

SOUTH AUSTRALIAN SECONDARY SCHOOL OF LANGUAGES (S. A. S. S. L.)

INFORMATION BULLETIN FOR SCHOOLS
PARENTS- STUDENTS - COMMUNITIES

MAY - 1993

CHINESE
CROATIAN
FARSI
INDONESIAN
JAPANESE
KHMER
POLISH
SERBIAN
SPANISH
VIETNAMESE

SASSL ADDRESS:
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COURIER R9/3

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FROM THE PRINCIPAL

Welcome to SASSL or in many cases, welcome back. We pride ourselves on being a good news school with a consistent record of very high achievement and steady growth over the last eight years. SASSL means success: our success, your success. The school is guided by a vision of academic excellence in the supportive context of the many parents, students, schools and communities we serve. SASSL teaches, in 1993, ten languages to some 900 students coming from over 100 schools in South Australia (including a few Distance Education Students).

1993 will be another year of change. We welcome change, as it brings new opportunities for growth, development and innovation. We are looking forward to moving to a new, better equipped administrative location, the launch of a comprehensive SASSL information package for schools, parents/students and communities. We have planned this to occur sometime during Term III (more of this in our next newsletter). The possible inclusion of more non-metropolitan students and accelerated courses in 1994 in Dutch, Japanese and Spanish is under examination.

You, our customers, make up SASSL. Whether you are a principal, parent, community leader or student we want to hear from you with your views on SASSL. We need both your praise and constructive criticism.

Phone, or write to SASSL with your suggestions.

As our dialogue grows and widens so will SASSL further gain in strength.

I look forward to exchanging views with many of you as I visit schools, communities, and meet parents and students, administrators and community leaders.

Sylvain Talbot
Principal SASSL

1993: ANOTHER GROWTH YEAR

This year has once again seen enrolment growth in SASSL. At the end of February, enrolments stood at almost 1000. By the end of March, the figure had settled down to our current figure of 903. Following counselling some students chose to withdraw. Many of these gained late places in tertiary institutions.

There are 58 classes in 1993.

Enrolments at the end of March stood as follows:

Chinese	89	Japanese	118
Croatian	43	Polish	133
Farsi	40	Spanish	127
Khmer	102	Serbian	46
Indonesian	27	Vietnamese	183

SASSL programs are held at Adelaide High School, Elizabeth West Adult Re-Entry H S, Nailsworth HS, Enfield HS, Parafield Gardens HS, Thomas More College, Findon HS, Croydon HS, Reynella East HS, the Golden Grove Cluster, and... Penola in the South East.

Some of the above programs are joint programs where the host School contributes some resources and SASSL brings its unique language expertise.

1992 SACE RESULTS

SASSL was pleased to note that of the nearly 300 students who sat for SACE II languages 91% passed. 85% achieved "A" and "B" grades. Our congratulations go to them and their teachers. While academic performance is not the only yardstick of student success, the pursuit of excellence is a central goal of the SASSL educational philosophy.

WHY SASSL WAS ESTABLISHED

The South Australian Secondary School of Languages is a secondary school within the S.A. Education Department specialising in the teaching of languages other than English. The school established in 1986, is open to students from State, Independent, and Catholic Schools and Colleges. Re-entry students are also welcome and our programmes address the needs of some country students.

SASSL's mission is to complement and supplement existing programmes either in mainstream or ethnic schools. It neither competes with, nor acts as a substitute for such programmes. SASSL students have an opportunity to study one or more languages not available in their own school. Languages such as French, German, Greek and Italian are not included as they are widely available across the State.

Since it began in 1986 with two languages and about 120 students, SASSL has grown to 10 languages in 1993, and in excess of 900 students.

Most of the SASSL Programmes held after hours are centrally located, using the excellent facilities of Adelaide High School, because experience has demonstrated the ease of access to this location by public transport. Wherever there are sufficient numbers of students able to attend a commonly agreed location then a programme is established. (Findon High School; Parafield Gardens High School; Thomas More College; Golden Grove High School Cluster; Inbarendi College).

All SASSL languages are to SSABSA PES SACE I and SACE II. 2 unit full year courses.

In 1993 the following languages are offered CHINESE, CROATIAN, FARSI, INDONESIAN, JAPANESE, KHMER, POLISH, SERBIAN, SPANISH, VIETNAMESE.

Enquires about languages not currently offered are welcome, as demand is a major driving force in the establishment of new language programmes.

THE SASSL SCHOOL COUNCIL

Put simply, our Council is like that of other Education Department Schools in its role and functions, while its composition varies slightly to reflect SASSL's special mission.

ITS ROLE BRIEFLY STATED IS:

- To exercise a general oversight of the well being of the School.
- To advise the Principal on the correlation between the work of the School and the educational needs of the School community.
- To decide by agreement with the Principal on the distribution of school finances.
- To advise the Principal on the view of the School Community regarding education development within the school.

ITS MEMBERSHIP IS MADE UP OF:

- One elected representative from each SASSL language
- Two staff representatives
- One student representative
- Nominated representatives (one each) by:
 - . The Director General of Education
 - . The Multicultural Education Coordinating Committee (MECC)
 - . The Ethnic Schools Board of SA (ESB)
 - . The Ethnic Schools Association of SA (ESA)
 - . The Centre for Language Teaching and Research (CLTR)
 - . The South Australian Institute of Language (SAIL)

Meetings:

Six meetings a year as a rule held on the 2nd Tuesday of the month.

Participation

Parents/students/teachers are urged and very welcome to become involved and participate in the work of Council.

Chairperson

Mr. Basil Taliangis AM., JP.
contact no. 3540754.

COMMUNITY/PARENT EVENINGS

In order to respond sensitively to the different needs of each language SASSL will hold parent/community evenings in Weeks 8/9 of term II on an individual language basis.

These meetings will be announced by circular during the first half of Term II (Weeks 3 and 4). They have the following purpose:

- . To give parents a chance to meet the Principal/teachers and discuss their student's progress in Semester 1.
- . To serve as a consultation forum for parents/students to give feedback to SASSL on how it is serving each group and ways of improving further our services.
- . To serve as an information forum.
- . To give members of our SASSL community a chance to meet in a relaxed social atmosphere.
- . To discuss issues specific to each language as required. There will be a second round of parent/community evenings in Term 4.

LANGUAGE SPECIFIC NEWSLETTERS

SASSL is preparing parent newsletters with specific information in each language concerned. These will be published generally as one or two page newsletters in a bilingual format. Contributions are invited from students and parents. For further information contact individual language teachers.

Language specific newsletters will as a rule be published twice a year, as well as whenever else there is a need. These newsletters are complementary to the SASSL information Bulletin published in English.

SCHOOL COUNCIL AGM

The **Annual General Meeting of SASSL** will be held on **Thursday, May 27th**, at **7pm** in the **Adelaide High School Language Centre**. Parents, students and community members are urged to attend.

KEY DATES FOR TERM II- 1993 APRIL 27TH - JULY 2ND

Semester I finishes at the end of Week 5

Week 6 - Mid Year Examination for all SACE I and SACE II Students

Week 7 - Semester break

There will be no lessons for SACE I and SACE II students in after hours classes that week

Week 7 - All semester one marks and grades are finalised

Semester II begins Week 8

Week 8 - Mid-Year Examinations are returned

Week 9 - Semester I reports sent to schools for all year levels

PARENT/TEACHER/HOME SCHOOL CONTACT

As a school, we wish to develop a meaningful relationship as soon possible, so that we can best educate students. The Staff and Principal welcome the opportunity to discuss any queries or problems. Often, unless a parent, the home school, another adult, or the student makes the first approach, we may not even be aware that a "situation" exists. In fairness to all, it is reasonable to make an appointment at a mutually agreeable time or to telephone. If instant action is required, do not hesitate to contact either the Teacher concerned or Principal immediately

TELEPHONE AT ADELAIDE H.S.

There is a telephone for emergency phone calls only available to students.
It is not to be used for any other purpose.

EARLY DISMISSALS /LATE ARRIVALS/ EARLY DEPARTURES /ABSENCES

Parents/Students are advised that as a rule there are no early dismissals in SASL.

When special arrangements occur students/parents are advised in advance.

Students who have no choice but to arrive late or leave early because of transport problems must hand in the relevant form to their teachers.

Absences or lateness are not acceptable excuses for not handing in work, unless a valid reason is provided in writing.

SEXUAL/RACIAL HARASSMENT

Sexual/Racial Harassment of any form will not be tolerated at SASL. Students and parents are urged to report any harassment to any teacher or directly to the Principal as soon as possible.

All matters reported will be dealt with immediately and confidentially.

EXCURSIONS

- Procedures for SASL excursions follow the same rules as in day schools.
- Students are expected to hand in to their teachers a filled in excursion consent form signed by a parent/guardian.
- No form means no excursion.
- Circulars regarding excursions are to be sent home one or two weeks before the event.

PAYMENT OF SCHOOL MATERIALS FEES

The SASL materials fee has been set at \$25 by Council for each student in 1993. A book deposit fee also applies. It is set on a language by language basis.

The Council has determined that materials fees can be totally or partially waived in cases of hardship at the discretion of the Principal. Parents who have difficulty in making full payment can discuss terms of payment.

OUTSTANDING MATERIALS FEE

Many students have still not paid their \$25.00 material fee. Please forward these outstanding fees to teachers as soon as possible.

Receipts will be issued for tax purposes.

Do not hesitate to contact us if there are any problems.

LEAVING SCHOOL GROUNDS

Leaving school grounds is not allowed during recess times at SASL without teacher's special permission. This rule is in the interest of student's personal safety!!

WITHDRAWALS

Parents/students are expected to formally withdraw by advising the teacher concerned or phoning SASL.

Failure to formally withdraw could lead to a "fail" for SACE I, II since SSABSA needs to be notified of withdrawals too.

We seek your co-operation in this important matter.

SACE MATTERS

Students/parents are reminded that assignments must be handed in on time otherwise students will either be penalised or receive a "0" grade.

The SASSL SACE assessment policies have been distributed to all SACE students/parents.

Supplementary copies are available on request.

The Semester report issued in Terms II and IV will record achievement for each unit.

ENROLMENT OF SACE STUDENTS WITH SSABSA

- 1) The student's home school is responsible for enrolling students with SSABSA.
- 2) SASSL provides SSABSA with full sets of its enrolments on a school by school basis and on a language by language basis.
- 3) SASSL has sent to the SACE Co-ordinators of all its "feeder" schools, detailed lists of students attending SASSL for that given school.

HOMEWORK

It is expected that students will do homework:

Years 8,9,10 : 2 to 2 1/2 hours/week.
Year 11,12 (SACE I & II) : 3 to 4 hours /week

Homework will be taken into account in compiling the student's School grade/mark.

ENROLMENTS IN AFTER HOURS CLASSES

SACE II - 1993

Closed off

SACE I - 1993

Some enrolments still accepted on a case by case basis.

Years 8,9,10

Enrolments still accepted

ASSESSMENTS

Four (4) assessment reports are issued during the year, one towards the end of each term.

Term I Report

- A Mid-Semester progress report is issued
- No grade is given
- It generally does not include a teacher comment.

Term II Report

- A School mark/grade is entered in the Semester I Assessment Report (Year 8, 9, 10, SACE I/SACE II)
- A Semester I Assessment Report - is issued indicating SACE achievement in Unit I for SACE students
- An end of Semester I Examination grade is included separately on the Semester I Report for SACE I & II Students.

Term III Report

- A School mark/grade is entered for Years 8,9,10,11,12
- Interim SACE achievement in unit 2 is indicated for SACE I & II Students.

Term IV Report

- A School mark/grade is entered in the Year 8,9,10,11 report
- A Statement of SACE I Achievement in Unit II is also included for SACE I students
- A Subject Achievement Report is issued to each SACE II student and sent to the student's home school in Week 5
- Year 8,9,10, 11 assessments are issued in Week 6 and sent to students' home schools in Week 7
- SACE I Students have an end of Semester II examination
- A SACE I School grade is also included in their reports as a separate mark.

SASSL REPORTS REPLACEMENTS/LOSSES

SASSL keeps file copies of all student reports. Parents, students and schools can obtain a replacement copy in case of need by contacting the School Secretary, Ms. Ruth Howie on 3540754 - Fax 2340236.

SPECIAL FOCUS : JAPANESE -KHMER - SERBIAN

SERBIAN TREBLES IN TWO YEARS

After literally many years of preparation and consultation Serbian came into SASSL in 1992. In 1993 we have 3 classes: Years 8/9,10/SACE I, and SACE II.

Serbian enrolments stand at some 40 students. This is a remarkable achievement. Thanks must go to our teacher Ms. Ksenija Bozic, our Council member Mr. Bozic, the very supportive parent body and the Serbian Community. This team effort has really paid off. Serbian is the latest addition to SASSL. Its future appears ensured for many, many years to come.

FOCUS ON JAPANESE

Japanese is a recent new addition to SASSL. It began in 1989 with one Year 12 class. In 1993 it has grown to 2 major programs. One is at Adelaide High where SACE I and SACE II Extended are offered the other is a very exciting development where SASSL teaches at the Golden Grove Cluster Campus (Golden Grove H.S./Pedare College/Gleeson College) under a joint "seeding" arrangement with a pooling of resources and sharing of teachers. This year we offer pre-SACE Japanese, SACE I Accelerated and, SACE I Extended. Golden Grove High School also offers Junior Japanese as part of its own day program.

In 1994, the cluster may diversify to attract more new students from further afield. SASSL Japanese is an innovative cooperative arrangement maximising the use of resources. It affords students an opportunity that would not normally have been available. Our special thanks must go to Ms. J. Harris whose enthusiasm was instrumental in building a solid foundation. Ms. Jacqui Thus, who joined us in 1993, is certainly maintaining the momentum most ably.

KHMER

THE QUIET ACHIEVER

Khmer and Polish were the first languages taught at SASSL in 1986.

Enrolments have steadily grown over the years.

Now that Sister Wroblewska our Polish teacher has retired, Dr. Ea Meng Try is our Teacher Doyen.

Our present teaching team made up of Dr. Ea Meng Try, Mr Sokho Chau, Ms So Lean Hor and Mr Sambath Sam has done a lot beyond the classroom to ensure the development of Khmer. Previous teachers Mr. Mann Bunchong, Mr Phann Pech and Ms Sophean Keav also contributed to the growth of Khmer. All our teachers are actively involved in the Khmer community and many have taken a leading role in SSABSA.

When writing about Khmer at SASSL and celebrating its success, the words that come to mind are professionalism and devotion, and especially goodwill and the ability to get tasks done in a pleasant, harmonious manner at all times.

Khmer is set to grow in SASSL in future years with the big inflow from Primary Schools where Khmer is being taught. The Northern Area is being considered for a new SASSL Khmer centre in 1994 .

JAPANESE EXCHANGE TEACHER

We are delighted to have in our midst Mr. Michiyasu Kusaka from Japan who will be in Adelaide (on exchange) till April'94.

Michiyasu is shared between the Adelaide High School and Golden Grove Campuses.

SASSL feels fortunate indeed to have an exchange teacher in its classes. We are sure that students and teachers and our SASSL community will make the most of this language enriching opportunity.

We welcome you to Australia and SASSL Mr. Kusaka!

SASSL TEACHING STAFF

<u>NAME</u>	<u>LANGUAGE</u>
Mrs. K. Bozic	Serbian
Mrs. F. Chai	Chinese
Mr. S. Chau	Khmer
Ms. T. Choong	Chinese
Ms. K. Cooper	Spanish
Dr. M. T. Ea	Khmer
Mrs. M. Entessari	Persian
Ms. J. Harris	Japanese
Ms. J. Hernandez	Spanish
Mr. A. Hoang	Vietnamese
Mr. M. Kusaka	Japanese
Mr. Z. Loborec	Croatian
Mr. P. Nguyen	Vietnamese
Mrs. S. Pakrou	Persian
Mrs. K. Petric	Croatian
Mrs. H. Pietrzak	Polish
Mrs. M. Pruchniewski	Polish
Ms. C. Raddatz	Spanish
Ms. L. Ruggiero	Indonesian
Mr. S. Sam	Khmer
Mr. A. Scrimgeour	Chinese
Ms. L. H. So	Khmer
Mr. S. Talbot	Principal
Ms. J. Thus	Japanese
Mr. Q. H. Tran	Vietnamese
Ms. A. Wozniak	Polish

SUPPORT STAFF

Ms. R. Howie
Ms. G. Roldan

DISTINGUISHED POLISH TEACHER RETIRES

Sister Wroblewska has decided to retire after a distinguished career in the teaching of Polish language and culture in South Australia. Sister was the first teacher appointed to SASSL when it began in 1986. She brought to SASSL a wealth of experience in the Ethnic School System and as a TAFE Polish teacher. Sister has also been very active over the years as a marker and examiner for the Public Examination Board of SA, later to become SSABSA. Her determination and devotion have been significant factors in the growth of Polish in South Australia. Her personal and pedagogic influence has been such that no former student of hers, nor colleague ever forgets her charisma and unswerving enthusiasm. We wish Sister well, and address to her our warmest greetings and appreciation.

AT SASSL WE SPEAK YOUR LANGUAGE

- Parents should not hesitate to write notes in their language to teachers.
- SASSL teachers are fluent in the language they teach. Do not hesitate to phone and discuss any issue with them in your language.
- At SASSL languages are bridges to understanding not barriers.

SMOKING AND EATING IN SASSL CENTRES

SASSL Centres are smoke free zones. All members of the school community and visitors are asked to co-operate with this policy. No eating or drinking is allowed in the classrooms or corridors of the SASSL Centres.

ENQUIRIES

These are welcome at any times. You are invited to contact the Principal's Secretary, Ms. R. Howie on Phone 3540754.