

SCILT 1+2 Newsletter:

June 2019

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Editorial

Dear colleagues

I'd like to start by thanking everyone for their contributions to this edition of the 1+2 newsletter. I always feel privileged that Scotland's languages community is so willing to share and work together towards the full implementation of *Language Learning in Scotland: A 1+2 approach*.

As usual at SCILT, you can keep up-to-date with all our activities via the [weekly e-bulletin](#). I'd like to offer my thanks to all of you who have answered surveys on a range of SCILT programmes such as our professional learning offer, our planned Languages and Employability Award and the new version of the SCILT website. Your honest feedback, comments and advice contribute greatly to informing our planning and help us ensure that we meet the needs of all our stakeholders.

The [SCILT professional learning menu](#) is now online offering a range of workshops suitable for all sectors. In addition, this year we have included a range of webinars that can be joined as live events or watched anytime, at practitioners' convenience. The SCILT team can also support professional learning partnerships, working with local authority development officers and teaching staff to effect positive change through professional dialogue and collaboration. If any of these activities are of interest to you and your colleagues, please [contact SCILT](#).

As we look toward the new academic session 2019/20, the SCILT team continues to be excited by the prospect of working with so many committed professionals. It is our privilege to be able to support language learning across the country as we move into the final years of the implementation of Scotland's language policy.

Fhiona Mackay, Director

News from SCILT

Engaging families in language learning

Author: Clare Mouat, SCILT

‘Family learning is a powerful method of engagement and learning which can foster positive attitudes towards life-long learning, promote socio-economic resilience and challenge educational disadvantage’ (Family Learning Network, 2016).

Parental engagement is not only a vital part of children’s and young people’s learning, it is also recognised as a powerful lever for raising achievement in schools. In our case studies focusing on parental and community engagement, read how schools have adopted a variety of creative approaches to support families and the wider community to be involved and engaged in their children’s language learning.



In the ‘Wee famille’ project, Springside Primary collaborated with partners from SCILT and North Ayrshire Council to engage the whole school community in learning French alongside pupils. Resources developed for the project are available to download as part of the [case study](#).

In the [‘French for families’ case study](#), read about the collaboration between Fife Council and PowerLanguage to develop and pilot an online course for children and their families in nine primary schools.

Through a series of well-planned and focused BOATS days (Bring Our Adults To School), St Winning’s Primary in North Ayrshire have successfully achieved a high level of parental engagement in language learning. To facilitate the development of learners’ skills, St Winning’s also opted to take language learning beyond school, collaborating with partners from Lingo Flamingo to strengthen links with the local community. Read the [case study](#) on our website.

If you are interested in sharing your local authority’s approach to parental engagement and family learning, or would like to find out how SCILT can help you develop opportunities in this area, please get in touch with [Clare Mouat](#).

SCILT partners with Springboard to promote languages

Author: Meryl James, SCILT/CISS

The Springboard Charity helps people of all ages and backgrounds improve their career potential in hospitality, leisure and tourism, especially young people in education. Springboard UK promotes the industry as a great place to work and collaborates with its business partners to proactively and imaginatively attract and retain talent.

In June this year, SCILT/CISS will partner with Springboard to deliver two Hospitality and Tourism Takeover Days:

- Glasgow City College Takeover Day on 17 June 2019
- Edinburgh College Takeover Day on 18 June 2019

The Takeover Days are concerned with developing links with schools and industry through a dynamic interactive programme of activity. These Hospitality and Tourism Takeovers will bring together 200 young people and their teachers from schools across the region and, in partnership with SCILT/CISS, will highlight the importance of languages as an employability skill.

The day will not only showcase the industry at its very best, but will also link directly to the DYW agenda of engaging schools and colleges with industry, enabling young people to develop industry-ready skills, including language skills, through the workshops.

For the last two years, SCILT/CISS has been working with Springboard in Perth and Kinross, supporting The Perth Discovery Trail to promote language skills for the hospitality and tourism industry to schools through 'tourism trails'. These are interactive projects aimed at S2 pupils. The local DYW group helps to fund and organise these events across Scotland. The clear message they disseminate is that language skills enhance employability. For feedback from pupils and teachers, please see the PowerPoint below.

Springboard also have a programme called INSPIRE, which ensures quality work placements for learners.

More information on our partnership with Springboard is available through this [PowerPoint](#).

If you would like further information, please contact [Meryl James](#).

Strategy and support for language learning at RIC-level

Author: Lynne Jones, SCILT and Sylvia Georgin, Northern Alliance 1+2 Development Group

Towards the end of last academic session, SCILT made contact with all of the Regional Improvement Collaboratives (RICs) in order to find out how language learning featured in their work and to offer SCILT support. Since then, one of SCILT's Professional Development Officers has accepted an invitation to join the Northern Alliance 1+2 Development Group.

This RIC comprises eight local authorities across the north and west of Scotland. Modern Languages is one of 17 workstreams that currently make up the Northern Alliance Regional Improvement Plan, and is closely linked with their emerging literacy strand. As such, it is explicitly linked to narrowing the poverty-related attainment gap.

There is mixed representation from Gaelic and Languages Development Officers, Quality Improvement Officers and Secondary Principal Teachers of languages from all eight local authorities – Aberdeen City, Aberdeenshire, Argyll and Bute, Comhairle nan Eilean Siar, Highland, Moray, Orkney and Shetland Islands.

The aim of the Northern Alliance 1+2 Languages Group is to share approaches to languages and build on the strengths of each authority involved, whilst working closely with all relevant partners such as Education Scotland, Higher Education institutions and SCILT.

The team meet face-to-face to talk strategy, vision and resources and make wide use of digital technology, such as Microsoft Teams to share materials, ask questions and work collaboratively on projects that will impact at school level: "It's great to be part of a dynamic and enthusiastic team of language specialists across eight local authorities. Working with partner organisations, we have been able to capitalise on that wealth of experience to develop sustainable approaches in language learning that will benefit all our young people."

SCILT is open to working with the other RICs in similar ways. Please [email SCILT](#).

News from our partners

Boost language learning and attainment in your school – host a Language Assistant

Author: Liz Neil, British Council Scotland

There is still time to request a Modern Language Assistant (MLA) for academic year 2019-20. As you plan and prepare lessons for next term, British Council would like to share with you the benefits that an MLA could bring to your professional practise, your classroom and your school.

British Council MLAs are native speakers of French, Spanish, German, Italian, Mandarin and Irish, and come from 14 partner countries across the world. They are keen to bring knowledge of their culture and language into your classroom, helping to make your learners more socially conscious.

In addition to local authorities making a block request for language assistants within their schools, the programme is available to individual schools and clusters. If your local authority is not requesting language assistants, you can still request an assistant for your school or for a cluster of schools in your area. British Council encourage schools and local authorities to think creatively in how they use and allocate their language assistants to get the maximum benefit and can offer advice and guidance to individual schools, clusters and authorities.

For more ways MLAs can be of use to pupils in your school, as well as information on costs and support, please download [Host an MLA Scotland 2019](#).

To find out more, or to request a language assistant for your school, visit the [British Council website](#) or [contact Gerry McIntosh](#).

Please note, there is still time to request an MLA for all languages except Mandarin.

Education Scotland update

Author: Shona Hugh, Education Scotland

Delivering Scotland's languages policy

The Education Scotland Modern Languages team has produced a suite of resources including support materials, KaL framework and PowerPoint presentation along with guidance on a generic progression framework for teachers delivering first to second level Modern Languages. The resource is now live and can be accessed on the [National Improvement Hub](#). For further information on the materials and how they can be used to deliver professional learning, please [contact Shona Hugh](#).

Live narrative – Liberton High

Working with teachers at Liberton High in Edinburgh, the Modern Languages team at Education Scotland has created a series of short video clips that demonstrate how practitioners are engaging with the Modern Languages benchmarks at third level in writing. These videos show one approach to planning, assessing and moderating pupil evidence through professional discussion to identify a pupil's progress against the national benchmarks. The videos and supporting planning materials can be viewed on the [National Improvement Hub](#).

Scottish Education Awards: 1+2 languages and internationalism

Congratulations to the three schools shortlisted for this year's Scottish Education Award for 1+2 languages and internationalism: Newtonhill Primary, Aberdeenshire; Lockerbie Primary, Dumfries and Galloway and Neilston Primary, East Renfrewshire. Well done to the winners, Neilston & Madras Learning Campus.

Don't forget, [sign up to the newsletter](#) and you can get all the updates from the Education Scotland Modern Languages team.



LFEE Europe updates

Author: Richard Tallaron, LFEE Europe

Off-the-shelf L3 packages, 1+2 teacher training around Scotland, resources for secondary schools, Erasmus+... It's another full-on Autumn/Winter for our teams!

PowerLanguage are working with Falkirk Council to develop resources specifically aimed at secondary school colleagues. Some of the dossiers produced could be used for primary-secondary transition, whilst others will support colleagues teaching French and Spanish from S1 to S3. Our resources are engaging, cross-curricular and incorporate an element of home-learning too. To find out more, please look out for our annual PowerLanguage conference, which will be held in Edinburgh on 24 September 2019 or [visit the PowerLanguage website](#).

This winter, LFEE Europe continued to run Primary Language Learning training around the country, with methodology, language upskilling and resources for the class at the heart of our programmes. The formats varied, from online sessions to face-to-face or a combination of both.

Back in November, we ran a training programme in partnership with Highland Council for 50 teachers from *l'Académie de Versailles*. This included school visits across the Highlands, which resulted in exchanges being set up between Scottish and French pupils. This is an exciting initiative with long-term impact.

On 2 February 2019, a group of primary teachers came to our office in Edinburgh for their GTCS recall day. This marked the end of a year-long process which will lead to Professional Recognition by GTCS. We heard about the impact our courses have had on practitioners, their learners, their school and the wider community. We enjoyed some inspirational presentations, so thanks very much to all of you for your commitment to language learning and teaching!

Finally, a big well done to those Scottish schools and local authorities which submitted an Erasmus+ application to the British Council for funding to attend one of our immersion courses in France or Spain from July 2019 onwards. We very much hope to welcome your teachers on one of our courses soon!

Please contact us for any further information [by email](#) or [visit the LFEE website](#).



News from the Radio Lingua Network

Author: Ann McDaid, Radio Lingua Network

Here at the Radio Lingua Network we love to help everyone learn languages. We have had an extremely busy year and have attended a number of school events this session including the SCILT Glasgow Business Brunch. We continue to support the teaching of languages in Scotland from both the learner's and the teacher's perspective.

For pupils

Our High Five French and Spanish courses are widely used across many primary schools, and can help deliver L2 and L3.

These resources are aimed at younger learners. In the French series, we meet Scottish learner, Emma, who is joined by French speaker, Mathilde. In High Five Spanish, Scottish learner, Sophie, is joined by Spanish speakers, Miguel and Marina. As the lessons progress, learners can improve their pronunciation, pick up a range of vocabulary and experience authentic French or Spanish contexts. The materials include a range of printable material and teachers' notes. These have been developed in such a way that a teacher who is not confident in French or Spanish would still be able to use the content confidently and effectively.

We have produced [a short webinar](#) on our website to demonstrate how High Five French and Spanish can assist primary teachers in the delivery of the 1+2 Approach.

In addition we have released a free sample episode of each language on our [YouTube channel](#). The French episode is on the topic of town and the Spanish one is about eating in a restaurant.

For teachers

For teachers who want to improve or refresh their own knowledge of a language, we have four seasons of free podcasts in both [French](#) and [Spanish](#) which cater for beginner through to advanced level. The free podcasts are all on iTunes or the podcast app you choose to use on your phone, tablet or PC.

Further, for German and Italian we have two seasons of Coffee Break Languages which can take you from absolute beginner, and have just launched our new French magazine with a focus on a different cultural element for a more advanced level of learner. All of these lessons can be listened to in your own time and can go towards your professional development time for the academic session.

Social media

Our social media platforms share language learning tips and ideas, and are suitable for teachers and pupils.

- [Twitter \(Radio Lingua\)](#)
- [Facebook](#)
- [Twitter \(Coffee Break Languages\)](#)
- [Instagram](#)

Science in the language class

Author: Sandie Robb, The Royal Zoological Society of Scotland



“There have been some great developments within our ‘Science in the language class’ series. We have language packs in Spanish, French, Japanese and now Gaelic. For Mandarin, the ‘Beyond the Panda’ programme keeps going from strength to strength and evolves each year. Another change is that my role is now Language Project Coordinator for the Royal Zoological Society of Scotland (RZSS). This is a new position in the Society to manage the overall language programme.” (Sandie Robb, RZSS)

The language packs have fun educational games based on RZSS conservation projects across the world and help to revise topics such as numbers, colours, parts of the body, weather etc along with an introduction to animal names and threats. The packs are sold, not for profit, at £50+VAT and £6 postage. For Spanish and French, sessions are also available at RZSS Edinburgh Zoo at the standard education rates. On 17 September 2019, we have another Spanish Day for P5-P7 and each school with a confirmed booking will receive a free Spanish pack!

The [‘Science in the language class’ website](#) has some free fact files and worksheets for each language. A new section for ‘other languages’ is available with free templates to download. This includes blank maps for both parks along with some animal picture cards so that you can create your own maps and animal flashcards in any language.

The new Gaelic pack, supported by the Scottish Government, has games based on RZSS native species projects – Scottish wildcat action; reintroduction of the beavers; water vole and red squirrel conservation. Stòrlann have kindly provided sound files of all the words, phrases and sentences used.

‘Beyond the Panda’ continues with its China mobile library, Chinese outreach and the science specialist Confucius Classroom. The mobile library and outreach travels across Scotland, including the islands, are free of charge. The newest development within this programme is that ‘panda boxes’ have changed to ‘panda packs’, a card version of the original box resources which means each school can receive a free pack on confirmed booking of the mobile library. Also, this year our Confucius Classroom offered some free places to Edinburgh Zoo for an introductory ‘Discover China’ session and very successful free family ‘Zoo fun with Mandarin’ classes. There is, of course, lots of information and additional materials to download from the [‘Beyond the Panda’ website](#).



For further information on any of our programmes, please contact Sandie Robb, RZSS Language Project Coordinator, [by email](#) or tel: 07963 070654.

Events calendar

A listing of events of interest to those involved in the implementation of the 1+2 Approach. See SCILT's [events calendar](#) for full details as well as for more language-related events in Scotland and further afield.

Languages open day at University of Stirling

Venue: University of Stirling

[Visit website](#)

Event Date: 11/06/2019 10:00 - 17:00

The French and the Spanish and Latin American Studies programmes at the University of Stirling would like to invite teachers and senior pupils studying French and/or Spanish at Higher or Advanced Higher to attend a special day of lectures and classes at the University of Stirling on Tuesday 11 June. Pupils will be able to find out what it's like to study languages at university, what makes the languages programmes at Stirling distinctive, and what kinds of careers they will be prepared for through them. They will also have the opportunity to meet current and former students and hear about their experiences, particularly of studying abroad.

For teachers, we are offering a bespoke professional learning session, aimed at fostering discussions about the challenges posed by assessment and feedback of pupils' work in French or Spanish languages as well as on culture, film and literature. This session will give University colleagues a chance to discuss the transition from secondary school language learning to the university context and to share in the secondary teachers' expertise.

Online resources for the study of Scots in the classroom

Venue: University of Glasgow

[Visit website](#)

Event Date: 14/06/2019 11:00 - 16:00

Hosted by the English Language and Linguistics Department at the University of Glasgow, this free CLPL event will showcase resources available for the study of Scots language in secondary schools. The event takes place at the University on Friday 14 June 11am - 4pm (lunch provided) and will focus on a number of online resources which encompass the words, sounds and sentence structures of Scots, past and present. In the morning session, the resources will be introduced by a number of University of Glasgow academics working on Scots. In the afternoon session, you will be given the opportunity to 'test drive' the resources through a series of task-based activity-stations aimed at secondary school learners.

Cross-sector annual conference: New perspectives on language teaching and learning

Venue: University of Dundee

[Visit website](#)

Event Date: 15/06/2019

The University of Dundee, the University of St Andrews and the University of Aberdeen are hosting the annual cross-sector conference, 'New perspectives on language teaching and learning' on 15 June 2019 at the University of Dundee.

The theme of this year's conference is 'Widening participation' and it seeks to explore this in relation to Modern Languages and language learning, from encouraging language uptake amongst learners from all backgrounds, to reflecting on different approaches to and techniques of ab initio language teaching.

Local authority update

Thank you to the following local authorities for sharing how they are implementing the 1+2 Approach to language learning.

Family learning in North Ayrshire

Author: Carissa Hyndman, Lawthorn Primary

Lawthorn Primary recently welcomed parents to join their children in language learning at their 'Family French morning'. Parents and children engaged in a variety of French activities ranging from French food sampling and role play at the French café to interactive French games. Angela Noble, North Ayrshire 1+2 Development Officer, led senior pupils and parents in French yoga. Families worked together to construct Parisian landmarks from cardboard and glue, blocks, and other materials. Parents also had the opportunity to explore a variety of online resources to support language learning.



We received very positive feedback from parents:

"Enjoyed spending time with my child in school and a good way to interact and learn."

"Really enjoyable way to learn. Loved the French café."

"Innovative and interactive day bringing both parents and children together for interesting activities – loved it. Merci!"

"Très bien! Loved the yoga and story books."

"Absolutely fantastic. Great effort. Loved the Yoga."



North Lanarkshire 1+2 Languages award ceremony

Author: Robert Dalzell, North Lanarkshire

On 21 May 2019, North Lanarkshire Council held their annual 1+2 Languages award ceremony. In the morning, primary schools were invited to attend to celebrate language learning in their school. At the ceremony, 124 pupils collected winning certificates. Thirty early level, 36 first level, 37 second level and 21 multilingual awards were presented on the day. In addition, 352 nominee certificates were given to staff to be awarded back in school.

In the afternoon, secondary schools attended the ceremony. Seventy-eight certificates were presented. These consisted of 20 for outstanding language learners in S1, S2 and S3 and 18 for most improved language learners in S3. Fifty runner-up and 52 third-place certificates were given to staff to be awarded back at school.

During both our ceremonies, musical interludes came from Noble Primary and Gaelic Condorrat choir. At the secondary award ceremony, ribbon dancers from Our Lady's High Cumbernauld provided a colourful display and Greenfaulds High provided a Gaelic musical interlude.

Nathalie Kormaz from the Alliance Française, Shona Hugh from Education Scotland, Linda Roberts and Stuart Pescodd from Scottish Government presented the certificates.



Student visits to Aberdeen City Council's schools

Author: Marie-Claire Lyon, Aberdeen City Council



German Educational Trainees' fairy tale competition

Annabel Christ and Felix Pollotzek, two German Educational Trainees placed in Aberdeen City Council's primary and secondary schools, organised a German fairy tale competition. They worked with P5 to P7 pupils developing literacy skills in listening, talking, reading and writing. They produced posters and mini-books and performed songs and a short drama performance.

The pupils in schools were awarded certificates to celebrate their work.

Grenoble University teacher trainees

In February and April 2019, students from the "espe Grenoble – Chambéry" visited Aberdeen schools to gain an insight into the Scottish education system. They were able to observe colleagues and support language classes in primary and secondary schools. They delivered presentations about their home area and French cultural events. The group visiting in February spent a day at Aberdeen University School of Education and participated in workshops with fellow Scottish student teachers.

Aberdeen University language students' placements

Between January and March 2019, language students from Aberdeen University took part in 10-week placements, visiting primary schools for one half day per week. This is the fourth year that the partnership has been in place and the experience is valuable for pupils and teachers. It also allows the students to gain work experience. The programme has extended to secondary schools this year.



The feedback received from schools was very positive. The students help to increase the motivation of pupils and boost staff confidence.

CLPL programme

The 1+2 Languages Professional Learning Programme is now well established and offers a series of twilight training sessions in language and methodology for primary teachers. Teachers may opt in for workshops and classes or schools may choose whole staff sessions. These have proven to be successful since they reach new teachers and are an opportunity for all to get an update on developments.

We are planning the calendar for 2019-20 and will focus on support to secondary schools and transition from P7 to S1.

Thinking about languages and employability in Stirling Council

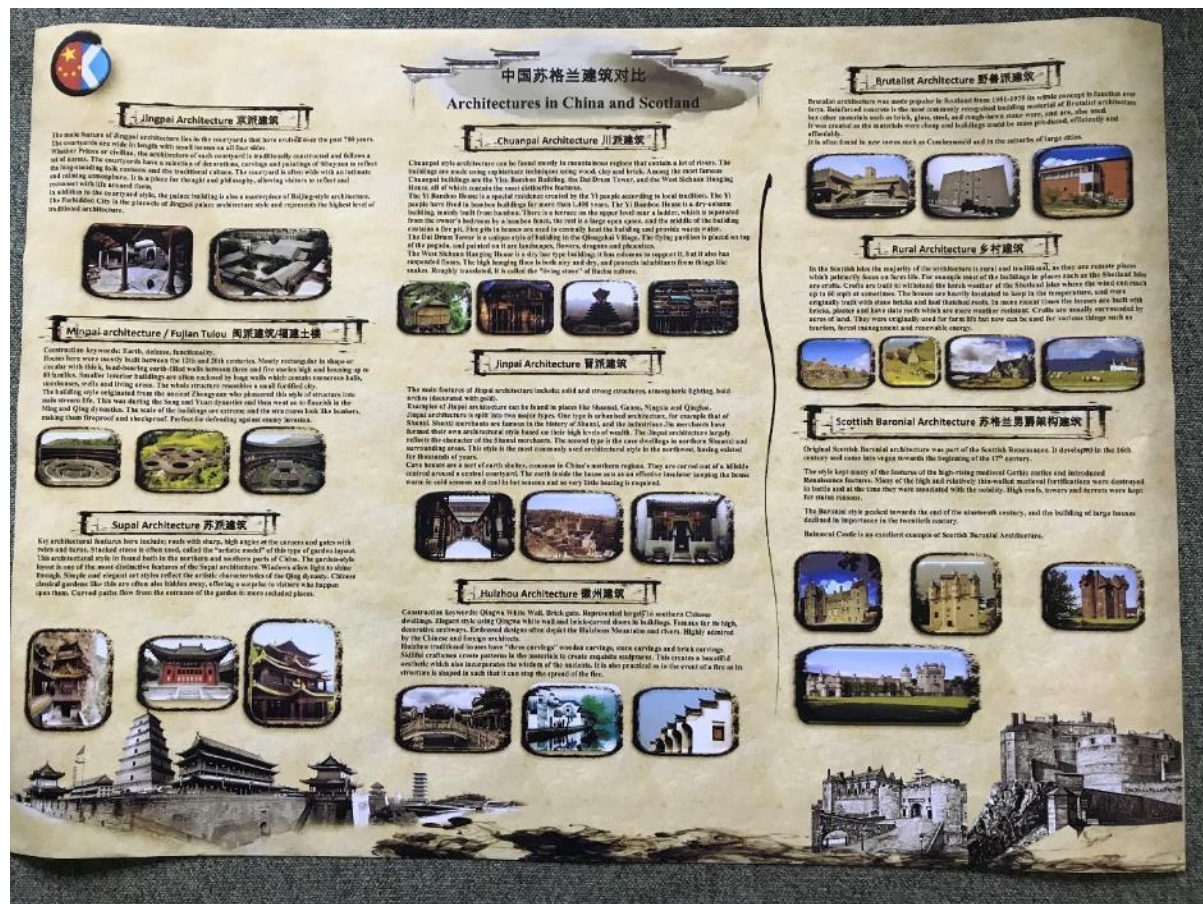
Author: Jacqui Burns, Stirling Council

This year, we have worked to develop opportunities for schools to build language-based partnerships with businesses in order to increase awareness of the links that exist between language skills and employability.

Building on the success of previous heritage projects, including a partnership with Stirling Castle, Historic Environment Scotland (HES) has supported more Stirling schools in developing projects with HES heritage sites. This has included a new project with The Engine Shed, looking at links between Scotland and China.

New partnerships have been developed with Bannockburn Heritage Centre and Bannockburn House for primary-aged learners. Both projects have a focus on French and Scots. Learners have created resources for use at these sites, as well as podcast and vlogs to record their progress. Plans are in place for learners to conduct a tour of Bannockburn House for their peers and families using French. Learners have been really enthusiastic about the projects and we hope to continue to build on this next session.

We have developed a partnership with the University of Stirling to co-deliver a business event in September 2019, aiming to promote the relevance of languages in the world of work. Our aim is to encourage learners to see the relevance of languages and consider continuing with their language studies.



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