

TERM 2, 2022

From the Principal: Lee Knight



Welcome back to Term 2. I trust that the children and young people in your lives have had a safe and relaxing break.

I particularly welcome those of you who have students joining us for the first time in term 2.

In the recent holiday break, whilst most schools and teachers take a break from face to face teaching, our site takes the learning up a notch by running state-wide holiday programs for hundreds of primary and secondary students, "Languages Alive!" and "Let's Talk!". You can read about these fabulous holiday programs in this newsletter.

Term 1 was at times challenging for both students and staff due to Covid disruptions and we thank all of you for working with us during these times. In particular this meant that classes may have been moved online or in a very small number of cases cancelled. Unfortunately this situation may still continue in term 2.

As we are using Microsoft TEAMS for all online learning we encourage all of you to ensure your child/young person has a device they can use at home should classes have to be moved online. Wherever possible we will put a relief teacher in place for primary classes if the teacher is unavailable so that it can continue face to face.

If you are having any online learning issues please contact your child's teacher or our new IT manager, Ari Bickley.

Languages Alive!

During the April school holidays the world of language and culture came alive for the 100 students who attended the R-6 "Languages Alive!" holiday program over 3 days. Children



enjoyed learning the Vietnamese Fan Dance, immersing themselves in Serbian culture and becoming

a Japanese speaking Ninja Warrior!

This program, funded by the State Government, provided primary students with interactive language learning experiences in Chinese, French, Hindi, Italian, Japanese, Serbian, Spanish and Vietnamese. Its aim is



to generate a love for learning other languages and an appreciation for the diverse world we live in.

Here's what parents had to say about the program:

"Languages Alive has been such a great introduction to learning about other languages and cultures. My daughters have really enjoyed meeting other children from other schools in Adelaide and joining in such fun activities. They have been attending since 2019. As soon as it gets advertised, we sign up straight away, so we don't miss out. They get so excited about going!" (D. Carter)

"Philly and my little girl said today was one of the best days ever! Thanks for all that you do it's a wonderful program."

Let's Talk!

During the April holidays, on Thursday 21st and Friday 22nd, we once again ran **"Let's Talk!"** our state government funded program for secondary students of languages. This program was developed to support senior secondary language learners from across the state.



(Technology; Friend/Foe? Preparing for a debate in German)

Over 100 secondary students from Government, Catholic and Independent Schools attended over the 2 days. One student even travelled all the way from Darwin to take up the opportunity to talk, talk, talk in Spanish!

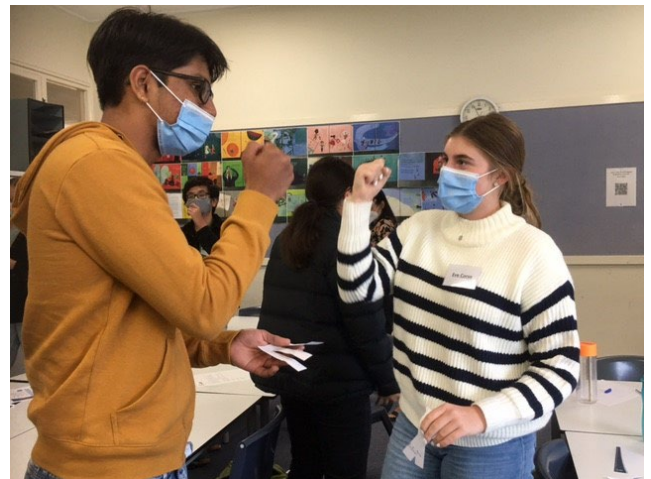
The School of Languages was a hive of oral activity with the sound of many languages being spoken.

Participants developed their speaking skills in the language they are studying, through highly

interactive learning experiences in Chinese, French, German, Indonesian, Italian Japanese and Spanish.



(Preparing to show a tourist through Paris)



(Rock, paper, scissors, Italian style!)

Students really value the program as is evident from their feedback to us.

"By solely focusing on oral speaking, the program directly targeted one of my weaknesses and provided me with a comfortable learning space to help improve my speaking."

"It exceeded my expectations because the games were fun, interactive and not frightening."

"It gave me a chance to use the words I already knew in a more comfortable environment and helped with pronunciation and confidence."

"It really was amazing! I loved every bit of it because the presenter made the sessions so fun and entertaining."

AGM and School Council

As the incoming Principal want to warmly thank all of you who attended our online AGM in March. It was the highest attendance at a School of Languages AGM ever! Thank you for being trailblazers and embracing the MS Teams technology to access this meeting. With the high number of attendees it seems that this would be the best way to go moving forward for all AGMs in future.

We welcomed our new school council for 2022

Council Chair	Margareta Rebelos
Treasurer	Henrik Wallgren
Secretary	Kaitlyn Gray
Principal	Lee Knight

Sub-committees:

Policy and Planning Chair: Margareta Rebelos
Financial Advisory Committee Chair: Henrik Wallgren
Publicity and Promotions Chair: Vacancy

Parent representatives 2022:

Henrik Wallgren (Chinese)
Margareta Rebelos (Japanese and Auslan–self)
Kirsty Munro (German)
Herbert Schwarz (Chinese)
Chharida Mann (Khmer)
Paola Alonso (Spanish)
Christine Feinle-Bisset (German)
Kaitlyn Gray (Japanese)

Staff representative:

Flor Groenen (Spanish Teacher)

Community representatives:

Daryl Buchanan – Community Language Schools South Australian (CLSSA)
Adireddy Yara – Multicultural Education and Languages Committee (MELC)
Kazuko Glass - Modern Languages Teachers' Association SA

Student representative:

Kate Dospisil – Chair student council

Thank you to all parents/carers who attended the AGM and those who nominated to be part of our School Council.

Student Council

Congratulations to Kate Dospisil, our 2022



Chair of the School of Languages Student Council and student representative on our School Council.

A word from our new Chair...

*Hi everyone! My name is Kate Dospisil. I was a member of the Student Council last year and am very excited to be taking on this role as your student representative on the School Council. I have been a student at the School of Languages since 2018, completing one year of Spanish in 2018 and am now studying Stage 2 Korean Continuers, following the successful completion of Stage 1 Korean Beginners in 2019, Stage 2 Korean Beginners in 2020, and Stage 1 Korean Continuers in 2021. Alongside my languages studied at the School of Languages, I also studied Stage 2 Spanish Continuers with an A+ grade last year. This year, I am also studying Stage 2 Chinese Continuers at my day school, Adelaide High School – **Kate***

David Perry has been selected as Deputy Chair of the student council. David has studied both Spanish and German at School of Languages, and this year is studying Spanish. He is also studying Chinese and continuing to study German at his day school. Congratulations to Kate and David.

The Student Council provides opportunities for students to engage more actively with school activities beyond the language classroom, giving your opinions and sharing ideas on promoting language learning, making new friends that learn other languages and having some fun along the way! If you are interested in becoming a member, please let Kate know by emailing her at: Kate.Dospisil264@schools.sa.edu.au or contacting Maribel Coffey, Assistant Principal, Public Relations at MaribelCoffey885@schools.sa.au

Staff News

Since our last newsletter, we have welcomed the following staff to the school:

Ayoub Hassine (French)
Tess Amini (French)
Kim Bennett (German)
Ljubic Prce-Simic (Croatian)
Jamie Antezana Navarro (Spanish)
Ehab Sorial (Arabic)
Raj Sandhu (Punjabi)

Starting, or returning, in term 2 we have:

Isabel Feng – returning (Chinese)
Steve Milazzo - returning (Executive Assistant)
Parneet Ahluwalia (Punjabi)
Harpreet Sandhu (Punjabi)
Ari Bickley (LCT manager)
Majeda Rizk (Arabic)
Billy Setiwan (Indonesian)

To the following staff we say farewell:

Salwa Nour (Retirement)
Hong Tian (Retirement)
Rita Evdokiou (Retirement)
Amir Alikhani
Mary Smallwood
Miao Yu
Nermine Wahba

We wish all these staff the best in their new endeavours and thank them for their time working with School of Languages.

We have also welcomed the following Pre-service teachers from the University of Adelaide, who will be with us in Term 2:

Harley Harrer (Japanese)
Kaire Aquino (Spanish)

We really enjoy the chance to work with the next generation of language teachers in our system.

Parent/Teacher Interviews



Parent/Teacher Interviews will be held in Term 2 Week 3 (16-21 May).

These interviews provide a valuable opportunity for parents/caregivers and teachers to discuss student progress and to explore ways of helping them to achieve success in their language studies.

You should have received already an SMS, with an attached letter outlining the Parent Teacher Interview process for this year.

To make the most of these interviews it is suggested that:

- you plan specific questions you wish to ask
- you identify and communicate factors teachers need to be aware of in relation to your child's learning
- students also attend.

After the interview, it is important that parents follow up with their children on matters discussed at the meeting, by:

- acknowledging strengths
- discussing areas where improvements can be made
- supporting your child with strategies to allow them to take responsibility for their enhancing their own learning.

2022 School of Languages Poster Competition

On the 14th June, the School of Languages will once again be inviting R-12 students to demonstrate their appreciation for languages and cultures by using their creative and artistic skills to design a poster. This year the theme will be **Languages: connecting hearts and minds!**

Entries will be categorised according to four groups:

- Category A: Junior Primary (R-3 students)
- Category B: Primary (Years 4-6)
- Category C: Middle Years (Years 7-9)
- Category D: Senior Secondary (Years 10-12).

Entries will close on the 22nd July. Winners from all categories will receive \$100 prize money and a Certificate of Excellence. All entrants will receive a Certificate of Participation. Selection of winners will be made by a judging panel with

representatives from the School Council and the School of Languages student body. All winners will be notified in writing by the end of August 2022.

Community Festivals

This year our school was once again invited by the Thai-Australian Association of South



Australia to participate in the annual Thai Community Festival. The day offered our teachers and students the opportunity to be immersed in many aspects of Thai culture and language, including colourful and graceful traditional dance.



Matt Brown, Coordinator attended on our behalf to run a School of Languages publicity and information stall to

promote our Thai language program. We were delighted with the response from the Thai community in relation to our language offerings!



Celebrating Holi Festival/Festival of Colours

In India Holi is celebrated to mark the start of Spring season and harvesting of the new crop. Just like children do in India, our Year 4-7 students had a wonderful cultural experience

celebrating this ancient annual festival by adorning themselves with colour and listening to stories mythological figures such as Holika and Prahlad.



Friends of SoL – Stuart A Blair

When you are out and about at markets and festivals you may see our programs being promoted by Stuart A Blair. Stuart is a Language



Specialist - Pop Culture Historian and teacher of French, Indigenous, English, & Constructed Languages.



We thank Stuart for promoting language learning and our classes at SoL. Feel free to stop and have a chat next time you see him around to find out more about what Stuart does.

Year 12 Vacation School

Preparation is well underway for the annual School of Languages Vacation School for Stage 2 languages students and teachers. These SACE exam preparation workshops will be available for Chinese, French, German, Indonesian, Italian, Japanese and Spanish at Stage 2 Continuers Level.

Vacation School will run on Wednesday 5th October 2022 from 9.00am to 3.30pm at the School of Languages.

Save the date for these popular workshops, which have a focus on exam preparation; conversation and discussion, reading and responding, listening and responding, and writing in the target language.

Multilingual Learners - Supporting wellbeing

Research shows that young people who consider themselves 'multilingual' tend to perform better across a wide range of subjects at school, regardless of whether they are fluent in another language.

“the positive mentality and self-belief which typically develops among pupils with a multilingual identity has spill-over benefits for their wider education.”

The study of more than 800 students in England found a measurable, positive relationship between their personal connection with other languages, and their GCSE exam results in both modern language and non-language subjects. This applied whether or not they actually spoke a second language fluently.

Click on the link below to find out more about this research from University of Cambridge on the benefits of learning a Language!

https://www.sciencedaily.com/releases/2021/11/211111080343.htm?utm_source=feedburner&utm_medium=email

Congratulations



We say congratulations to our Indonesian teacher, Bintang Butar Butar, who recently completed her post-graduate studies at the University of South Australia.

Bintang has been awarded a University Merit Award for 2021 in UniSA Education Futures. We congratulate her on achieving such a distinction.

The University Merit Awards are awarded annually to students who have achieved a cumulative program grade point average in the top 15% of all undergraduate and postgraduate students in UniSA Education Futures.

Congratulations Bintang!

Key Dates Term 2

Term Two begins week beginning Mon 2 May

Week 3

Parent/Caregiver/Student/Teacher interviews: please make an appointment for a telephone or online interview with your teacher, via email.

Week 5

Tues 31 May,

6:30pm Finance committee

7:00pm: School Council meeting

Week 7

Launch of Poster Competition

End of Semester 1

Week 8

Semester 2 begins

Monday 14th June: Public Holiday - All classes cancelled

Week 9

Years 11 and 12 midyear written examinations

Tuesday 28 June,

6:30pm Policy and Planning committee

7:00pm: School Council meeting

Week 10

Years 11 and 12 midyear oral examinations

Saturday 9 July: Last day of Term Two

TERM 2 SCHOOL HOLIDAYS

10 July – 24 July

Term 2 reports emailed home

Holiday Programs

Primary - Languages Alive!:

12, 13, 19, 21, 22 July

Secondary - Let's Talk!:

14 & 15 July

Look out for more details on these fabulous holiday programs