin Chinese* course, published this July. There are also a whole host of reasons why you should attend - fascinating talks, a chance to meet up and swap ideas and a lovely day out in Oxford!

Sign up or read more at <http://www.languageworld.org.uk/home/>.

Pittura Italiana - Landscape and Cityscape in Italian Painting

A workshop in central London organised by Succeed in Languages for intermediate to advanced speakers of Italian at *Living English*, 1st Floor, 218 Strand WC2R 1AT on Thursday 6th March 2008, 6:00 to 8:30pm.

For further information phone: 0208 874 5819 or 07976 564 501 or email:

Liz@succeedinlanguage.com.

Head Start: Japanese from scratch

A free one-day course for any schools wanting to offer Japanese as an additional language on Tuesday, 4th March, 2008, 9:30am - 4:00pm at the Japan Foundation London Language Centre, Russell Square, London. It is organised by the Japan Foundation London Language Centre and aimed at: Senior managers in schools, heads of MFL, primary language coordinators, local authority language advisors.

Programme: <http://www.jpf.org.uk/language/download/HSPProgramme2008.doc>

Application Form: http://www.jpf.org.uk/language/download/Headstart_application_2008.doc

Flyer: <http://www.jpf.org.uk/language/download/HeadStartFlyer210208.pdf>

There are also a limited number of places for Head Start participants to attend the following conference, which takes place the previous day at the British Council.

2008 Conference on Educational Co-operation with Japan

On March, 3rd March, 2008, 9:45am - 4:10pm, at the British Council, London

Programme: <http://www.jpf.org.uk/images/newsfiles/1203614873JPFinvitation.pdf>

Russian Research Seminar

Teaching Russian Language Today: New Methodologies and Technologies in Teaching Russian as a Foreign Language. At the University of St Andrews, Department of Russian, on Saturday 26 April 2008. Quad room 31 and School V, St Salvator's Quad, North Street, St Andrews. From 9.30 am-approx 2pm followed by optional lunch. Further information and application form: Tatiana Filosofova, University of St Andrews 01334 462-956, tf7@st-andrews.ac.uk

CILT community languages events

Claire Dugard has flagged the following events. If you want to know more about any of them, contact Claire on claire.dugard@cilt.org.uk, (020) 7379 5101 ext 264.

Head Start in Japanese

4 March 2008, Japan Foundation London Language Centre, London

Preparing to teach the AQA revised specifications for GCE

Modern Hebrew - 5 March, Manchester and 14 March, London

Panjabi - 10 March, Birmingham and 14 March, London

Bengali - 13 March, London

Conference on the teaching of Arabic

6 March 2008, British Council, London

Portuguese Achievement Conference

11 March 2008, The Oval, London

Comenius London Community Language Network Seminar: Learning First - A look at behaviour management strategies

21 May 2008, CILT, the National Centre for Languages, London

Community languages: Developing practice for the 21st century (National Conference)

11 June 2008, Holiday Inn Royal Victoria Hotel, Sheffield

AS/A Level Panjabi day

Summer 2008, Jennie Lee Centre, Wolverhampton

French for the Primary School

Lille, France: Sunday 20 to Saturday 26 July 2008 *or* Sunday 17 to Saturday 23 August 2008

French for the Primary School offers you a lively mix of language improvement classes and practical workshops designed to explore creative approaches to good teaching practice. As your linguistic fluency and confidence increase, you will be encouraged to exchange ideas and develop materials which will truly transform your teaching.

This one week course is designed for primary practitioners teaching French in primary schools. The course will present creative ideas to help teachers to integrate French into best primary practice. The focus will be primarily on practical methodology and language improvement. This popular course will run twice in 2008, in July and August. You can choose which course dates suit you best. We aim to offer you your first choice but this is dependent on availability.

The fee for the course is 1500 Euros. You can apply for a grant through the Comenius Professional Development programme (managed by the British Council) to contribute to the course fee, subsistence and your travel. Regarding the grant, priority is given to applicants who have not received a professional development grant in the last two years. Also the British Council does not accept funding applications from more than 2 people at any one institution.

The deadline for the grant application for this course is **31 March 2008**.

For further information about this course or other CILT Professional Development Courses Abroad please call 020 7379 5101 or email conferences@cilt.org.uk

Third Newcastle Postgraduate Conference in Theoretical and Applied Linguistics

This will be held on 9th July 2008 at the Research Beehive, Newcastle University as an inaugural event for the new Centre for Research in Linguistics and Language Sciences (CRiLLS). Linguistics postgraduate students from all research areas are invited to present and discuss their research in an informal and intellectually stimulating setting.

Postgraduate students are invited to submit abstracts for oral and poster presentations on any area of linguistics, theoretical or applied to pgconfling@ncl.ac.uk. Deadline for submissions of abstracts is Wednesday, 9th April.

If you have any queries, please email pgconfling@ncl.ac.uk.

RESOURCES

Why Study Languages? Free CD and poster

LLAS are offering a free CD and poster to the first 1,000 people who sign up to their mailing address (UK addresses only). You can read more and sign up here <http://www.llas.ac.uk/whystudylanguages/index.aspx>. If you have missed your free poster, then I have one free copy to give away, free to the first person who emails me at susanna.jones@pearson.com.

Russian film discussion forum

The Scotland-Russia Foundation has reported this recommendation from Cambridge Russian Speaking Soc: <http://www.filmdoc.ru> - a 'virtual cinema/theatre' for contemporary Russian documentaries and there is a discussion forum for those interested in this art form.

SRF: Soviet Citizens

In the 1950s Harvard social scientists and psychologists interviewed hundreds of former Soviet citizens in the US and Germany/Austria, a rich resource for much analysis ever since. The database has now been put online, freely accessible to anyone interested: <http://hcl.harvard.edu/collections/hpsss/index.html>

SRF member recommends Russian typing package

Following recent items on this topic, a member has written to recommend another website for those learning to touch type: http://www.leeds.ac.uk/infosystems/application_support/keyboard_tsar/keyboardtsar.html

Free French listening resources

Ewan McIntosh from Learning and Technology Scotland has published some free listening resources on the main themes of French language at the primary-secondary transition stage: <http://www.ltscotland.org.uk/mfle/resources/frenchlisteningexercises/index.asp>. There is a rationale and advice on how to exploit them included on the page. Any feedback you may have is most welcome.

Objets Trouvés Liege V.2.1

A linguaneer has recommended the following site as helping to 'spice up any unit on lost property!'. Have a look and decide for yourself: <http://www.objetstrouvesliege.com/>

Helen Myers' ALL photos and other resources

Helen Myers has posted photographs from a series of ALL events from 2007. Have a look at <http://www.all-london.org.uk/events.htm> and see if you can spot yourself!

Helen has also posted the videos she has done for GCSE role play practice onto YouTube. There are a number of ways of viewing it:

Ashcombe site link:

<http://www.ashcombe.surrey.sch.uk/Curriculum/modlang/shared/YTresources.htm>

YouTube direct link: <http://www.youtube.com/user/HelenMFL>

mflresources: <http://www.mflresources.org.uk/french.htm>

She has also recommended the You Tube video, Pourquoi Apprendre Le Français?, available here <http://fr.youtube.com/watch?v=iGMKL5ZNd7s&feature=related>

A reader recommends...

Louis Radford has written in to recommend 'a really good web site for anyone who is fluent in French and loves the language: http://www.tv5.org/TV5Site/lf/langue_francaise.php. This page, by TV5, leads to a number of language-related pages. For example, one can learn about the origin of certain expressions, tie the tongue around twisters, have a go at a dictation or play various word games.'

He also recommends <http://www.france24.com/fr/>, the web site for France 24, a 24-hour news channel. 'What makes this one different from the many other news websites is that it is possible to watch and read the same news in three different languages: French, English and

Arabic. Teachers and advanced level students could find this interesting, as it's possible to watch a bulletin in a foreign language and then refer to one's mother tongue in case of difficulties, or read the news in the mother tongue and then have a go at understanding the same items in the foreign language.'

Reports and resources from CILT

CILT's report on the contribution of community languages to UK education and society, *Positively Plurilingual*, is now available to order from the CILT online shop. The report is free of charge although you will have to pay postage and packaging if you order lots of them! Go to CILT Reports.

Also available from the online shop are the free Languages Work resources, which include a factsheet for secondary school students and their parents who already speak another language in addition to English on how any language is an asset. There is also a set of four posters highlighting the 'hidden talent' of speakers of community languages. Again the same policy applies re bulk orders.

Follow this link to get to the shop - <https://secure.easysanswer.net/cilt/eShop>

SURVEYS AND COMPETITIONS

National Poetry and Song Competition 2008

This European Language Award winning competition is open to pupils aged 10-18 in Primary, Middle and Secondary schools in the UK. There are three entry groups: Years 6-8, 9-11, 12-13. Closing date for receipt of entries: Wednesday 2nd April 2008. Entries are accepted in French, German, Spanish and other languages.

The SRF say: 'Even with limited language, pupils can produce exciting work by 'playing' with words and language, perhaps around a theme. Try experimenting with shape poems, acrostics, Haiku and recipe poems - or compose a pop song, rock song, ballad or rap, perhaps to illustrate a grammatical point. Why not liaise with your English and Music departments before beginning this project?'

Cash prizes and certificates are up for grabs, with opportunities for winners to read their poem or perform their song at the prize-giving ceremony in London, where winning entries will also be displayed. Entry form from: frespiritpoetry@blueyonder.co.uk, or fax Alison Taylor on 0117 32 84108. Electronic copies of the flyer are available from <http://www.comenius-sw.co.uk/3.html>

LAFTAs

The Golden Globes may have been cancelled, but the LAFTAs are still going ahead. There is still time for your students to produce a short film or animation presenting their case for why people should study languages. The deadline is 31st March 2008, and you can read more about the LAFTAs here: <http://www.languageswork.org.uk/laftas/index.htm>.

Have your say on CILT website

CILT are conducting a review of the CILT website and would like to hear your opinions of the site. They would be very grateful if you could fill in the online questionnaire at: <http://www.cilt.org.uk/survey/>. It should only take a few minutes, and all comments and feedback are very welcome.

Reviewers wanted for *Language Policy*

As one of the book review editors for *Language Policy*, Leigh Oakes would like to draw your attention to the titles listed below which she has received. If you are interested in reviewing any of these, please contact her at l.oakes@qmul.ac.uk, indicating the title and your postal address. Reviews should be no longer than 1,000 words in length and are generally due three months after receipt of the book. Editorial guidelines and more details about the journal are available at: <http://www.springer.com/west/home/linguistics/applied+linguistics?SGWID=4-40371-70-35756061-detailsPage=journaldescription>

Diarmait Mac Giolla Chríost (2007). *Language and the City*. Basingstoke: Palgrave Macmillan.

Monica Heller (ed.) (2007). *Bilingualism: A Social Approach*. Basingstoke: Palgrave Macmillan.

Máiréad Nic Craith (ed.) (2007). Language, Power and Identity Politics. Basingstoke: Palgrave Macmillan.
Robin Adamson (2007). The Defence of French: A Language in Crisis? Clevedon: Multilingual Matters.
Maeve Conrick and Vera Regan (2007). French in Canada: Language Issues. Bern: Peter Lang.
Jaine E. Beswick (2007). Regional Nationalism in Spain: Language Use and Ethnic Identity in Galicia. Clevedon: Multilingual Matters.
Konstanze Glaser (2007). Minority Languages and Cultural Diversity in Europe: Gaelic and Sorbian Perspectives. Clevedon: Multilingual Matters.
Osahito Miyaoka, Osamu Sakiyama and Michael E. Krauss (eds.) (2007). The Vanishing Language of the Pacific Rim. Oxford: OUP.
Andrew Simpson (ed.) (2007). Oxford: Language and Nationalism Identity in Asia. OUP

2008 Japanese Web Page Contest

The Japanese Web Page Contest is a place where teachers and students of Japanese can have fun demonstrating their Japanese language skills and computer skills at the same time. The 2008 Japanese Web Page Contest is open to elementary/secondary schools and Japanese language schools which teach Japanese as a second/foreign language anywhere in the world. For more details, see www.japanesewebpagecontest.com.

SPRING WEBSITES

How Spring festivals are celebrated around the world, in honour of the early Easter and the frighteningly early Spring.

The obligatory Happy Easter in many different languages

<http://www.omniglot.com/language/phrases/easter.htm>

A generic 'Easter around the World' site is available here

<http://www.easterbunnys.net/easteraroundtheworld.htm>

A rather nice montage of photos on the same subject are available here

<http://www.telegraph.co.uk/core/Slideshow/slideshowContentFrameFragXL.jhtml?xml=/news/2007/04/08/easter/easterpix.xml&site=News>

Teachernet offers some wisdom about teaching Easter generally, including information on the Pagan roots of the festival <http://www.teachernet.gov.uk/teachingandlearning/library/easter/>

The TES Resource Bank suggests this resource to teach your students about Semana Santa in Spain <http://www.tes.co.uk/resources/Resource.aspx?resourcelid=5531>

A TES article on the Jewish festival of Purim

http://www.tes.co.uk/search/story/?story_id=2203019

The ever-reliable Learning and Teaching Scotland network have ideas for your language class at Easter time here

<http://www.ltscotland.org.uk/mfle/sharingpractice/seasons/easter/index.asp>

Radio Praha has a special page on Easter themes as part of its Czech-teaching programme

<http://www.radio.cz/en/article/39770>

Information about China's Spring Festival (or Chinese New Year) can be found here

http://www.chinaculture.org/gb/en_chinaway/node_165.htm and here

<http://www.10thnpc.org.cn/english/features/Festivals/78322.htm>, but also have a look at Newsletter 69 for some useful websites on the Chinese celebration of Spring.

Information on Easter in Germany can be found here [http://www.dw-](http://www.dw-world.de/dw/article/0,1564,1520904,00.html)

[world.de/dw/article/0,1564,1520904,00.html](http://www.dw-world.de/dw/article/0,1564,1520904,00.html) and

http://www.ottawa.diplo.de/Vertretung/ottawa/en/06/Lifestyle_culture/c_Easter_in_Germany.html, whilst Easter in Italy is explained here

<http://www.lifeinitaly.com/potpourri/Easter.asp> and here

<http://www.askoxford.com/languages/culture/vulture/italy/italianeaster/?view=uk>.

A teachers' page on how your class can eat their way round a Russian Easter

<http://www.teachersfirst.com/lessons/russ-easter.cfm>, or there are some great photos of

Easter in a Russian town from the Russia Blog at

http://www.russiablog.org/2007/04/easter_in_a_russian_town.php

For some more unusual European Easter traditions, you can read about Finland here <http://virtual.finland.fi/netcomm/news/showarticle.asp?intNWSAID=26050>, Poland here <http://www.cracow-life.com/poland/krakow-easter-traditions>

Remember, Ask.com is also a good source of information and links about subjects such as Easter and other Spring celebrations in different countries.

Do you have a language or topic you would like this feature to cover? If so, let me know on susanna.jones@pearson.com! All suggestions gratefully received.

What do YOU think?

We want to make this newsletter as useful as possible, so your opinions matter! What would you like to see in the newsletter? If you have any comments or feedback (good or bad!) then please let me know at susanna.jones@pearson.com. It is **your** newsletter - have your say.

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