

TERM 1 2020

Message from the Principal – Lia Tedesco

I wish to extend a warm welcome to all members of the school community for the 2020 school year; and a particularly warm welcome to students and parents who have joined the school for the first time.

We have commenced the year with very strong enrolment numbers: more than 1962 students at this point in time; and still enrolling!

We would like to congratulate our year 12 students who studied either a SACE or an International Baccalaureate language course with us last year.

299 students in total completed a SACE Stage 2 language; with 88.3% of them achieving an A or B:

- 48.16% achieved an A grade
- 40.14% achieved a B grade

The following students deserve a special mention for receiving an A+ with merit, and were presented with Merit Certificates at Government House on Tuesday 4th February:

- Filbert Christone: Indonesian Continuers
- Jungjae Hwang: Korean Continuers
- Fatemeh Agah: Persian Continuers
- Thanh Mai Nguyen: Vietnamese Continuers
- Anh Tuan (Jack) Pham: Vietnamese Background Speakers

Last year there were also 27 year 12 students who studied an IB language course with us. 8 of them achieved a perfect score of 7; and another 15 achieved a near perfect score of 6. We would like to congratulate the following students who achieved a perfect score of 7 and whose achievements were acknowledged at a ceremony at the Adelaide Town Hall on Monday 3rd February:

- Hagen Frederik Steiner: German B High Level
- Yashika Paul: Hindi B
- Aiko Sarah Nelson: Japanese B
- Sidath Naranjana Chandrasena: Spanish ab initio

- Kristien Marielle Herana: Spanish ab initio
- Joseph Jantke: Spanish ab initio
- Evdokia Papastamouli: Spanish ab initio
- Netra Ramkumar: Spanish ab initio

At the end of the newsletter, you will find the timetable for the 2020 SACE Year 12 written exams. Exam dates are not yet available for all the Languages we teach. Updated information regarding SACE exams and IB exams will be provided in future newsletters.

New Programs

We are delighted to be introducing the following new programs in 2020:

- Years R – 7 Chinese at Pilgrim School, Aberfoyle Park
- SACE Stage 1 French for Industry course at the School of Languages
- Years 8 – 12 Persian at Paralowie R – 12 School
- SACE Stage 1 Nepali at Northern Adelaide Secondary College
- Years 8 – 12 Nepali and SACE Vietnamese Background Speakers at Parafield Gardens High School.

Term Dates

This year the term dates are as follows:

- Term 1: all classes commence week beginning Monday 3rd February, and end on Thursday 9th April.
- Term 2: Monday 27th April – Saturday 4th July
- Term 3: Monday 20th July – Saturday 26th September
- Term 4: Monday 12th October – Saturday 5th December for last day of classes.

Interesting Research

I came across an interesting article recently:

The Sooner You Expose A Baby To A Second Language, The Smarter They'll Be

This study shows that babies raised in bilingual environments develop core cognitive skills like decision-making and problem-solving, before they even speak. The study, out of the University of Washington, tested 16 babies. Half came from English-speaking households and half came from English- and Spanish-speaking households. The babies listen to a variety of speech sounds, from preverbal to English- and Spanish-specific sounds. Researchers monitored the babies' responses to the sounds using magnetoencephalography (MEG), which helped them clearly identify which parts of the brain were activated via electromagnetic activity.

The babies from English- and Spanish-speaking households had lots of activity in the prefrontal cortex and orbitofrontal cortex -- the regions of the brain responsible for executive functions, like decision-making and problem-solving. *"Our results suggest that before they even start talking, babies raised in bilingual households are getting practice at tasks related to executive function,"* said lead author Naja Ferjan Ramírez. *"Babies raised listening to two languages seem to stay 'open' to the sounds of novel languages longer than their monolingual peers, which is a good and highly adaptive thing for their brains to do,"* co-author Patricia Kuhl said.

That adaptive mechanism reaps enormous benefits for both babies and adults. Many studies have shown that bilingual adults have better executive brain functions than adults who only speak one language. That means bilingual adults are better able to switch focus between tasks, recall memories, and demonstrate higher-level problem-solving and planning skills. Bilingual children demonstrate those skills, too. Plus, all of those executive brain functions are key to success in school. Learning another language can even help prevent or delay the onset of degenerative brain diseases like dementia or Alzheimer's for older adults.

Basically, there is no downside to being bilingual; and the best time to start is early. *"Our results underscore the notion that not only are very young children capable of learning multiple languages, but that early childhood is the optimum time for them to begin,"* Ferjan Ramírez concluded.

23 Languages Offered in 2020

This year the school is offering classes in:

Afrikaans*	Japanese*
Arabic*	Khmer*
Auslan*	Korean*
Bosnian	Nepali
Chinese*	Persian
Croatian	Pitjantjatjara
Dinka	Polish*
French*	Punjabi
German	Serbian
Hindi*	Spanish*
Indonesian*	Vietnamese*
Italian*	

*The Languages marked with an asterisk are available at primary and secondary levels.

Classes are held in 26 different school locations around the metropolitan area:

Adelaide High School
 Alberton Primary School
 Belair Primary School
 Burnside Primary School
 Fulham North Primary School
 Glenunga International High School
 Lockleys Primary School
 Lockleys North Primary School
 Magill Primary School
 Modbury R - 7 School
 Nairne Primary School
 Northern Adelaide Senior College
 Nuriootpa High School
 Parafield Gardens High School
 Paralowie R – 12 School
 Pilgrim School, Aberfoyle Park
 Playford International College
 Plympton International R – 12 College
 Prospect Primary School
 Roma Mitchell Secondary College
 Salisbury East High School
 School of Languages
 Thomas More College
 Torrens Valley Christian School
 Walkerville Primary School
 West Beach Primary School

Our school timetable is available on our website at www.schooloflanguages.sa.edu.au

Parent/Caregiver Information Sessions

We are holding a number of parent information sessions over the next few weeks. If you are keen to find out more about the school, and to meet the Principal, you are very welcome to attend whichever one is most convenient. There is no need to RSVP.

Information sessions will be held as follows:

- Tuesday 11th February, at the School of Languages, from 5:00 – 6:00pm (for parents/caregivers of primary students)
- Wednesday 12th February, at the School of Languages, from 5:00 – 6:00pm (for parents/caregivers of secondary students)
- Thursday 13th February, at Paralowie R – 12 School, from 5:00 – 6:00pm (for parents/caregivers of secondary students)
- Saturday 15th February, at the School of Languages, from 9:00am – 10:00am (for parents/caregivers of primary students)
- Saturday 15th February, at Adelaide High School (for international students and their caregivers)
- Monday 17th February, at Adelaide High School, from 7:00 – 8:00pm (for parents/caregivers of secondary students)
- Tuesday 18th February, at Glenunga international High School, from 6:45 – 7:45pm (for parents/caregivers of IB students)
- Tuesday 18th February, at Adelaide High School, from 7:00 – 8:00pm (for parents/caregivers of secondary students)
- Thursday 20th February, at Pilgrim School, Aberfoyle Park, from 4:00 – 5:00pm (for parents/caregivers of primary students)
- Thursday 20th February, at Adelaide High School, from 7:00 – 8:00pm (for parents/caregivers of secondary students).

Term 1 Class Cancellations / Relocations

Please note that:

- All classes at Playford International College on Wednesday 18th March will be cancelled.
- All classes at Adelaide High School on Wednesday 19th February will be relocated to the School of Languages.
- All classes at Adelaide High School on Wednesday 18th March will be relocated to the School of Languages.

Communication and Contact Details

Communication with our parent community is very important; and relies on up to date addresses, mobile numbers and email addresses. Please remember to notify our Front Office if any of your contact details change, so that our records can be kept up to date.

Teachers at the School of Languages are highly committed to maintaining effective communication with parents and carers. Email, Edmodo and mobiles are a great way of getting in touch with your child's teacher. To help us improve the school-home partnership we ask that you consider the following points:

- Teachers may not get the opportunity to check messages or emails until some time after they are sent. If you have an urgent message for your child's teacher, please phone our front office staff, (or, for classes at Adelaide High School, contact the supervisor) who will pass on the message
- Please remember to phone the front office or use Edmodo to notify us if your child is absent or late. If you email your child's teacher, it is likely they will not receive the message in time, resulting in an unexplained absence sms notification being sent to you
- If you would like to raise an issue with your child's teacher, you are welcome to send a brief email outlining your concerns. Teachers will make a time to talk about the matter in person or over the phone so that the issue can be given the depth of discussion it deserves.

School Council

This year the Annual General Meeting of the School Council will be held on **Tuesday 24th March, at 7pm**, at the School of Languages at 255 Torrens Rd, West Croydon. Our guest speaker will be Associate Professor Angela Scarino, Director of the Research Centre for Languages and Cultures at the University of South Australia. She will talk about contemporary international research in Languages education.

All members of the school community are invited to attend.

Parent representatives on School Council are appointed for a two year period; and student and staff representatives are appointed for a one year period. We will have a number of parent vacancies in 2020, and you are invited to attend the AGM and consider nominating, to support the school through this important committee. For further information do not hesitate to contact the Principal.

SACE Holiday Intensives

Our state government funded SACE holiday program, known as *Let's Talk!* will be offered again for Year 10 – 12 students, during the April holidays, as follows:

- Thursday 23rd April: at the School of Languages
- Friday 24th April: at the School of Languages

Further information will be available soon on our website.

Languages Alive!

This year we will again be offering an exciting program of language and cultural experiences for primary aged children in the school holidays. This program is also funded through the State Government. Dates and locations for this year's April school holiday program are as follows:

- Wednesday 15th April: Hahndorf Primary School
- Thursday 16th April: Eastern Fleurieu School, Strathalbyn
- Friday 17th April: Mypolonga Primary School
- Tuesday 21st April: School of Languages
- Wednesday 22nd April: School of Languages

Further details will be available soon on our website, with registrations through Ticketebo.

Study Tours

In April this year four School of Languages study tours will take place:

- 18 students will travel to Spain from 3rd – 25th April. They will study in Granada and Salamanca and visit the famous cities of Segovia and Ronda on weekend excursions. This will be our fifth study tour to Spain and we welcome 7 students from Aberfoyle Park High who are joining us.
- 17 students will travel to Italy from 3rd – 25th April. They will study in Padua and visit Venice, Verona and Rome. This will be our second study tour to Italy. Congratulations to the 10 students from Salisbury High who won scholarships and will be joining us.
- 16 students will travel to Japan from 11th – 26th April. They will study in Kobe and visit Osaka and Kyoto. This will be our second study tour to Japan and we welcome the large contingent from Aberfoyle Park High who are joining us on this tour.
- 22 students will travel to New Caledonia from 11th – 26th April. They will study in Noumea and visit many places around New Caledonia, including the amazing Isle of Pines. This will be our third study tour to New Caledonia. We are very excited to welcome back Renmark High School, who are joining us for the second time; and we also welcome Seaview High students.

There will be a meeting at the School of Languages for students participating in these tours, and their parents, on Friday 13th March from 6:00 – 6:30 pm.

Students and their parents who are interested in finding out about study tours in 2021, to Italy, Japan, New Caledonia and Spain are invited to attend a meeting on Friday 20th March, at the School of Languages, from 6:00 – 7:30 pm.



All parents and students are invited to attend the

SCHOOL COUNCIL

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

TUESDAY, 24th MARCH

7:00 pm

CONFERENCE ROOM

255 TORRENS RD, WEST CROYDON

GUEST SPEAKER:

Associate Professor Angela Scarino

Director, Research Centre for Languages and Cultures

University of South Australia

Contemporary International Research in Languages Education

RSVP not required



Government of South Australia

Department for Education

LEADERSHIP TEAM

Principal:	Lia Tedesco
Assistant Principals:	
- Teaching & Learning	Adriana Basic
- Public Relations	Maribel Coffey
- Student & Staff Services	Anne Reuter
Coordinators:	Ben Anderson
	Matthew Brown
	Andrea Corston
	Halina Pietrzak
	Ivana Quadrelli
	Sonia Zocchi
Business Manager:	Moemen Omar

TEACHING STAFF

Afrikaans:	Jacoliene Roux
Arabic:	Meriam Guirgus, Salwa Nour
Auslan	Sophia Borick, Kate Frost
Bosnian:	Muhidin Durmanovic
Chinese:	Erik Brasse, Isabel Feng, Lee Lin, Danni Lu, Muy Jhou Moo, Hong Tian, Karen Wang, Shohret Yusoph
Croatian:	AnaMaria Cosic
Dinka:	Peter Deng
French:	Denise Arab, Craig Bowyer, Naomi Clare, Bibbiana DePasquale, Jenny Ditillo, Catherine Skene, Mary Smallwood, Teresa Vaccaro
German:	Ben Anderson, Erik Brasse, Anne Reuter
Hindi:	Tajinder Kaur, Amita Malhotra
Indonesian:	Andrea Corston, Jonny Daughtry, Daniel Micklem, Ellis Robb
Italian:	Bibbiana DePasquale, Jenny Ditillo, Lucia Gentilcore, Ivana Quadrelli, Caterina Strangio, Gosia Sztolc, Teresa Vaccaro
Japanese:	Eri Brown, Matthew Brown, Hisako Diggins, Kelly Greatrex, Chizuru Lock, Shawnee Mephram, Kerry Ridley, Barb Smith
Khmer:	Sokho Chau, Chimao Kang, Yok Le Ly, Chharida Mann, Lean Hor So, Sreymom Sun
Korean:	Parky Anderson, Sung Hyun Hong, Seokran Lee, Yong Mi Muirhead
Nepali:	Jai Bhandari, Mohan Gautam, Lok Poudyel
Persian:	Amir Alikhani, Marjan Sobhani
Pitjantjatjara:	Mike Haynes
Polish:	Asia Burnat, Halina Pietrzak
Punjabi:	Satwinder Kaur
Serbian:	Jelena Dinic
Spanish:	Parky Anderson, Lucia Gentilcore, Flor Groenen, Yox Ortiz Matos, Lorena Pineda Gonzalez, Patricia Rosales
Vietnamese:	Le Ly, Vy Hoang, Phuong Ngo, Ivy Nguyen

SUPPORT STAFF

Office Staff:	Thorl Chea, Steve Milazzo, Jenny Ivchenko, Kerrin White, Teresa Matthews
IT Technician:	Rita Evdokiou, Afrora Mehmeti

KEY DATES FOR TERM 1

WEEK 2

- **Classes begin in all centres (week beginning Monday 3rd February)**
- **Monday 3rd February:** IB Award Ceremony, Adelaide Town Hall
- **Tuesday 4th February:** SACE Merit Ceremony at Government House

WEEK 3

Parent/caregiver information sessions:

- **Tuesday 11th February:** School of Languages, 5:00 – 6:00pm (for parents/caregivers of primary aged students)
- **Wednesday 12th February:** School of Languages, 5:00 – 6:00pm (for parents/caregivers of secondary aged students)
- **Thursday 13th February:** Paralowie R – 12 School, 5:00 – 6:00pm (for parents/caregivers of secondary aged students)
- **Saturday 15th February:** School of Languages, 9:00am – 10:00am (for parents/caregivers of primary aged students)
- **Saturday 15th February:** Adelaide High School, 11:00am – 12:00pm (for international students and their caregivers)

WEEK 4

- **Wednesday 19th February:** All classes at Playford International College cancelled.
- **Wednesday 19th February:** All Adelaide High School classes relocated to School of Languages.

Parent/caregiver information sessions:

- **Monday 17th February:** Adelaide High School, 7:00 – 8:00pm (for parents/caregivers of secondary aged students)
- **Tuesday 18th February:** Glenunga international High School, 6:45 – 7:45pm (for parents/caregivers of IB students)
- **Tuesday 18th February:** Adelaide High School, 7:00 – 8:00pm (for parents/caregivers of secondary aged students)
- **Thursday 20th February:** Pilgrim School, Aberfoyle Park, 4:00 – 5:00pm (for parents/caregivers of primary aged students)
- **Thursday 20th February:** Adelaide High School, 7:00 – 8:00pm (for parents/caregivers of secondary aged students)

WEEK 5

- **Tuesday, 25th February:** School Council meeting, 7:00pm

WEEK 7

- **Monday 9th March:** Public holiday – classes cancelled
- **Friday 13th March:** Information meeting for students participating in study tours in 2020 (and their parents/caregivers), 6:00 – 7:30pm

WEEK 8

- **Wednesday 18th March:** All Adelaide High School classes relocated to School of Languages.
- **Friday 20th March:** Information meeting for students interested in study tours in 2021 (and their parents/caregivers), 6:00 – 7:30pm
- End of assessment period 1

WEEK 9

- **Tuesday 24th March:** School Council AGM, 7pm

WEEK 10

- **Friday 3rd April:** Study Tours to Spain and Italy depart

WEEK 11:

- **Thursday 9th April:** Last day of lessons and of term. (No classes on Easter Saturday)
- **Saturday 11th April:** Study Tours to New Caledonia and Japan depart

TERM 1 SCHOOL HOLIDAYS:

Friday 10th April – Sunday 26th April

Term 1 reports and Term 2 newsletter distributed during school holidays.

Languages Alive!

- **Wednesday 15th April:** Hahndorf Primary School
- **Thursday 16th April:** Eastern Fleurieu School, Strathalbyn
- **Friday 17th April:** Myponga Primary School
- **Tuesday 21st April:** School of Languages
- **Wednesday 22nd April:** School of Languages

SACE Holiday Intensives

- **Thursday 23rd April:** School of Languages
- **Friday 24th April:** School of Languages

Study Tours

- **Saturday 25th April :** Study Tours from Italy and Spain return
- **Sunday 26th April:** Study Tours from Japan and New Caledonia return

Monday 27th April:
Term 2 commences

Examinations timetable for 2020

External assessment



Date	South Australia 9 am Northern Territory 8 am China, Malaysia 7 am Vietnam 6.30 am Vanuatu 9.30 am	South Australia 1.30 pm Northern Territory 12.30 pm China, Malaysia 11.30 am Vietnam 11 am Vanuatu 2 pm
Tuesday 20 October		Nationally assessed languages* 2 hours 30 minutes Malay (background speakers) [2MLD20] 2 hours 50 minutes
Wednesday 21 October	Auslan (continuers) [2AUC20] (10 am) 2 hours	
Monday 2 November	Mathematical Methods [2MHS20] 130 minutes	Essential Mathematics [2MEM20] 130 minutes
Tuesday 3 November	English as an Additional Language [2EAL20] 160 minutes	English Literary Studies [2ELS20] 100 minutes
Wednesday 4 November	Geography [2GHY20] 130 minutes	General Mathematics [2MGM20] 130 minutes
Thursday 5 November	Specialist Mathematics [2MSC20] 130 minutes	Modern History [2MOD20] 130 minutes
Friday 6 November	Biology [2BGY20] 130 minutes	Italian (continuers) [2ITC20] 190 minutes Modern Greek (continuers) [2MGC20] 190 minutes Spanish (continuers) [2SPC20] 190 minutes Chinese (background speakers) [2CHD20] 190 minutes
Monday 9 November	Legal Studies [2LEG20] 130 minutes	French (continuers) [2FRC20] 190 minutes German (continuers) [2GEC20] 190 minutes Japanese (continuers) [2JAC20] 190 minutes
Tuesday 10 November	Chemistry [2CEM20] 130 minutes	Chinese (continuers) [2CHC20] 190 minutes Indonesian (continuers) [2INC20] 190 minutes Vietnamese (background speakers) [2VND20] 190 minutes Vietnamese (continuers) [2VNC20] 190 minutes
Wednesday 11 November	Psychology [2PSC20] 130 minutes	Accounting [2ACG20] 130 minutes
Thursday 12 November	Physics [2PYI20] 130 minutes	Nutrition [2NUT20] 130 minutes
Friday 13 November	Economics [2EMS20] 130 minutes	Tourism [2TOS20] 130 minutes
Monday 16 November	Australian and International Politics [2AIP20] 130 minutes Music Studies [2MSI20] 130 minutes	



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COMMUNICATION CHANNELS

Our school's current forms of communication include:

SCHOOL WITH STUDENTS & PARENTS

- SMS Messages
- Emails / Phone Calls
- Mail Outs
- EDMODO Class Page
- Parent Teacher Student Interviews
- Term Reports
- Term Newsletters
- Website
- Facebook
- Appointments

SCHOOL WITH STAFF

- LearnLink Daily Bulletin
- Staff Meetings (twice per term)
- Pinup Boards
- Internal Emails
- Staff Handbooks
- Committee/Meeting Minutes
- Term Planner
- Principal's Reports to School Council
- PLT's

SCHOOL WITH COMMUNITY

(feeder schools, teaching centres, partnership schools, key stakeholder groups)

- Emails / Phone Calls
- Term Newsletters
- Website
- Facebook
- Media