

TERM 2, 2024

From the Principal

As we commence term 2, we hope that your child/ren are feeling settled and are making good progress in their language learning.

During term 1, I invited all staff to meet with me for a one-on-one conversation to share their views and offer suggestions about ways to improve our school. A key theme that from those sessions was the importance of partnering with community. As we know parents/carers are often the first models and advocates of language(s) learning, and are crucial in encouraging and supporting students in their studies.

In reshaping the leadership team, we have roles specifically designed to strengthen our work in this area, as follows:

- Barbara Smith, Assistant Principal: Students, Staff and Community Engagement
- Ben Anderson, B1 Leader: Curriculum and Global Connections
- Danielle Popovic, B1 Leader: Curriculum and Student Engagement
- Kate Loechel, Project Officer: Enrichment Programs

We are planning a range of events and opportunities to connect more with you, and invite you to become involved in the life of the school.

Contact us on: dl.1802.admin@schools.sa.edu.au to find out more.

I look forward to connecting with you and our community more in the months ahead.

Michelle Kohler

AGM and Governing Council

On Tuesday 26 March, we thanked our out-going Council representatives and welcomed the new committee, as follows:

Continuing parent representatives:

- Henrik Wallgren (Chinese)
- Cameron Riches (French and Japanese)
- Kirsten Lee (Korean)

Student representatives:

- Natasha Weber (Japanese)
- Anaya Mehta (Spanish)

Staff representatives:

- Ana Nedeljkovic-Brankovic (Teacher of Serbian)

Community representatives:

- The Multicultural Education and Languages Committee (to be advised)
- Community Language Schools South Australia (Brett Shuttleworth)
- Modern Languages Teachers' Association SA (Miriam Parsons)

Our Governing Council currently has 8 parent representative places, so we are seeking up to 5 parent members. If you would like to join Council, and help shape the direction of the school, please contact us at: dl.1802.admin@schools.sa.edu.au

Our people

Introducing...



My name is Pauline Akele and I am pleased to join the School of Languages Community for the next four years as the Deputy Principal: Learning Innovation.

I joined the school this year after occupying teaching and leadership roles at Glenunga International HS where I taught French from 2016 to 2023.

However, I am not a new member of the school community. I taught French at SoL from 2012 to 2015, after completing my placement here. My three children learned French at the school and I was a parent representative on the Governing Council.

Since I started, I have had the pleasure of speaking with many parents over the phone or face to face and I appreciate any feedback. So please do not hesitate to contact me.

Staff News

We have a few staffing changes as follows:

Starting:

- Alina Herrador: Spanish, Dara School
- Harpreet Kaur: Punjabi, Croydon
- Raj Kaur: Punjabi, Valley View

On leave:

- Halina Pietrzak: Coordinator, Curriculum and Senior Secondary, Weeks 5-10 (replacement tba)

Recent events

Public lecture



We were delighted to have our 2024 public lecture presented by the Hon. Rev. Dr Lynn Arnold AO, former Premier of South Australia.

Rev. Dr Arnold spoke about the history and vision of the school, its role in strengthening multiculturalism over the decades since it began, and the challenge of remaining vibrant and meaningful to young people, particularly as Artificial Intelligence features more in our lives.

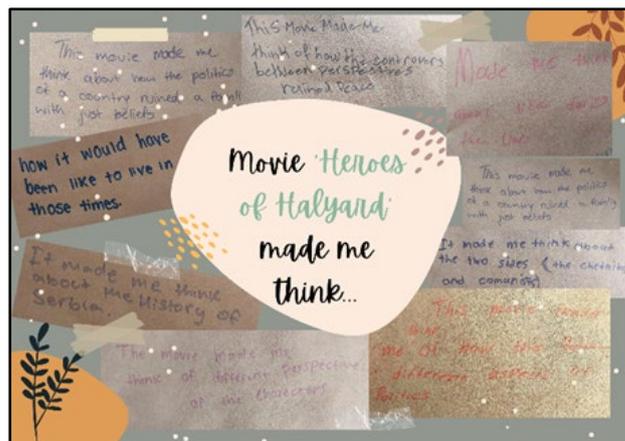
We are certainly keen to consider these ideas further, and welcome discussion with parents and students about how we tackle this challenge into the future.

Exciting Learning Experiences

Serbian Film Festival

Serbian language students recently attended the Serbian Film Festival. By taking part in this iconic event, which has a 20-year history, the students were able to connect with the Serbian community in Australia, and with the language and culture of Serbia.

They watched the latest film, *Heroes of Halyard*, which explores a significant topic in Serbian history. Students enjoyed the experience, discussion, and reflection after the movie.



Hindi class celebrates Holi!



Holi is a sacred ancient festival of India. It is a cultural celebration that gives Hindus and non-Hindus alike an opportunity to have fun with other people by throwing coloured water and powder. The day

signifies the triumph of good over evil, as it commemorates the victory of Lord Vishnu as Narasimha over Hiranyakshyap.

Sikhs traditionally celebrate the festival of Holi with a three-day Holi Mohalla extension festival of martial arts where Sikh soldiers train in mock battles, compete in horsemanship, athletics, archery and military exercises.

Vaisakhi celebrations in Punjabi class



Vaisakhi is celebrated all over India but in Punjab, Delhi and Haryana this festival is celebrated with great fanfare and enthusiasm. Vaisakhi is also known as the harvest season as it is a festival of prosperity. It is known by different names in different states like Bihu in Assam, Naba Varsha in Bengal, Pooram Vishu in Kerala. On April 13, 1699, on Vaisakhi, the tenth Guru of the Sikhs, Guru Gobind Singh Ji, founded the Khalsa Panth. Sikhs celebrate Vaisakhi through a Nagar Kirtan, (town hymn singing), a procession through their local town led by five initiated Sikhs (Panj Pyare). Guru Granth Sahib Ji, the Sikh scriptural Guru, is the main focus of the procession. Gurbani (Hymns) are sung, langar (free food) is served and there are often displays of Sikh martial arts.

Enrichment Programs - April

Let's Talk! again proved to be an excellent opportunity for Stage 1 and 2 languages students to strengthen their speaking skills. Here's what they had to say:

- ☞ *I think the program was well-structured, I felt more comfortable speaking French than I expected to.*
- ☞ *The program has been extremely helpful for practicing my language skills in preparation for Year 12 assessment.*
- ☞ *I feel more confident in the language. Even though it covered familiar topics, I learnt lots of new phrases that allowed me to extend my vocabulary to make more detailed sentences.*

Languages Alive! welcomed 180 primary languages students across 5 days and 4 venues. Students experienced a range of engaging learning in Chinese, French, Hindi, Indonesian, Italian, Japanese and Serbian. They all had lots of fun!



Upcoming events

International cultural immersion

We are pleased resume international cultural immersion opportunities for students, otherwise known as Study Tours. In October 2024, SoL is partnering with Adelaide Botanic and Renmark High Schools to take our French students to New Caledonia, and partnering with Para Hills High School to take our students of Japanese to Kashima, Japan. On the horizon for 2025 are tours to, Spain and Italy.

If you are interested in our 2025 tours, please contact our Coordinator Curriculum and Global Connections, Ben.Anderson511@schools.sa.edu.au

Enrichment programs – Languages Alive!

During the July school holidays the world of different languages and cultures will once again come alive through the R-6 **Languages Alive!** program offered by the School of Languages and funded by the State Government. The program will provide students with interactive language learning experiences in a variety of languages. The program is designed to generate a love for learning other languages.

Dates and venues:

- Tuesday 9 July: School of Languages
- Wednesday 10 July: School of Languages
- Thursday 11 July: Stirling East Primary
- Friday 12 July: venue TBA
- Tuesday 16 July: venue TBA

Enrichment programs – Let's Talk!

Years 10-12 students of Chinese, French, German, Indonesian, Italian, Japanese and Spanish will again have an opportunity to develop their speaking skills and meet other students studying the same language at the **Let's Talk!** program in July. Details are:

9 and 10 July, 10.00am-3.30pm at SoL, Croydon

Come along for one day or two!

\$10 per student per day

School Card/Health Care Card Holders: **FREE**

Registrations for both programs will open soon

Student council 2024

Special congratulations to Natasha Weber and Anaya Mehta, whose nominations for Chair have been successful. As Co-Chairs, Natasha and Anaya will represent the School of Languages student body at Governing Council meetings and will provide leadership for all student-led activities.



Interested in meeting other languages students and becoming a languages leader?

It's not too late to join the Student Council!

For more information contact Danielle Popovich at Danielle.Popovic904@schools.sa.edu.au

Parent/Teacher interviews

We will be conducting Parent/Teacher interviews during Weeks 4 and 5 of this term (20 – 31 May).

These interviews provide a valuable opportunity for a conversation between parents/carers, students and teachers to discuss student progress and to explore ways of supporting students to achieve their full potential in their language studies.

Please contact your child's teacher to arrange a mutually convenient time during the two weeks. Please suggest two or three time slots when you are available for a Teams meeting or phone interview, by:

- emailing the teacher (email address on Lesson Plan)
- contacting dl.1802.admin@schools.sa.edu.au or calling the Front Office on 8301 4800
- sending a Teams meeting request directly to the teacher.

We look forward to connecting with many of you through this process.

Key Dates Term 2

WEEK 1

- Monday 29 April: Classes resume

WEEK 2

- Friday 10 May: R-6 Enrolments close for the term

WEEK 4

- Monday 20 May: Friday 31 May – Parent Teacher Interviews via Teams/phone calls
- Tuesday 21 May: Governing Council Meeting 7:00-9:00pm via Teams

WEEK 5

- Monday 20 May: Friday 31 May – Parent Teacher Interviews via Teams/phone calls
- Friday 31 May: Whole staff Focus Day

WEEK 7

- Monday 10 June: Public Holiday (King's Birthday) NO CLASSES**
- Last week of Semester 1 for Stage 1 students

WEEK 8

- Monday 17 June: Start of Semester 2

WEEK 9

- IB/SACE Stage 1 & 2 Written Exams

WEEK 10

- IB/SACE Stage 1 & 2 Conversation Mid-Year Exams

TERM 2 SCHOOL HOLIDAYS

- Monday 7 July – Sunday 21 July

TERM 3

- Monday 22 July – Term 3 classes commence

TERM DATES 2024

Term 2: Mon 29 April – Sat 6 July

Term 3: Mon 22 July – Sat 28 Sept

Term 4: Mon 14 Oct – Sat 7 Dec: last day R – 10 classes.

Last day Year 11s: Week ending Sat 30 Nov.

Last day Year 12s: week prior to final exam. *Dates to be advised once SACE and IB exam schedules are finalised.*