



June 2015

ETHNIC SCHOOLS ASSOCIATION OF VICTORIA

NEWSLETTER

Community Languages Schools
Where Language and Culture Come Together

MESSAGE FROM COMMUNIT LANGUAGES AUSTRALIA EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Community language schools play a vital role in ensuring language and culture is maintained. Our schools not only teach language, inform and maintain culture they also assist families in bringing up their children. A safe and reliable environment where teachers are responsible for children. It is important for us as a sector to continue to strive for excellence and quality in our teaching.

The Department of Education (Victoria) provides many opportunities and offers support - Per capita funding, funding for training and professional development, providing the ESAV and CLA with administrative support, funding for the RTO Certificate IV training in Community Language Teaching and support through LMERC. Schools administrators are asked to encourage staff to participate in these programs.

The beauty and strength of our sector is that we have been able to negotiate and discuss and finally solve issues. We have done this as members, in cooperation with DET. Decisions and solutions are made with the best interest of the group - the sector.

It is important for us collectively to understand this. We will hold a number of consultations in coming months to address and discuss issues of support, rental issues, networking resources and other matters.

MEETING WITH MINISTERS FOR EDUCATION & MULTICULTURAL AFFAIRS

I recently met with Minister for Education James Merlino and Minister for Finance and Multicultural Education Robin Scott to discuss languages, education and community language schools in Victoria.

It was a productive meeting in ensuring we have a holistic approach to languages and education, which community language schools are an integral part of.

Community languages schools have been invited to participate in the Minister of Education and DET review and conversation about funding models under Gonksy funding agreement. This is an important step as this forum and conversation will look at funding models. In the process we trust the ongoing and increased funding for CLS will be addressed.

Ethnic Schools Association
of Victoria Inc.

Languages & Multicultural
Education Resource
Centre

150 Palmerston Street
Carlton 3053
Ph: (03) 9349 2400
Fax: (03) 9347 7063

Email: info@esav.org.au
Website: www.esav.org.au

ABN 97 461 789 657

2015 VICTORIAN COMMUNITY LANGUAGES SCHOOLS' CONFERENCE



2014 Victorian Community Languages Schools' Conference

Our State Conference will be held on Saturday July 4, 2015. The Minister for Education James Merlino will attend.

At the Conference we hope to have an open forum to discuss future directions of community language schools in Victoria and nationally - Looking at where we were 30 years ago, where we are now and where are we heading?

Over coming weeks we will send schools some focus questions to discuss in house and then bring their responses to the Conference.

Another topic in our plenary session will be Networking and Education. The President of VICSSO - the State Schools Council Organisations, Nic Abbey will deliver a presentation.

There will be a series of workshops to participate in. Please register in a timely manner.

PART-TIME COMMUNICATION AND MEDIA OFFICER

We welcome Theresa Sickert, our new part-time media and communications officer. Her role will be to inform the broader community about activities and also keep our schools connected.

Theresa has now opened up our Community Languages Australian Facebook page - Join, contribute share information about your school. We now also have Twitter - Follow us

A TRIBUTE TO JOAN KIRNER



On behalf of the Ethnic Schools Association of Victoria and our National Council, Community Languages Australia, I feel privileged to say a big thank you to the Hon Joan Kirner and acknowledging your undivided support for languages education and community language schools.

In your capacity as a Minister for Education and later Premier Joan, you were a great BELIEVER and supporter of language and multicultural education. You understood what many at the time didn't, that to have a systemic approach to education, a range of providers who could work together were needed.

You supported the introduction of the delivery languages education at VCE through community languages schools. Greek, Chinese, Arabic, Vietnamese, and other languages became available at VCE. This enhanced a holistic approach to the provision of language education in Victoria.

Funding community languages schools, supporting the then State-wide Resources Centre which is now known as the Languages and Multicultural Education Centre LMERC - a hub for languages teacher from all systems, is a legacy you have left. Some wanted to close it - you stood strong and said NO!

Today Victoria is the leader in language education - You were one of the politicians over time who provided the solid building blocks for this to occur.

You have left your mark and you were a pioneer who can now quietly say, "I did my bit to support languages education and communities and I am proud of this achievement!"

You were the very first Premier in our State to visit an Ethnic School. You visited Omiros College in Yarraville within your Williamstown electorate, where thousands of students developed their Greek language.

On behalf of over 200 community language school authorities and over 36,000 students in over 50 languages in Victoria, our Community Languages Australia Council, our Executive Director Stefan Romaniw and myself, we acknowledge your contribution and THANK YOU!

Tassos Douvartzides
Chairman
Community Languages Australia

DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION & TRAINING (DET)

2015 CLS FUNDING

The Department of Education and Training (DET) advises that all CLS should have received details of their 2015 funding allocation, terms and conditions of the funding and contracts to sign.

Schools that have returned signed contracts should expect payment shortly.

It will not be possible to receive the 2015 DET payment until CLS sign and return the contracts to DET and all other reporting and accountability requirements have been fulfilled.

Grant guidelines can be found:

http://www.esav.org.au/Documents/2015_CLS_Funding_Terms_Conditions.pdf

RE-ACCREDITATION

Schools whose accreditation expires in 2015 should have already commenced the reviewing of all school documentation and gathering of required documents for re-accreditation. All documentation must be submitted to the Department by 30 September 2015.

Please familiarise yourself with the Department's new Accreditation guidelines which can be found:

http://www.esav.org.au/Documents/2015_CLS_Funding_Accreditation_Guidelines.pdf

LIKES US ON FACEBOOK

Community Languages Australia has entered the Social Media world!

Last week CLA launched its Facebook and Twitter Pages and we are using both tools to connect with all of you; students, teachers, administrators, schools (both ethnic and mainstream) and facilitators. Becoming connected through social media gives us the opportunity to build greater networks within the language and education world and stay in touch with you on a regular basis. It also gives you the opportunity to see what we have been up to, who we have been meeting and where we are heading.

Social Media pages are accessed by millions of users on a daily basis as a communication tool to reach the greater population, so we recognised Facebook and Twitter are both great platforms to use moving forward to get our word and our message out.

We also invite you to use the page to ask a question, make a comment, post information, educate others or advertise your school's event!

In order to keep up to date with what is happening within the community language schools and more, we invite you to 'Like' our Facebook Page - 'Community Languages Australia' or follow @ComLanguagesAus on Twitter.

TRAINING COURSES AND PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

The Victorian Department of Education and Training (DET) continues to fund professional development and training programs for community language school teachers and instructors. These are organised and facilitated by Community Languages Australia and the Ethnic Schools Association of Victoria (ESAV)

As part of the requirements of funding, administrators should encourage staff to attend training and professional development sessions. Community Languages Australia and the ESAV with the assistance of State Government funding run many courses throughout the year.

LOTE METHODOLOGY COURSES OFFERED THIS SEMESTER			
ID	Course Title	Start Date	Participants
CRS10193	Monash Uni - Prep (Foundation) to Year 10 (CLIL Included)	Mar 17, 2015	31
CRS10197	Deakin Uni - LOTE Methodology Course	Mar 31, 2015	22
CRS10196	RMIT Uni Phase I Chinese	Apr 1, 2015	25
CRS10195	RMIT Uni Phase I Mixed Level	Apr 1, 2015	25
CRS10193	VUT Uni Phase I Vietnamese	May 12, 2015	29

Language Groups Participations:

Arabic	Chinese	Dinka	Greek	Khmer	Korean
Oromo	Portuguese	Punjabi	Russian	Sinhala	Swedish
Tamil	Thai	Tigrina	Vietnamese		

PROFESSIONAL PROGRAM CONDUCTED THIS SEMESTER				
ID	PD Title	Presenter	Date	Participants
PD10208	VCE for teachers new to languages	Maria Dikaiou	Mar 12, 2015	34
PD10209	Group work to enrich learning with new activities	Elizabeth Karakehagias	Apr 1, 2015	35
PD10210	Using thinking skills to engage learners	Dr Andrea Truckendbrodt	Apr 13, 2015	32
PD10212	AusVELS Languages Curriculum Planning - Preparing curriculum documents for Years 5 - 10	Maria Dikaiou	Apr 21, 2015	34
PD10211	AusVELS Languages Curriculum Planning - Preparing curriculum documents for Year F - 4	Maria Dikaiou	May 4, 2015	32

Language Groups Participations:

Arabic	Armenian	Chinese	German	Greek
Italian	Khmer	Korean	Mandarin	Portuguese
Punjabi	Russian	Sinhala	Slovak	Swedish
Tamil	Thai	Vietnamese		

FIRST AID COUSE & ANAPHYLAXIS & ASTHMA				
Activity	Activity Title	Activity Date	Venue	Participants
ACT10120	First Aid Level 2 Course	12/04/15	LMERC, Carlton	37
ACT10121	Anaphylaxis Course	12/04/15	LMERC, Carlton	19
ACT10122	Asthma Course	12/04/15	LMERC, Carlton	19

CERT IV IN COMMUNITY LANGUAGE TEACHING

A positive step towards quality teaching



There has been a buzz of excitement around Carlton these past weeks – and it is not because of the pizza! Community languages teachers have been attending the first of the newly registered Certificate IV in Community Languages Teaching – run by the new registered training organization (RTO) – CLA! This means we have an accredited languages teaching methodology program that is specifically designed and delivered for community languages teachers.

The program includes nine units of competency and covers such themes as:

- developing lesson plans,
- theories of learning,
- organizing group based learning,
- utilizing information and communication technologies (ICTs),
- designing learning resources,
- assessment planning and
- intercultural language teaching and teaching grammar.

The assessment tasks range from poster presentations, the design and trialling of learning resources, developing and teaching units of work and applying a range of teaching skills.

“The teachers making up the first group are enthusiastic, energetic and very enjoyable to teach” stated Dr. Teresa De Fazio who is coordinating the teaching program”.

The languages we have represented by our first group include: Arabic, Farsi, German, Greek, Mandarin, Shona, Sinhala, Somali, Swedish, Tamil, Tagalog and Vietnamese.

There is a wonderful sense of collegiality amongst the nineteen teachers as they work both individually and in groups to explore language learning theories and teaching practices.” explained Dr. De Fazio.

The initiative has taken years of careful planning and organising as the registration process is quite complex. However, the registration of CLA as a RTO and the accreditation of the Certificate IV in Community Languages Teaching provides a different way of working for CLA teachers. Mr. Stefan Romaniw has been steadily working towards providing opportunities for community language teachers to engage more professionally in their teaching and supporting them to do so. “Good teaching only results in good learning. It’s that simple.

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Continue on Cert IV course

We are all aware of the invaluable benefits of languages learning – not just academically but to a person’s sense of identity and citizenship.

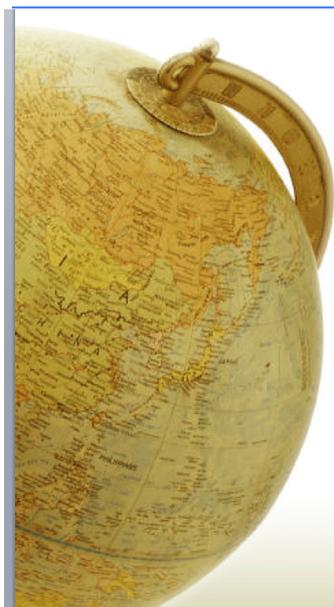
“CLA has great pleasure in providing this opportunity to its teachers” affirms Mr. Romaniw.

“It is a particularly rewarding experience to be involved in such a positive initiative and I look forward to working with many more teachers as we move ahead” explains Dr. De Fazio. Whilst not part of the curriculum, she noted that the students have taken up the responsibility of sharing food with their colleagues each evening session. So far they have feasted on Somali pastries, samosas, Greek biscuits and spanakopita, delicious fruits and freshly made Swedish waffles. The students have all asked if Zumba classes might now be included to work off the calories! At this point Fahry left the room --- with his plate of waffles.

If you are interested in finding out more about the course, please contact Mr. Fahry Abubaker on 03-9349-2400 or email: abubaker.fahry.f@esav.org.au.



DR MARIA GINDIDIS RECIPIENT OF MICHAEL CLYNE AWARD



A Study of Australian Community Schools in Action

Invisible to Visible

**Narrative as a lens on the current teaching practice
and realities of eight community languages teachers
in Victoria.**

*Recipient of the Australian Linguistics Society Michael Clyne Award
Best postgraduate research thesis in immigrant bilingualism and
language contact*

**Faculty of Education
Monash University
Dr. Maria Gindidis**



PD OPPORTUNITY FOR VICTORIAN ARABIC COMMUNITY LANGUAGE SCHOOL TEACHERS



The Arabic Language Teacher Network in cooperation with the Ethnic Schools Association of Victoria/ Community Languages Australia (CLA) conducted a workshop for all Arabic community language school teachers in Victoria at LMERC on Monday June 1, 2015.

The network, which is being facilitated by CLA/ ESAV is a group that meets to share experiences and offer each other support to ensure the quality of teaching and learning of Arabic progresses.

The presenter Hassan Alshakshir from Noon Arabic touched on the following areas;

- Understanding the role of a teacher
- Identifying unique aspects of the Arabic language that encourages students learn the language and eliminate the connotation of it being a difficult language
- Identifying challenges with teaching the Arabic language
- Key features of assessment and measurable progress
- Creating and implementing lesson plans
- Exploring the new teaching approaches applied in the Noon* series (new resource)
- Learning new tips on tackling common problems faced by students
- Utilizing supplementary and innovative materials
- Learning the main do's and don'ts of teaching, particularly in teaching Arabic
- Being in control (class management)

“ESAV and Community Languages Australia are committed to providing teachers with the best strategies to make their teaching effective and to allow learners to remain interested. By bringing teachers and instructors together we offer professional learning and the opportunity to share expertise, knowledge and challenges,” Stefan Romaniw CLA Executive Director said.

The next session will be held during Semester 2.

LANGUAGES AND MULTICULTURAL EDUCATION RESOURCE CENTRE



The [Languages and Multicultural Education Resource Centre](#) (LMERC) will open on Sunday 21st of June, 10am to 2pm as a trial to determine the level of interest in a once per term weekend opening. Current LMERC members and anyone interested in joining are welcome to: browse the collection, borrow and or return resources and pick up languages promotion pamphlets or posters.

Usual library opening hours are 9am-5pm Monday to Friday.

The library holds a large collection of general language teaching resources (on methods, strategies, lesson plans, games, activities, assessment) as well as language specific teacher material, language learner resources, subject related non-fiction and fiction in all formats.

For more information:

Library catalogue: <http://lmerc.softlinkhosting.com.au/liberty3>

LMERC email: lmerc.library@edumail.vic.gov.au , Phone: 03 9349 1418

Address: 150 Palmerston Street, Carlton (city side of the Carlton Primary School, ground floor)

On a Sunday parking is available in front of the building.

2015 ESAV MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL

All member schools are requested to complete and return the 2015 membership renewal form and also to make sure that they are financial members

You contribution is important

All cheques (\$30) should be made out to ESAV membership

PUBLIC LIABILITY INSURANCE POLICY



Our previous Insurance Company OAMPS has now been incorporated into the Arthur J Gallagher Group.

The process of renewing the policy is now completed and the Certificate of Currency of the 2015 public liability insurance is now available.

The current policy is valid till April 1st 2016.

NEW TAMIL RESOURCES



RMIT UNI – MIXED LEVEL – GRADUATION CEREMONY



FOR YOUR CALENDAR

2015 Community Languages Schools Conference will be held on the following dates in different States: (information will be provided to you soon)

- ❖ Our Conference (Victoria) - Saturday July 4th.
- ❖ South Australia - Saturday June 20th.
- ❖ NSW - Saturday June 27th.
- ❖ National (Brisbane) - Saturday October 3rd

USEFUL CONTACTS

- | | |
|---|--------------|
| ▪ ESAV OFFICE (info@esav.org.au) | 03-9349-2400 |
| ▪ STEFAN ROMANIW (sromaniw@bigpond.net.au) | 0419-531-255 |
| ▪ DET – COMMUNITY LANGUAGES PROGRAM | 03-9349-2861 |
| ▪ LANGUAGES & MULTICULTURAL EDUCATION RESOURCES CENTRE | 03-9349-1418 |
| ▪ Arthur J Gallagher Group: Insurance Broker | 03-9412-1335 |
| ▪ MODERN LANGUAGES TEACHERS ASSOCIATION OF VICTORIA | 03-9349-5759 |
| ▪ VICTORIAN CURRICULUM ASSESSEMENT AUTHORITY | 03-9651-4300 |