

Welcome to our first newsletter of the new term, brimming with interesting language events taking place across our Glasgow schools, including:

- European Day of Languages in:
  - [Lourdes Secondary](#)
  - [Bellahouston Academy](#)
  - [St. Andrew's Secondary](#)
  - [Glasgow Gaelic School](#)
  - [John Paul Academy](#)
  - [Rosshall Academy](#)
  - [All Saints Secondary](#)
- Languages Week in [Notre Dame High](#)
- [Hillhead High and Bannerman High's](#) Immersion Visit to China
- eTwinning
  - [St. Charles' Primary](#) at Celtic Learning Centre
  - [All Saints Secondary](#) at Celtic Learning Centre
  - [St. Roch's Secondary's](#) Quality Label award
- Connecting Classrooms: [Glasgow Secondaries in Sarajevo](#)
- [A Romanian Language Assistant's year in Holyrood](#)
- [Notices](#), useful links for courses & resources, including: the Alliance Française; GFT; SALT conference 2014; online Spanish courses.

We would like to take this opportunity to wish all our teachers a well-earned October break and look forward to supporting you on your return.

As usual, we hope you will enjoy the variety and quality of activities offered throughout our city schools and please send us details of your own interesting events and projects.

**Click on the blue hyperlinks throughout the newsletter for easy navigation!**



In **Lourdes Secondary** our S1, S2, S5 & S6 pupils enjoyed participating in the events to mark **European Day of Languages 2014** in the Modern Languages Department during the last week of September.

Most S1 pupils were taught a 'crash course' in three out of four languages — French, German, Spanish and Italian — learning how to order food and drink in a café. Our S2 pupils competed in a general knowledge & music quiz, working together in teams to win a prize. Bon travail S1 & S2!



Our S5 & S6 pupils were treated to a French breakfast with croissants, pain au chocolat and jus d'orange whilst competing in a music quiz, c'était délicieux!

Here is what some of the S1 & S2 pupils thought:

*(Oral Herron)*



"If I could change the experience I would like to spend more time learning different languages."



"I liked our French breakfast surprise and wish I hadn't had breakfast before school! ."

"I liked listening to music from lots of different countries."



"I enjoyed learning something new!"

"I liked learning different languages and learning the same words in different languages."

"I enjoyed ordering food and drink in different languages."



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**Bellahouston Academy** again celebrated the European Day of Languages in style.

The French Higher class ran a *'petit déjeuner'* for staff during the interval. All staff commented on how professional the pupils were and on their excellent French, which they used throughout.

Stalls representing 6 different European countries (France, Italy, Spain, Poland, Germany and Portugal) were set up in the assembly hall for pupils and staff to visit during break and lunchtime. These stalls were run by pupils (Fatima Aftab for Italian and Wiktoria Busko for Polish) as well as members of the language department and representatives of both the Goethe Institute and Alliance Française.

Those pupils who had a Modern Languages class on the day spent that period visiting the different stalls to find out facts about each country. They also tasted some local specialties from the various countries and learned some basic words to say in each of the different languages. At the end of each period the pupils took part in a European day of Languages quiz and prizes were given out to the winning team.

The feedback from all staff and pupils who participated in the day was extremely positive and all said how much they had enjoyed the experience. *(Lisa Albarracin)*



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### St. Andrew's Secondary EDL events

We prepared a huge buffet containing foods from lots of European countries with a big display that included posters, flags, pictures, regalia, etc.



Interdisciplinary learning was evident through a Modern Studies cultural quiz and the Spanish music that we played from selected countries.

The Modern Studies quiz was displayed on TV screens while some S6 pupils had the question sheets. These pupils circulated the crush hall quizzing pupils who would receive a reward for answering a set amount of questions accurately.

Staff and pupils tasted some of the food on offer and some of the pupils were extremely adventurous in sampling new food, while others refused to taste it. (The majority of food that "concerned" them was the fish variety!)



During class time we taught each year group a cross-curricular lesson related to Europe to reinforce some important continental facts. *(Leona McKay)*

### European Day of Languages at Sgoil Ghàidhlig Ghlaschu

To add to their repertoire of European languages, pupils at Sgoil Ghàidhlig Ghlaschu spent some of the time in which they normally study French learning some phrases in German and Russian. Now, as well as being able to say "is mise" and "je m'appelle" they can also say "ich heiÙe" and even "меня зовут". Pupils also had the chance to work out how to write their names using the Cyrillic alphabet and they learned some facts about Europe along the way. *(Hedda MacLeod)*



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### 'Las Ramblas' Tapas Experience

S1 Pupils at **John Paul Academy** had the chance to improve their culinary skills with staff from Tapas restaurant 'Las Ramblas', whilst practising their Spanish. With 'Albóndigas' and 'pan de ajo' on the menu, our little chefs were kept very busy but thankfully got the chance to enjoy the fruits of their labour afterwards! A fantastic morning and pupils loved it!

### European Day of Languages

As part of our European Day of Languages celebrations, pupils from John Paul Academy took part in a "Salsa/ Zumbathon" in the assembly hall. Despite being exhausted, a lot of fun was had. Our in-house instructor, Señora Beltran, did a great job in leading the masses! Gracias!

Pupils also had the opportunity to learn a little about different European foods while sampling some of the delicacies! The food was finished in record time.... as always!!:-)

(*Jacqueline Dickie*)



S1- S3 pupils in Modern Languages at **Rosshall Academy** were treated to a week of taster lessons in Italian, Portuguese, German and Polish to celebrate European Day of Languages. Pupils were very enthusiastic, spotting the similarities and differences between languages they already know and the new languages. Pupils created their own phrasebook of handy vocabulary in each language and worked together to come up with facts about each country, including the national dish and national stereotype. Requests have been flooding in for more taster lessons on languages such as Arabic, Danish, Swedish, Gaelic and Mandarin.

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Rosshall staff were also treated to a European buffet of wares from different countries and many bravely took part in the Stinky Cheese Challenge, trying some of the most odorous *fromages* known to man and matching name tags to the correct cheese. The winning competitor received a box of chocolates to cleanse her palate.



**All Saints Secondary** had another EDL extravaganza celebrating the 4 languages being taught in the Modern Languages Department. All classes in BGE participated in Italian, German, Spanish and French days and were involved in investigations, intercultural classes, food tasting, art and music (the music was so lively we were asked to turn it down it.....)



Other departments proactively participated in diverse events, offering all learners a true intercultural experience.

The daily routine in the school was shaped by EDL with school prayers and announcements in the language of the day.

Furthermore, each day a film in the showcased language was shown during lunch-time for learners. Perhaps, the favourite Staff activity was the continental breakfast served from 7.45am, raising a significant sum of money for the Glasgow Soup Kitchen sponsored by the department?



Some of the highlights over the 4 days were:

- Our school chaplain teaching Italian to our S1 classes
- The school Samba band playing for Spanish day
- A community mass for St. Catherine's Parish in Latin and French
- German Extravaganza activities in the School Square.

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Languages Week 2014

**La semaine des langues**  
**La settimana delle lingue**      **la semana de las lenguas**

Monday 8<sup>th</sup> to Friday 12<sup>th</sup> September saw Notre Dame celebrate Languages Week with a fiesta of true international flavour, not least from the varied menus provided by BJ and the Canteen Staff and the tapas made during Home Economics time. Throughout the week, our young people participated in a number of activities linked to French, Italian and Spanish Language and Culture – learning some new language in the Modern Languages Department, studying the saints of each country in RE and producing and selling badges in Enterprise, to name but a few.

Thanks to all the staff and pupils involved in these activities and also to our Janitors, Robert and Alfie, who transformed our foyer and corridor with strings of flags representing our three chosen countries. Your hard work was certainly appreciated, especially by visitors to the school for our Open Evening on Thursday 11<sup>th</sup> September.

Our French, Italian and Spanish flags will remain in our ML corridor as we prepare to celebrate European Languages Day on the 26<sup>th</sup> September 2014.

(Giovanna McMahon; PT Modern Languages)

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### China immersion visit – summer 2014

On Saturday 12<sup>th</sup> of July, 64 pupils and 13 teachers from across Scotland as well as 3 members of staff from CISS (Confucius Institute for Scotland's Schools) and a Scottish government official all flew from Glasgow Airport to Beijing for a two week educational visit. I was extremely lucky to accompany five pupils from the Glasgow hub: two from **Hillhead High** and three from my own school, **Bannerman High**. Prior to the trip, we had attended Mandarin lessons and been given an insight into Chinese culture. Nothing, however, could have prepared us for what was going to become the most amazing experience.

Our time in China was divided between Beijing and Tianjin. In Beijing, we visited the zoo (where pale, fair-haired Scottish pupils and staff soon became an even bigger attraction than the pandas), dined in some of the capital's finest restaurants where we not only sampled delicious Chinese cuisine, but were also treated to live entertainment from ethnic dancing to songs and storytelling. We also thoroughly enjoyed 'The legend of Kung Fu', a spectacular show mixing martial arts and Ballet at the Red Theatre. For many, though, the highlight of our visit in Beijing was the breath-taking Great Wall and the fascinating Forbidden City.

The city of Tianjin, some 150 km from Beijing, proved equally beautiful yet very distinctive, with its mix of traditional Chinese and European architecture (it even boasts an Italian street and many cosmopolitan cafes and restaurants). We paid a visit to Tianjin Culture Centre (with its Museum, Theatre and Art Museum) where the love theme from Titanic 'My heart will go on' added dramatic effect to stunning waterfalls.

Our busy daily schedule in Tianjin included a Kung Fu lesson at 7.20 am followed by a Mandarin lesson, then a hands-on art class: Peking opera mask painting, Chinese knot making, paper



cutting, calligraphy, typography, bronze ware and round fan making to name but a few. All 64 pupils passed the Mandarin test receiving the Chinese Bridge Award (SCQF 3 &4) and we were all able to put the language skills learned in the Mandarin class into practice when bartering at the Pearl Market.

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Our best experience in Tianjin, however, was the day visit to our partner school where we received the warmest welcome: we were given a tour of the school - which had out of this world facilities, including an Astronomy room - and were treated to a calligraphy demonstration as well as traditional Chinese music beautifully played by three pupils. We then spent the afternoon with our host family who welcomed us into their home, showed us how to make dumplings before serving us an array of scrumptious dishes. A truly humbling and most memorable experience for which we are very grateful.

At the closing ceremony which gathered all UK students, Scottish pupils excelled and did us proud with their Chinese rendition of Auld Lang Syne. It was the perfect ending to a very special, once in a lifetime journey.

Ms Viviane Sanchez



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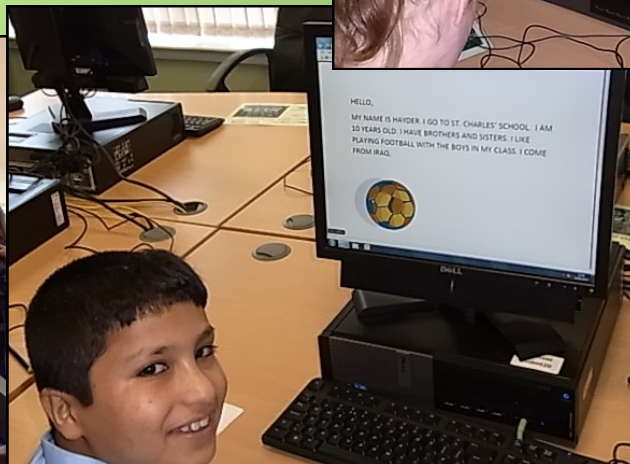
St. Charles Primary recently attended Celtic Learning Centre for a 5 week session to develop their eTwinning partnership with Dalmarnock Primary and 2 Italian Primaries: 1° Circolo 'Don Milani' (Rivoli) and ICS 'G Binotti' (Pergola).

The pupils enthusiastically shared materials in their native language via their Twin Space '*Sharing Activities between Primaries in Glasgow and Italy*'. The participants covered agreed, diverse topics such as citizenship, foreign languages and technology, encouraging an appreciation of each other's language and culture.



For example, each participant sent an introductory message to kick start the project. Dalmarnock then created '*indovinelle*' – a guessing game where the other Italian partners had to match pupils' photos to descriptions in English. They also produced short videos of different areas of their school. St Charles created presentations about Glasgow and posters about traditional playground games, learning about language and the importance of IT techniques (including PDF). Both the Italian schools uploaded presentations about their towns and regions in Italian.

We look forward to developing future interdisciplinary Twin Spaces.



La classe IV è nell'aula di inglese



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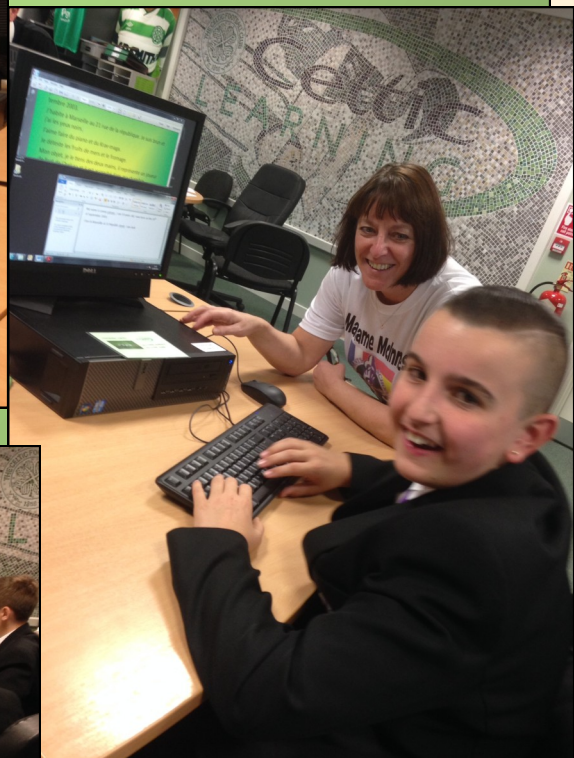
## Modern Languages Newsletter— Autumn 2014



A group of 24 S2 French pupils from All Saints Secondary has just finished another 5 week block at Celtic Learning Centre where they developed resources to exchange with their French counterparts in the [Collège Jean Jaurès](#), La Ciotat, near Marseilles. The pupils exchanged materials on a variety of cross curricular topics, including: Citizenship, Foreign Languages and ICT. For example, as an introductory popular activity (*les devinettes*) each school sent pictures of their pupils with accompanying notes in their native language. Each of our pupils was given a photo of a French pupil and had to find the correct description. The match would be their own personal correspondent. All Saints pupils also used publisher to create posters about pocket money (English & French versions of their current class topic), saving them as PDFs for uploading to the Twin Space.



As a reward for their persistence and hard work the participants were offered a ticket to Celtic's UEFA cup match against Dinamo Zagreb. Bon travail et bonne continuation!  
*(Paul Middleton; Carolyn McInnes)*



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### We will 'Roch' you!

This project was developed as part of the eTwinning pilot in Glasgow intended to create links between the young people from **St. Roch's Secondary** (Glasgow) and their counterparts in Sagrada Familia school ( Barcelona), al-



lowing them to offer each other real insight into their lives and local environment, highlighting the aspects of their cities which matter most to them.

Furthermore, this initiative aims to enhance the global awareness of young people, embed International Education into the curriculum, motivate pupils to learn about the rights and responsibilities of Global Citizenship, developing partnerships at a local level.

The Judges appreciated a good range of subject areas, an innovative dimension of collaborative community partnership (Housing Associations in Glasgow and Sagrada), with strong evidence of real use and development of the Housing Association partnership.

The project was both motivating for students and relevant to current "real-time" planning and development of space with the Commonwealth Games in Glasgow and "has given insight into the future of Glasgow". It embodies concrete learning, progressive investment and "ownership" of local environment, including Research Visits.

School activities, from football to animation clubs, were fully integrated into the project, embracing the spirit of CfE and offering an exciting and relevant development with bite!

Acting Headteacher Rita Knapp notes *'this showcases the value of developing dynamic and successful partnerships and was driven forward by the hard work of staff and pupils across all stages of St Roch's.'*

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# Modern Languages Newsletter— Autumn 2014

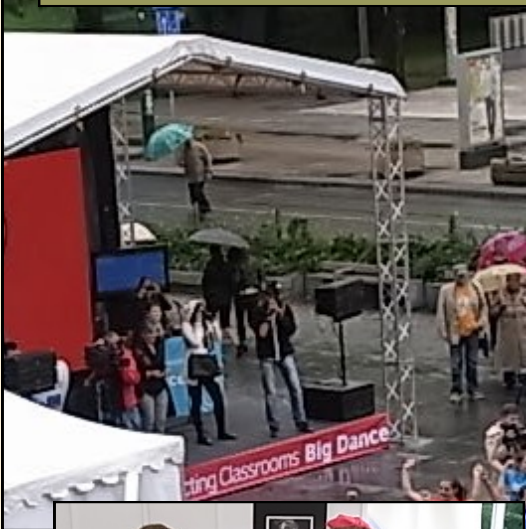


Last month (22 – 25 September) a group of 10 students from 4 Glasgow Secondaries (Hillhead High; St. Roch's Secondary; St. Thomas Aquinas Secondary and Shawlands Academy) attended a 3 day *Connecting Classrooms event in Sarajevo*, sponsored by the British Council Bosnia-Herzegovina. The students were accompanied by Lesley Atkins (International Education Office); Claire Brady (St. Roch's); Tony Russell (Celtic Learning Centre) and Paul Middleton (ML Support & Development Team). The main purpose of the visit was to commemorate themes related to the First World War. The original event was scheduled to take place on 28<sup>th</sup> June 2014 to coincide with the 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the assassination of Archduke Ferdinand, but, unfortunately, had to be postponed due to severe flooding in the area.

Our participants had been working on the theme of the Christmas Truce when both opposing sides laid down their arms to celebrate peacefully this important feast, culminating in a famous 'friendly' football match. Our students researched this event thoroughly at Celtic Learning Centre over a few months - via films; poetry; songs and a discussion with a Celtic historian – to create a video for the event in Sarajevo.

In Sarajevo they teamed up with their partners from Spain (Catalonia), Poland and Bosnia-Herzegovina to prepare for the 'Big Dance' performance in one of the city's main squares. All participants set up stalls before the dance to promote their countries traditional wares. Everybody loved the shortbread, tablet and Highland toffee our students had to offer.

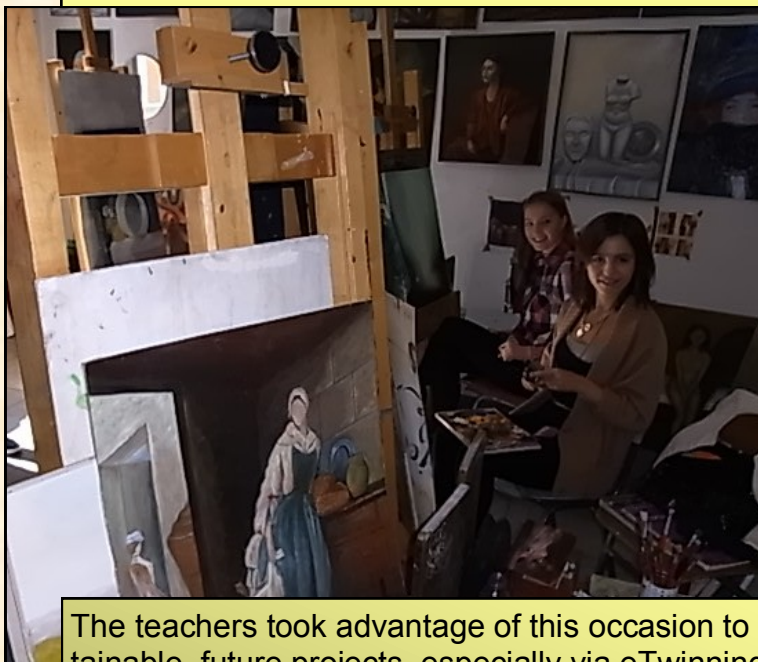
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During the visit we also visited 2 schools (an art college and a forestry school) and were given a bus tour of the city where we saw the scene of the assassination of the Archduke and other sad reminders of the recent conflict this area suffered.



SA OVOG MJESTA 28. JUNA 1914. GODINE  
GAVRILO PRINCIP JE IZVRŠIO ATENTAT NA  
AUSTROUGARSKOG PRESTOLONASLEDNIKA  
FRANCA FERDINANDA I NJEGOVU SUPRUGU  
SOFIJU

FROM THIS PLACE ON 28 JUNE 1914  
GAVRILO PRINCIP ASSASSINATED THE HEIR  
TO THE AUSTRO-HUNGARIAN THRONE  
FRANZ FERDINAND AND HIS WIFE SOFIA

The teachers took advantage of this occasion to discuss ways of establishing sustainable, future projects, especially via eTwinning, as Bosnia-Herzegovina has just recently joined the eTwinning network. The theme of conflict resolution was also very important in our discussions as it is only very recently that teachers and students have started to discuss the war and the post-war period.

Tony also met representatives from both of the city's major football clubs (FK Sarajevo and FK Željezničar) to explain the strategies used by Celtic Learning to deal with social problems in our city.

All in all, it was a very interesting and satisfying experience with all participants benefiting in different ways. We hope that we can develop future partnerships on the basis of this initiative.

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The moment I entered Holyrood Secondary School I realised that this assistantship was going to be a great challenge. A huge building, as many departments as you can get in a big school and lots of pupils; in a word it was overwhelming. How was I going to get used to all this? There were so much to be taken in - another language, another culture and pupils with such a diverse background.



As a young girl studying abroad I learned to handle everything with calm and patience, but this seemed to be too much because this time I was the one to teach and not to be taught. It wasn't the first time I had taught, but I knew it wouldn't be easy.

My first contact with Scottish English was quite difficult as it took me a week or so to get used to it. At the beginning it was hard to hear where the words were ending and others were starting, but I like to think that I got used to that.

Scotland and Glasgow especially, proved to be very welcoming though the weather seems unfriendly. Regarding the inhabitants, I can say that I found Scottish people very warm and polite, ready to help me anytime, anywhere.

One of the things I am grateful for is that I met very nice and open minded people who offered me support in all the activities I did. I felt included and part of the team from the first day. All the departments, I worked with such as EAL, English, RE, Support for Learning, Modern Languages, contributed to my progress as a teacher. I was given a lot of opportunity to share my knowledge and I am really grateful and proud to say that Holyrood Secondary School is the institution where I was taught to be a teacher. I learned something from every single teacher I worked with and I am so glad I managed to overcome my own stereotypes. Most of the pupils were polite and educated.

Now I know that is not bad to be called a HEN (though at first I took it as an offence) and that it's great to have a CRACKAN experience in a WEE foreign country.

In the last days of my assistantship I am glad to say that looking back I had a lot of satisfaction and I am happy to be part of the big Holyrood family.

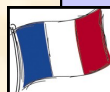
It was such an enjoyable experience that I would definitely do it again, if I were given the chance!

Once again, I want to thank you (Holyrood people) for everything!

Best regards,  
*Anamaria Stefan* (Comenius Romanian Language Assistant)

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## NOTICES Resources / CPD



The Alliance Française de Glasgow will be offering a programme of CPD in French for Primary School teachers, covering 10 topics in 10 weeks (tailored to the needs of Primary School practitioners). These sessions will be a suitable follow-up to our Beginners' class or for French teachers in Primary schools.

**Dates:** Thursdays, 4.15-5.45pm between 30th October 2014 and 26th March 2015 incl. (please click [here](#) for a detailed programme)

**cost:** £70 per teacher to attend all 10 sessions (this is a **special fee** offered by the AF Glasgow to promote modern languages).

\*Certificates of attendance\* will be issued

For option to enrol for less than 10 sessions, please contact us directly.

Since places are limited early booking is highly recommended. If you wish to enrol, please contact us or visit the Language Office at the Alliance Française by Friday 24th October.



A programme of free modern language films for Glasgow City Council schools will soon be available at the Glasgow Film Theatre.



### Primary:

Thursday 20th November 10am – Gaelic version of The Secret of Kells – bookings through Into Film Festival's [website](#)

Monday 24th November 10am – French Film Festival: Wolfy: [the Incredible Secret](#)

Tuesday 25th November 10am – French Film Festival: [Belle et Sébastien](#)

### Secondary:

Thursday 6th November 10am - [Lessons of a Dream](#) (German) - bookings through Into Film Festival's website (click [here](#) for an existing learning resource from the Goethe Institute for this film suitable for Level 3)

Tuesday 25th November 10am – French Film Festival: [Belle et Sébastien](#)

Wednesday 26th November 10am – French Film Festival: [Tante Hilda!](#)

There will be learning resources available to go with the French Film Festival titles as well – these will go up online in advance of the screenings.



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## Modern Languages Newsletter— Autumn 2014



The annual SALT conference will be taking place at Strathclyde University on Saturday 1st November 2014. This year a considerable number of our Glasgow practitioners will be delivering a variety of diverse presentations.

This is a great CPD opportunity and places should be booked by Friday 17th October 2014 at the following [link](#).

### TUTORISED ONLINE SPANISH LANGUAGE COURSES FOR SCHOOL TEACHERS IN SCOTLAND.



The Instituto Cervantes in Manchester and the Spanish Embassy Education Office in Scotland are offering Spanish Online Courses for Primary and Secondary School Teachers through the Aula Virtual de Español , AVE, a specifically interactive platform designed by the Instituto Cervantes for learning Spanish. Hundreds of Spanish teachers across the UK have already benefited from this course and precise details can be obtained at the following [link](#).

### Please find below the team contact details

St. Brigid's Primary School, 4 Glenmore Avenue,  
Toryglen, Glasgow, G42 0EH  
Tel: 07733 307784 / Fax: 0141 647 2745

Gillian Campbell-Thow  
[GCampbell-Thow@allsaints-sec.glasgow.sch.uk](mailto:GCampbell-Thow@allsaints-sec.glasgow.sch.uk)  
Maryse Payen-Roy  
[MPayen-Roy@st-brigids-pri.glasgow.sch.uk](mailto:MPayen-Roy@st-brigids-pri.glasgow.sch.uk)  
Paul Middleton  
[PMiddleton@st-brigids-pri.glasgow.sch.uk](mailto:PMiddleton@st-brigids-pri.glasgow.sch.uk)

Kurt Easson-Brausch      Part time support  
Carolyn McInnes  
Nabil Zertali  
Denise Riley

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