

Welcome to the first newsletter of this academic year, showcasing an impressive range of language and international events being delivered in our Glasgow schools, including:

- European Day of Languages in
 - [Lourdes Secondary School](#)
 - [St Brigid's Primary](#)
 - [Cleveden Secondary](#)
 - [St Roch's Secondary](#)
 - [Bellahouston Academy](#)
 - [All Saints Secondary](#)
- French fruit in [St. Kevin's Primary](#)
- eTwinning
 - [developing International School Partnerships](#) (Celtic Learning Centre)
 - [eTwinning in the Future Classroom](#) (Brussels conference)
- [AMOPA](#) speaking competition for A+ French
- [Comenius Assistants](#) in Glasgow Schools
- [Postgraduate Certificate](#) of Teaching and Learning Modern Languages in the Primary School

[Notices](#), including: useful links for resources and congratulations for staff and pupils

We would to assure you of our continued support during this session and look forward to receiving your news.

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!



European Day of Languages 2013 in Lourdes Secondary School

Our S1 and S2 pupils enjoyed participating in the events to celebrate European Day of Languages 2013 in the Modern Languages Department at Lourdes Secondary School during the last week of September.

Most S1 pupils competed in a quiz, working together in teams to win a certificate and a prize. Other S1 pupils worked in teams to create an Eiffel Tower using straws with some fantastic results!

Our S2 pupils were treated to a 'crash course' in 4 different languages: French, German, Spanish and Italian, learning how to order food and drink in a café. The pupils thoroughly enjoyed the challenges and activities and should be commended for their participation and enthusiasm. Well done S1 & S2 pupils!

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



"I enjoyed working with my team to make the Eiffel Tower out of straws."

"I got to work in a group, no one was left out and it was fun."

"I liked learning different languages and taking part in talking activities."

"I learned how to order food and drinks in 3 languages by different teacher. I enjoyed playing the games"

"I learned how to order food in a restaurant. It was quite active with different teachers. I learned how different languages can be similar."

"It was a challenging quiz and fun to find out things about other

"I enjoyed figuring out how to build the Eiffel Tower out of straws and working with my friends!"



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European day of Languages 26.09.13 in St Brigid's Primary

European Day of Languages is celebrated on the 26th of September every year and this year we have been involved in a number of activities to find out about Europe and the languages spoken there. A variety of activities allowed us to develop our knowledge about our status as European Citizens.



In addition, we conducted a survey to find out how many languages are spoken in St. Brigid's and, surprisingly, there are over 15!!! We produced passports in French and bookmarks in other languages. Children also had the opportunity to give their opinions as to why it is a good thing or a bad thing to learn a language. All children surveyed agreed that learning a language is a benefit and gave a number of reasons why. These included "languages can help you to get to University" (a Primary 4 Pupil) and "you can talk to people in their own language to make friends" (a Primary 6 pupil). We celebrated our learning by producing a display of our work.

... and in Cleveden Secondary...

All S1 pupils took part in a quiz to celebrate European Day of Languages, working in groups to answer the questions. Each group was helped by S5 & 6 pupils from French and Spanish Int 2 and Higher. The questions ranged from vocabulary questions to looking at numbers of people who speak different languages throughout the world and some questions were about the origins of words we use today. The whole year group enthusiastically answered all the questions and some of the questions gave rise to much discussion about languages.



Although one group had the highest score, two groups had scores that were significantly higher than the others and so both were given prizes at assembly.



... and in **St Roch's Secondary** ...

Forty S4/5/6 French and Hospitality pupils visited le Bistro Beaumartin in Glasgow City Centre to sample some delights of French cuisine. Quite a number of adventurous pupils tried delicacies such as snails and frogs' legs and ordered them in French with interesting variations. All participants enjoyed this classic French cooking, proclaiming the visit a great success.



... **Bellahouston Academy** celebrated the European day of languages in style.

3 weeks before the event, greetings in various European languages were displayed on the morning Bulletin for both pupils and staff to practise.

Our own day was celebrated on Wednesday 25th September when S1-S6 pupils took part in the varied event, involving an EDL quiz. Several invited speakers recounted their experiences of learning languages. For example, in the afternoon Atta Yaqub explained how learning German had positively advanced his acting career. The pupils took the opportunity to visit a number of stalls run by pupils, staff and the Alliance Française, enabling them to practise their language skills and taste some culinary delights from the countries involved.

Our S5/6 pupils also held a French coffee morning for staff. A great day was enjoyed by everyone and the staff were genuinely very impressed by the amount of French our pupils were actually able to use.



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For 3 days **All Saints Secondary** celebrated European Languages and Cultures and every department contributed activities for all learners.

In the Modern Languages department all lessons on Wednesday were delivered in Spanish and pupils had the chance to look at the importance of the Spanish Languages across the world, but more importantly, in Glasgow. The Ladies from the department had their best Spanish dresses on which was very well received, especially at lunch time when some of them joined the Samba Band for a cameo appearance in the square! In the afternoon pupils from some of our primaries worked with Mrs Riley, Miss Goldie and the Higher Spanish Class - trying Spanish food; finding out about Spanish Sports personalities as well as doing some writing and singing with Mr Cassidy from the Modern Languages Team.



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Thursday was German Day when the Goethe Institut worked with our S1, S3 and S4 beginners. Learners took part in a project called “discover Germany in 16 steps” which involved them moving round the school to 16 different “cities” completing tasks with i-pads, remote controlled cars, art and cosmetics. It was a wonderful morning and the Goethe Institut commented on just how fantastic our young people in All Saints really are. In the afternoon we had a multilingual service in our new oratory with Fr. McNaught. We had hymns in French and Spanish and prayers in Italian, Gaelic, Spanish and French. It was great to see our local primary 7s joining us too.

[More EDL](#)



French Friday was a hoot with more stripes and berets than Paris on a Friday night! All learners in the Modern Languages department worked through diverse activities learning about the influence of French in the world and, consequently, the vast impact of francophone culture. We had our friends David and Sian from Strathclyde University, both language ambassadors, talking to us about different ways of using languages after leaving school. Our primaries joined as again, working with Miss Goldie and Mrs. Campbell-Thow and the Higher French class. They had the chance to listen to some French stories, try some French food and work with our sports coaches! Can't wait till next year!

St. Kevin's Primary recently delivered a 4 week French block on fruit, using 'Handa's Surprise' from the dual language storybook pack produced by the Glasgow Resource Centre. The children still remember this book from early years. As a focus fruit was a good start as I could also let them taste the more exotic fruits. We had covered numbers in a previous term so the children could count the different fruits in French too.

Our next French topic will be animals or the home as well as preparation for performing a song in French during the Christmas show.

(Lauren Caulfield)



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eTwinning - developing International School Partnerships

On 21st and 22nd August, 2 mixed groups of teachers representing all education sectors (nursery; primary; secondary and SEN) met in Celtic Learning Centre to find out about and enhance their understanding of eTwinning. The informative sessions were delivered by Nick Falk and Anne Jakins (International Education Consultants / experienced eTwinning Ambassadors).

Lesley Atkins (Development Officer for International Education GCC) introduced the event, suggesting that schools start with a European partner, then progress to a Commonwealth partner. Lesley offered some interesting statistics about Glasgow's progressive IE ethos, eg:

- Our schools are linked to 95 countries
- 69 of these are actively working with Commonwealth partners.



The aims of eTwinning are to create sustainable partnerships and embrace a whole school approach to International Education.

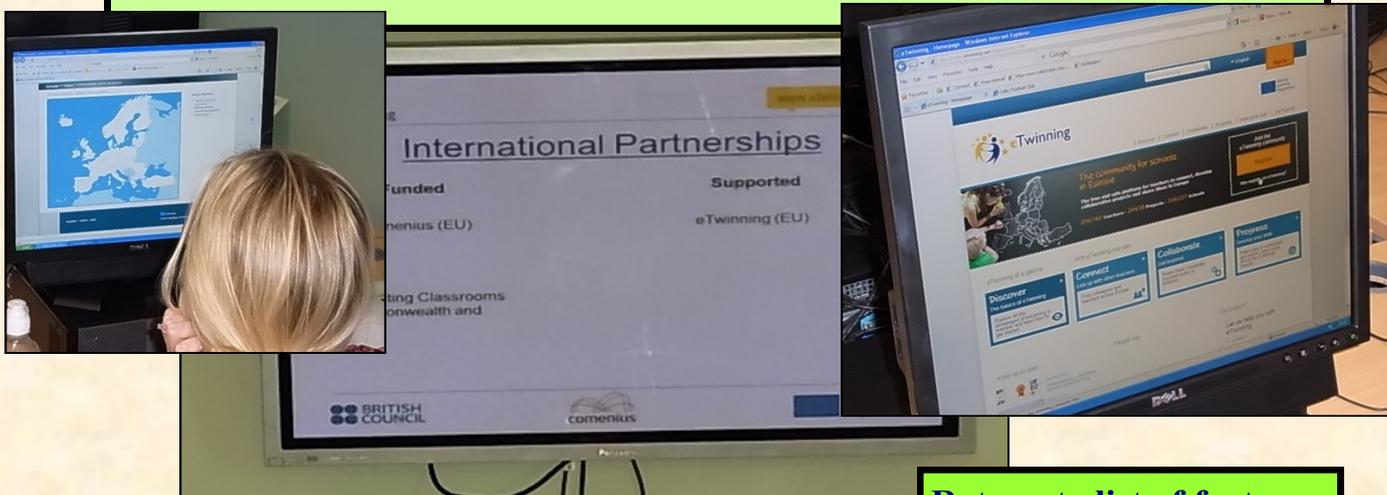
Nick and Anne discussed the importance of mastering challenges, especially global citizenship. Therefore, you must be secure in your own identity to help you understand other cultures. Pupils must take ownership of the projects to become effective contributors.

Basically, eTwinning is a safe online platform which allows users to find partners; join projects or initiate projects. There are also online workshops for teachers.

The presenters gave the participants a glimpse of the many, diverse projects they are (and have been) involved in. Sometimes a project may develop in an unexpected way. For example, one 3 year project involved pupil exchanges between a UK school and a partner school in la Réunion (a French department in the Indian Ocean).

The session ended with hands on exercises to reinforce further the benefits of this online tool. The majority of the evaluations were very positive.

To register and sample eTwinning, please click the following [link](#).



eTwinning in the Future Classroom

At a recent 2 day workshop for eTwinning ambassadors in Brussels at the European Schoolnet centre (21 - 22 October), I was joined by participants from all over Europe, including: Austria; Croatia; Cyprus; France; Germany; Poland; Portugal; Slovenia; Spain and the UK. With our tutor (Bart Verswijvel) we discussed how to:

- set up a rich online collaborative project for 21st century learning
- to incorporate a wide range of hardware and software
- to evaluate and share online resources readily available
- to share good practice via teachmeets
- to organise online resources for CPD
- to create safe learning environments for our students (ie Twinspace)
- to develop an online collaborative project to share with other participants.

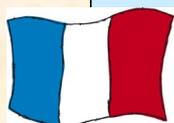


An ICT application was used to select the groups. Consequently, I was teamed up with an Austrian lady and 2 Spaniards (a man from the Canary Islands - and a lady from the mainland). From given stimuli we had to choose a picture as a springboard for other ideas. We chose a collage of various shoes to develop a multi-lingual project (English; German and Spanish - other participants with other languages may join at a later date). Topics would include wearing different shoes and clothes for different occasions (formal and informal); learning the associated, differentiated vocabulary in each language and cultural differences (eg the school uniform in the UK and unacceptable forms of dress in other countries). On returning home, as a first activity, the group has suggested that our respective students should send a photo of a pair of their shoes and the partners have to describe the personality of the owner in their own language. This should lead to lively multi-lingual debates involving adjectives and attributes.

If any Glasgow school teaching German or Spanish is interested in participating in this project, could you please let me know? I am hoping to involve students learning French and Italian too.
(Paul Middleton)



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AMOPA Parlons français – a speaking competition for AH French

We would like to invite your AH French students to participate in the 3rd event later this session.

Though this year's competition attracted entries from 11 Scottish schools, Glasgow unfortunately, was not represented. This is particularly disappointing since Jacob Hay (Cleveden Secondary) won a prize in the 1st competition.

Full details can be obtained at the following [link](#), but basically;



Entries should be based either on the candidate's Unit Assessment or on their preparation for that assessment. Entries will consist of an audio tape or digital video recording of part of the assessment or a preparation session. The entry can be from 2 to 5 minutes long and will consist of either;

- *A formal presentation on a suitable topic (likely to be shorter)*
- or
- *A discussion with their teacher in which the teacher input consists only of very short prompts, questions or responses (which could result in a longer response).*

Perhaps the following quote will convince teachers that this initiative does not entail any more work as they are doing the necessary preparation anyway.

Our entry involved no extra work as we sent away our pupils' NABs which they did as part of their Prelim in January. The pupils were then issued with prompt and detailed feedback. The feedback was both motivating and constructive. We felt that the feedback helped them to prepare more effectively for their final speaking examination. We will certainly be entering the competition next year.

Further information from Gerry Toner: G.Toner@hw.ac.uk *Bon courage!*

This year Glasgow submitted 15 applications (out of 31 nationwide) to host fully-funded Comenius Assistants. 13 of these applications were successful and we have been allocated 8 assistants to date who will work for a period of between 13 and 45 weeks (depending on the funding available from their national agency) in the following schools:

- Holyrood Secondary (Romanian)
- Dalmarnock Primary (Italian)
- Notre Dame High (Italian)
- St. Mungo's Academy (Italian)
- St. Brigid's Primary (Luxembourger)
- Castlemilk High (French)
- St. Andrew's Secondary (Spanish)
- Springburn Academy (German).



The other 5 successful applicants may receive assistants after the national agencies have reviewed their budgets in December.

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Postgraduate Certificate of Teaching and Learning Modern Languages in the Primary School

The Postgraduate Certificate in Primary Modern Languages is designed to enhance the professional competence of participants in Modern Languages for children 3-12 years. Students will examine the value and nature of effective teaching and learning in modern languages and develop their understanding of intercultural awareness and literacy development within the classroom. This will be achieved through reflection on academic and professional issues along with experience and analysis of practical approaches to pupils' learning. Students' own language development in French or Spanish will also be enhanced.

The programme comprises 3 component courses, related to the three introductory statements in the Modern Languages Principles and Practice paper for Curriculum for Excellence. Each course can be taken as stand alone or consecutively to obtain the full certificate. Each component course costs approximately £320. Successful completion of each component course provides 20 credits at Masters level*.

The three courses are:

- Course 1: Language Acquisition and Language Teaching and Learning
- Course 2: Language and Culture
- Course 3: Language and Knowledge about Language

Entry requirements

The programme is intended for General Teaching Council-registered primary teachers who have completed Local Authority modern languages training or equivalent, and will be of particular relevance for primary class teachers and teachers who wish to be involved in whole school leadership in the development of modern languages.

Duration

18 months part-time

For more information contact:

Dr Hazel Crichton
Programme Leader Hazel.crichton@glasgow.ac.uk 0141 330 6586

*The 60 Masters credits obtained from the Certificate may be subsequently added to other Masters courses in order to gain the other 120 credits needed to obtain a full Masters degree.

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NOTICES Resources / CPD

Pages worth visiting:

The Professional Development Consortium in Modern Foreign Languages (PDC in MFL) gives teachers access to [eight key principles](#) of teaching and learning languages, which are based on research evidence. More info available at: <http://pdcinmfl.com/>

[1+2](#) frequently asked questions

Congratulations to ...

Paul Cassidy on his recent appointment to the post of Principal Teacher (acting) in St. Brigid's Primary. We are sure the school will benefit from Paul's varied expertise.

Gilan MacLeod on her recent appointment to the post of Principal Teacher (Modern Languages) in Knightswood Secondary.

We wish them well in their new posts!

Gary Lineker, the [#languages4schools](#) ambassador, announced in a media event on September 25 (ie one day ahead of the European Day of Languages) that the judges had awarded a winning team from Bellahouston Academy 30 licenses for a Rosetta Stone 1-year language-learning course for their students.

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
Maryse Payen-Roy
MPayen-Roy@st-brigids-pri.glasgow.sch.uk
Paul Middleton
PMiddleton@st-brigids-pri.glasgow.sch.uk

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