

We extend a warm welcome to our Xmas newsletter packed with diverse language and cultural events being offered in our Glasgow schools, including:

- * The [Euroscola 2013](#) visit to Strasbourg
 - * [All Saints Secondary's](#) BASLA award
 - * Immersion courses for teachers in Spain
 - * [Holyrood Secondary](#)
 - * [Govan High](#)
 - * [All Saints Secondary](#)
 - * The [Italian Mass](#) in St. Andrew's Cathedral
 - * French immersion course for [Royston Primary](#)
 - * [Gaelic Learners](#) in the Primary School
 - * [SALT](#) conference November 2013
 - * [Rencontres théâtrales](#)— details for 2014 event
- [Notices](#), including: 1 + 2 update; Moderation & Verification; CPD; useful links for resources and congratulations.

We would also like to wish you all the best for the forthcoming festive period and look forward to supporting you in the New Year.

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!

Modern Languages Newsletter— Autumn 2013



Euroscola 2013 From 12 – 18 November (inclusive) 28 S6 students and 6 teachers from 13 schools visited Strasbourg for 4 days of varied linguistic activities. The Glasgow schools represented were:

Bellahouston Academy	Notre Dame High
Hillhead High	Shawlands Academy
Holyrood Secondary	Smithycroft Secondary
Hyndland Secondary	Springburn Academy

And from East Dunbartonshire and South Ayrshire

Boclair Academy
Douglas Academy
Lenzie Academy
Turnbull High
Queen Margaret Academy

During the 22 hour arduous coach journey the students got to know each other; watched DVDs (in French & English) and practised speaking French during the frequent motorway stops.

On arrival at the Ciarus hostel in Strasbourg, the group freshened up quickly, then set about refining the questions and vocabulary required for successful participation in the next day's Euroscola debates. Fortunately, they had benefited from 2 previous practice sessions in Glasgow (the parents' information night at Bellahouston academy & a morning at the Alliance Française).

The next day the European Parliament welcomed some 500 students and 100 teachers from 23 member states. Our group had a very successful day, including:

- 2 presenters (Ryan Boyle, Holyrood; Stefanie Cloughley, Lenzie) who presented the group in 4 languages: French, Italian, Spanish and Greek.
- 6 questions from 20 about European issues were asked by members of our group in French by :

Conor Ewing	Douglas Academy
Zaema Majeed	Shawlands Academy
Laura Davie	Turnbull High
Lorna Spada	Holyrood Secondary
Michael Yeoman	Douglas Academy
Mairi Maclean	Holyrood Secondary



More



Mr Evangelos Gintersos, the EU official chairing the debates, congratulated the Scottish Participants, as ever, for speaking French.

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After lunch, we had 3 out of 5 rapporteurs sitting at the tribune: Mairi Maclean, Conor Ewing and Laura Davie.

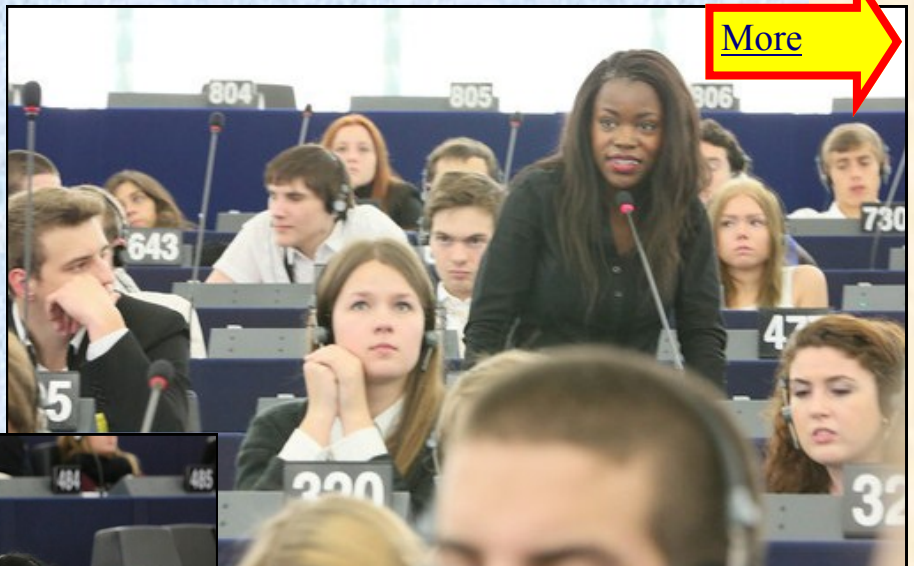
These students gave a résumé in French about a specific debate from one of the following themes:

- Environment and renewable energies
- 2013 – European Year of Citizens
- Europe's future
- Freedom of information and active citizenship
- 2014 European elections
- Migration and integration



Questions from the chamber came from Dorcas Adambu (Bellahouston Academy) and Lorna Spada.

In fact, Lucy Simpson (Boclair Academy) and Laura Davie were finalists in the Eurogame teams. Lucy was in the winning side.



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The next day the group visited the lycée André Maurois in nearby Bischwiller. During the informal introductory session our students practised questions about Scotland (in French) for the afternoon survey with their French counterparts. The baccalaureate / Interdisciplinary Project students took advantage of this session to ask questions relevant to their projects. Later they were divided into groups to go to a preselected class, from: Spanish; French; PE; English; History; Music or Maths.

Our participants had lunch with the French students while the teachers ate with their French colleagues.

We returned to Strasbourg for the survey



... and later and we hosted an evening ceilidh in the hostel attended by some of our new friends we had made in the Parliament.

On Saturday, our final day, the students had a 3 part language challenge (cultural; linguistic and Kitsch). In the evening we had **tarte flambée** in a local restaurant.



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During the long journey home we reflected on the successes of the visit and all participants were given a memento as we felt they were all winners. ***Bravo à tous et à toutes!***

We would also like to thank our generous sponsors including: the European Parliament, SQA, Franco-Scottish Society, the International Office (GCC) and the Modern Languages Support and Development Team (GCC).

All photos were taken by Mark Pentleton (Radio Lingua Ltd.)

Parliamo Glasgow

Building on the great working relationship we have with the Strathclyde University Language Ambassadors, the Modern Languages Team and Cédric Moreau came up with a plan to further enhance these links between the University and schools in Glasgow, with a particular slant on widening access. We submitted a proposal for our project **“Parliamo Glasgow!”** to the British Academy Schools Language Awards and were the only Scottish finalists.

The project will kick off in the new year and will involve the ambassadors mentoring senior students in Focus West Schools. There will also be classes for parents to look at languages and cultural events, helping them better understand the processes behind language learning and the important place they occupy, not only as a core curriculum element, but in the world of work as well.

Consequently, Robyn Reilly Collins and Callum MacAuley (All Saints Secondary) travelled to the London BASLA awards with William Turner (ML Leader of Learning), Cédric Moreau and David from the ambassadors team. They met the other finalists

as well as Larry Lamb who even knew about the roots of the original ‘parliamo Glasgow’ catch phrase. Well done to everyone as they managed to secure £4,000 worth of funding for the project! For more information please click on the link:

<http://www.britac.ac.uk/policy/basla2013.cfm>



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Immersion course for teachers of Spanish



In June 2013 we took advantage of the British Council Comenius grant on offer to take part in an immersion course for Spanish teachers in Malaga in Spain. The course lasted a week and included 35 hours of class tuition. We were 17 teachers of Spanish from Europe (United Kingdom and France), taught by 2 native Spanish tutors. Classes were conducted in Spanish. The group of teachers comprised a range of ages and experience, some updating their language skills and some had just completed a 2 year part-time course at University and had come to further their teaching skills and improve their own competence.

We were shown and participated in activities suitable for pupils from beginners to Advanced Higher level. Many of the activities involved collaborative learning, working in pairs, in groups and as a class. A range of topics were covered, including language, literature, current affairs, the arts and culture. We shared information on useful websites, use of ICT and were shown clips suitable for class use.

The course also included a guided tour of Malaga (including the Alcazaba, Castillo de Gibralfaro, Teatro Romano, Catedral and port) and a guided visit to historic Vélez-Malaga. We had a Flamenco dancing class and went to see a live show. Time was also given to visit Malaga's museums and gather useful teaching materials.

We stayed in a city centre hotel and had some meals as a group in typical restaurants while we were free to choose for other meals. In Malaga one is spoiled for choice!

[Photos](#)

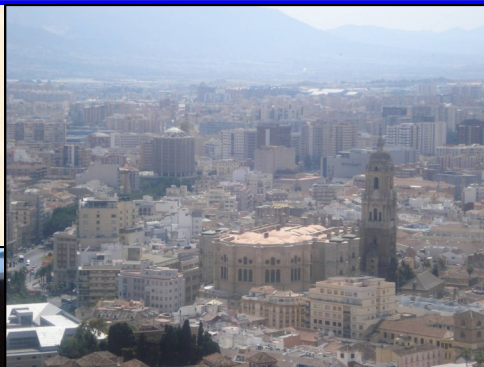
It was an excellent opportunity to improve our language skills, while gaining some new teaching ideas and up-dating our knowledge of contemporary Spain.

We have returned from Spain more enthusiastic and keen to include more active learning and incorporate some of the collaborate activities we enjoyed into our classes.

In conclusion, this was an excellent course which was very relevant to the needs of Spanish teachers. We would strongly recommend the course to others.

(Anne Foley and Patricia Glancy, Holyrood RC Secondary and Frank Hughes, Govan Secondary, Glasgow. August 2013)

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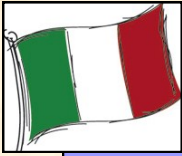
eTwinning “SumandoVoces”

In November I attended a 3 day eTwinning in-service in Madrid “SumandoVoces” as part of the British group (I was the only Scottish teacher there). There were colleagues from Spain, France, Italy Switzerland and the UK. The purpose of the event was to match up as many teachers as possible and develop international links through eTwinning. The 3 days were quite intense and consisted of a series of practical sessions and seminars led by Spanish teachers who demonstrated examples of good practice. As a direct result of this event I have managed to set up projects with schools in Andalucia and Pais Vasco. Though the days were hard work, it was well worth it. On the last night we were taken to one of the oldest restaurants in Madrid “La Posada de la Vila” which was a really enjoyable experience. If you are offered the opportunity to go on an eTwinning in-service, I would certainly recommend it.

(Frank Hughes; Govan High Autism Unit)



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Italian Mass at St Andrew's Cathedral

Once again this year the Italian choir of Notre Dame High School sang beautifully at the Italian Mass in St Andrew's Cathedral on the 11th of November to commemorate the dearly departed of the Italian community here in Scotland. The Modern Languages and Music departments again worked collaboratively to prepare the girls for singing parts of the Mass in Italian. Philomena McFadden (HT), Giovanna McMahan (PT of Modern Languages) and Lynne Macgee (music teacher) accompanied the girls to the Mass. After the solemn celebration the girls attended a reception in the Briggait and, indeed, were commended on their excellent Italian singing voices. The majority of the girls in the choir are students of Italian at Notre Dame, so this was a perfect opportunity for them to put their language skills into practice.

Santa Messa, Arcidiocesi di Glasgow.
 Mass for the Italian community, 11th November 2013, Remembrance day.
 Main celebrant Archbishop Emeritus Mario Conti.
 Head Teacher Mrs Philomena McFadden, teachers and pupils of the
 Italian Choir of Notre Dame High School, Glasgow
 Photo by and copyrightof paulmcscherry.co.uk 07770 393960 Mon 11th Nov 2013.



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International CPD

I was very fortunate to attend a 1 week immersion course in Malaga (organised by le Français en Ecosse and funded by the British Council) in July 2013. It was a fantastic opportunity where I had the chance to meet other teachers from all over Europe to discuss ideas and share good practices. I returned refreshed, but armed

with many great new ideas that I look forward to trying out in my own classroom as well as sharing with colleagues. I would thoroughly recommend these courses (which are also available in France) to anyone who is interested in developing their language teaching skills. They are available for both the primary and secondary sectors and offer the ideal opportunity to undertake meaningful International CPD.

(Anne-Marie Goldie, All Saints Secondary)

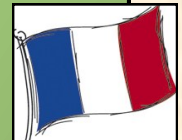




Royston Primary school recently concluded a 6 week French immersion course in Celtic Learning centre with Maryse Payen-Roy and Tony Russell (Head of Centre).

P6s & 7s were treated to 3 weeks of intensive exposure to French language and culture. The children enjoyed a variety of activities, including: playing Happy Families in French (*bien sûr*), researching and gathering information about famous people to produce a fact file, watching excerpts from French films and using French materials about the Simpsons.

The P6s were especially fortunate to learn about French comic books (*Bandes Dessinées* or *BD*) during Book Week, using dictionaries to access the genuine *BDs* on loan from the library at the Alliance Française. On their last day they learned about Christmas celebrations in France and sampled French bread, *pâté*, *camembert*, *Orangina* and the very chocolatey French Christmas pudding: **la bûche en chocolat!**
(*Maryse Payen-Roy*)

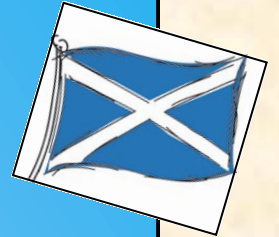


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Luchd-ionnsachaidh na Gàidhlig—Gaelic Learners in the Primary School

The Modern Languages team and I would like to offer our huge congratulations to the 14 Glasgow teachers who have completed a pilot 20 week training course in the Gaelic language and the methodology used to teach a second language in the primary school. This is a real boost for Glasgow as we work towards achieving the Scottish Government's 1+2 model for languages in all Glasgow schools. The trainees have completed 10 units in total and worked incredibly hard as the vast majority of them had no previous knowledge of the language. The lucky schools are:

Golfhill Primary	4 teachers
Caledonia Primary	3 teachers
St Benedict's Primary	1 teacher
Our Lady of the Rosary	2 teachers
Battlefield Primary	1 teacher
Sunnyside Primary	1 teacher (HT)
Notre Dame Primary	1 teacher
Woodacre Nursery	1 CDO



Unfortunately, a few of them are missing from the photo! Tha mi an dòchas gun tèid e math leibh uile agus cùmaibh suas an deagh obair! J (Best of luck to you all and keep up the good work)

(Paul Cassidy; Principal Teacher / ML Development; St Brigid's Primary)

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SALT Conference November 2013

On the 2nd of November nearly 300 language teaching professionals met in Strathclyde University to participate in Modern Languages teaching and learning workshops. In addition to sponsoring the event Glasgow City Council, Education services were well represented by a number of teachers, both leading sessions and participating!

Maryse Payen-Roy (ML Team) led one session on 1+2 languages and another on new approaches to Advanced Higher French. Kay Hunter (DHT Abercorn) and Paul Cassidy (St. Brigid's Primary) delivered a session on Gaelic for ASN. Meanwhile, Gillian was offering her best Dermot O'Leary impression leading the X-Factor panel (Jim Whannel QIO, Denise Riley & Anne Marie Goldie - All Saints Secondary) for an interactive session with NQTs and student teachers. It was a challenging day and our friend Joe Dale started proceedings with a key note speech questioning the role of technology and highlighting the best practices of the #mfltwitteratiscottishbranch.

Other sessions on 1+2 were presented by Education Scotland and SCILT. Our other friends from the cultural institutes delivered really practical sessions on language specific ideas, particularly in light of the new national exams. These presentations will be hosted on the members' area of the SALT website (<http://saltlangs.org.uk/>).

Furthermore, the new menu of teachmeets will also be available in the New Year. Please do visit for developments. *(Gillian Campbell-Thow)*



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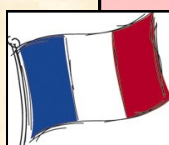
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Please see below for details of the Rencontres théâtrales organised annually by the Institut français d'Ecosse. All enquiries should be sent directly to Marie-Christine Thiébaud at education@ifecosse.org.uk.

The registration for the 2014 event is now open for groups from P1 to S6 and this drama competition (in French) will take place on the following dates:

- * Edinburgh, Monday 24 March 2014, Broughton High School
- * Aberdeen, Monday 31 March 2014, Dyce Academy
- * Glasgow, date and venue still tbc



Schools should register by 31st January 2014 via this [link](#).

NOTICES Resources / CPD

Modern Languages Update 1&2

MLPS training is continuing in French and Spanish (with Italian restarting at the end of January). Though training will continue in the current model this session, there will be a significant revamp to take into account a starter course in P1. To this end, the ML team are going to be remodel the entire MLPS course, a massive undertaking, but not before time. This new course will be ready for piloting in August 2014 and teachers involved would be trained in the new materials from session 2014 and beyond. There will be significant refresher training for previous MLPS trainees and support materials available.

A programme of CPD, including story telling in Modern Languages and topic planning, will be live in CPD manager in the new year and this might be the perfect time for staff to look at how they want to take forward languages in school.

There are various models being used in different authorities and we have our own plan to work to. We look forward to working with you and your staff over the next few years to implement 1& 2 properly.

[More](#)

Moderation and Verification

Thank you to all the schools who have hosted Moderation meetings over the last term. These were well attended by staff in Glasgow and some of the surrounding authorities as well. The new schedule of meetings for teachers to share standards will be available in January and we hope that you will be able to make it along to one or two.

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CPD

The new programme of CPD for Modern Languages secondary teacher will be launched at the end of January 2014 with sessions on *the good lesson for Modern Languages*, *Blooming Learning Conversations*, *how good is my plenary*, *curricular mapping for BGE* and various others. Please check CPD manager in the new year specific details.

NOTICES Resources / CPD

Worth visiting:

Good website for Spanish: <http://www.sellocomerciojusto.org/es/>

Congratulations to ...

Valérie Pellarin who is acting PT Modern Languages in St. Rochs Secondary

We wish Valérie well in her new post!

Please find below the team contact details

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