



# 1+2 Languages Newsletter

Autumn 2016

Third Edition

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This autumn there are lots of new exciting resources to help you deliver language learning in your classroom.

Language Leaders across the authority have been busy this term organising termly cluster meetings to provide support to their local schools in primary language learning (PLL).

We hope that all primary schools across the authority are now in a position to teach a language from P1 onwards. Please get in touch with your local language leader or Gwen McCrossan [gwen.mccrossan2@argyll-bute.gov.uk](mailto:gwen.mccrossan2@argyll-bute.gov.uk) if you wish more help and support.

This newsletter provides important information about upcoming training and events. It also includes essential information on where to find useful online resources



## Cluster Languages Meetings

This term local language leaders are establishing cluster languages meetings. These will take place every term and aim to offer support and guidance in delivering language learning. These meetings will also provide training opportunities and will allow teachers to swap resources from their PLL resource packs. The intention is that every school will be represented at these meetings by one or more members of staff. This will ensure that all information and training reaches practitioners across the authority.

### Talking Pen Training

All the Primary Language Learning (PLL) resource packs across the authority contain a talking pen to help practitioners facilitate language learning in their classroom. Your local language leader has received training in the use of this pen and will be able to show you the various ways it can be used in the classroom. Your local language leader will incorporate training in the use of the talking pen into the upcoming cluster languages meetings. Please only use the teachers label pack to make recordings for your classroom. The purple Set A label pack will be used in conjunction with centrally recorded sound files of all the core texts which will be distributed to schools after the October holidays.

## New Cluster Resources

Helensburgh & Lomond, Oban, Lorn & the Isles, Cowal, Mid-Argyll and South Kintyre have all now received a cluster resource box with additional resources to enhance the teaching of French in conjunction with their PLL resource pack. The resources in these boxes are to be shared within the cluster or a request can be made to your language leader for a resource which is available in another cluster. Language leaders have a list of all the resources available across the clusters. These boxes will be available during cluster languages meetings for schools to borrow items or request items from elsewhere.

Bute and North Kintyre will be provided with additional resources from the PLL resource pack collection. This will enhance the variety of core resources available within these smaller clusters.

All clusters who have chosen Gaelic as L2 have been provided with a box of Gaelic books for each school.

## New Online Resources

### PowerLanguage Platform Assessment Passports

This new resource is available on <http://plplatform.net/>

These assessment passports are now available for Year 1 of the PLP programme and Year 2 passports are currently being developed. You will find the passports at the top of the planning and associated

resources section for Year 1. These passports use a traffic lights assessment system which is familiar to many children. These documents are user friendly and provide a comprehensive tracking system to measure the learners' progression. They also provide an opportunity for self-assessment and encourage parental involvement with language learning.

### **L3 teaching materials**

These are now available on the PowerLanguage Platform for any schools who are ready to start delivering an L3 experience to their learners. These resources have been designed to be delivered over three years (P5-7) and are therefore a condensed and simplified version of the resources available for L2 on the PowerLanguage Platform.

## **New 1+2 Languages page on Sali**

Take a look at this new page on the Sali blog. It has been designed to support teachers in delivering languages in their classroom. It has links to many useful online resources and lots of great songs which can be used for teaching French and Gaelic. You can also find information on the 1+2 languages policy and past newsletters. There is a section for sharing good practice so please get in touch with Gwen McCrossan [gwen.mccrossan2@argyll-bute.gov.uk](mailto:gwen.mccrossan2@argyll-bute.gov.uk) to share a classroom project or if you would like other resources added to the page.

## **Training**

### **Recent training event:**

#### **Gaelic Training on Tiree**

Julie-Anne Mackenzie a development officer from SCILT recently came to Tiree to provide training on resources to enrich the delivery of Gaelic as L2. The aim of this training was to demonstrate how various online resources can be used to help practitioners, with no previous knowledge of the language, facilitate Gaelic learning in their classrooms.

#### **Gaelic GLPS training in Stirling**

Participants from Argyll & Bute have now embarked on an 18 week GLPS training course at Stirling University. There are also two participants from Argyll & Bute who are training as trainers. This is great news for building capacity for Gaelic learning within Argyll & Bute schools. Interested candidates for next year's training course should contact Catriona Garvin, [catriona.garvin2@argyll-bute.gov.uk](mailto:catriona.garvin2@argyll-bute.gov.uk) to reserve a place.

## **Training with the Alliance Française**

The Alliance Française of Glasgow provides a 10 week x 2 hours twilight course for Primary teachers. In the first instance this course will be offered to practitioners in Helensburgh and Lomond and will then be replicated in other clusters.

This course is specifically designed for Primary school teachers who intend to teach French in Primary schools. This course is aimed at beginners or those with little knowledge of the French language. The main focus of this course will be on language learning with a strong emphasis on pronunciation. The course will enable teachers to gain confidence and improve their French in order to teach it accurately and confidently to pupils.

The course will run on Wednesdays 4pm-6pm, commencing the **2<sup>nd</sup> November 2016-30<sup>th</sup> November 2016** (5 week block) and then recommencing for a 5 week block after the Christmas holidays: **11<sup>th</sup> January 2017-8<sup>th</sup> February 2017**

**Any teachers in the Helensburgh and Lomond area who are interested in this training opportunity please contact your local language leader, as soon as possible, to secure a place.**

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Kelly Girling- [kelly.girling@cardross.argyll-bute.sch.uk](mailto:kelly.girling@cardross.argyll-bute.sch.uk)

## **Training with Maryse Payen-Roy**

Maryse Payen-Roy is the French staff tutor for Glasgow City Council. Her authority have very kindly agreed to Maryse offering a training programme to practitioners in Argyll & Bute. In the recent ADES report on the progress of implementation of the 1+2 Languages policy, it was highlighted that greater inter-authority collaboration would help to share best practice. It is wonderful that Glasgow City Council are facilitating this type of collaboration with Argyll & Bute Council. In the first instance, Maryse will offer a training programme to practitioners in the Cowal cluster. This training is designed for beginners and those with little knowledge of the French language. The aim of the training is to build confidence in speaking French and provide the necessary language and strategies to integrate French into your daily classroom routine.

This course will run as a 6 week block of twilight sessions of 2 hours. The course will take place on Thursdays, 4pm-6pm, commencing **3<sup>rd</sup> November until the 8<sup>th</sup> December**. A final whole day training will then be organised for Jan/Feb 2017 with a focus on story telling.

**Can all practitioners in the Cowal area who are interested in attending this training please contact Gwen McCrossan as soon as possible to secure a place. [gwen.mccrossan2@argyll-bute.gov.uk](mailto:gwen.mccrossan2@argyll-bute.gov.uk)**

## **PLL online course**

There are still some places available for this French online training course. The programme has been created for Primary teachers who are already teaching French in their class or need support before they start introducing the language.

It is aimed at non-specialist teachers who have limited knowledge of French or might lack confidence in the French that they know. There are 'challenges' at the end of each lesson to apply your newly acquired knowledge with your class. This course is ideal if it is difficult to access twilight sessions or you live remote area. Please get in touch with Gwen McCrossan if you would like to be enrolled on the course.

## **Training in SALA Method (Structurally Accelerated Language Acquisition)**

Mike Skelton a Primary teacher at Taynuilt Primary School is offering teachers in the Oban, Lorne & the Isles cluster an opportunity to train in a successful methodology which he has been developing and using with his class. Here is his overview of the methodology:

The aim of SALA is to provide a method of improving learners' attainment in speaking and using additional languages.

Trials have shown that children can learn to use a new language confidently and far quicker using this method.

Teacher training will establish an understanding of theories that underpin the method, explaining how the method should be used and why it is effective.

SALA focuses on key structures of the language being learned so that the skills necessary to converse can be quickly mastered.

During the course, participants will be shown how to identify key language structures and how to use these structures as the building blocks of the language.

In terms of pedagogy, the course examines the most effective means of teaching, to ensure all children in a class develop the necessary skills.

After the first meeting, teachers will be able to introduce the method to their class and employ it to begin building fundamental language skills. Opportunity will be given during the second meeting to report back and discuss class progress.

In the second meeting, teachers will examine ways to extend and broaden language content. They will be provided with a teaching programme that develops progression.

**Mike will attend the next Languages cluster meeting in Oban, Lorne and the Isles to explain and discuss this further.**

## Immersion Training

LFEF runs immersion courses for learning French in Salignac and Lyon every year. Follow this link for further information <http://lfee.net/immersion-courses/immersion-courses-in-france/>

The deadline for ERASMUS+ funding for next year's courses is the beginning of February 2017. Anyone who is interested in this training opportunity and would like support with completing the necessary paperwork should contact Gwen McCrossan.

## Scholar

Heriot Watt University provides a programme called **Scholar** to help secondary pupils pass their national examinations. This programme includes access to a wealth of materials for students to study independently. Teachers within Argyll & Bute can also access these materials and have an assigned tutor to help them study towards a National 5 or Higher examination in a language. This training opportunity is for those who have some previous knowledge of a language and are keen to build on this and obtain a national qualification. Please contact Gwen McCrossan if you are interested in this learning opportunity.

## Drama Competition

### La Concours de la francophonie

This competition's aim is to encourage all young French learners and their teachers around Scotland. Winners will be invited to celebrate "la journée mondiale de la francophonie" on 20<sup>th</sup> March 2017 in Edinburgh.

To participate, schools need to submit a short video of maximum 5 minutes of a French performance. E.g. a short drama piece, a dialogue or a song.

There are 4 categories: P1-P4, P5-P7, S1-S3 and S4-S6.

At secondary level pupils are encouraged to create a performance not only a song.

The submission dead line for the competition is the 17<sup>th</sup> December. Please send your video clip to Gwen McCrossan by this date. The winning entries from Argyll & Bute will then be sent to the Institut français to be entered into the national final. A national jury will select the best production in each category in January and results will be public at the end of January.

The criteria to select the winners:

- The participation of ALL and the creativity of the piece
- The students should speak/sing clearly in French
- The end product is at the level of the students' ability: not too easy and not too difficult.

The winning teams will be invited to celebrate la journee mondiale de la francophonie in Edinburgh on 20th March 2017. The winning teams who are not able to travel that day will win a French immersion day in their school at a later date in the spring.

## **Links with Amiens**

A schools partnership is being established between Argyll & Bute and Amiens in France. We are currently looking for schools who would like to be partnered with a French school. This contact could be very simple, for example sending postcards or it could involve video conferencing using the eTwinning software, designed for classrooms, available from the British Council. Schools can decide what suits them best. If you are interested in setting up a partnership with a French school please contact Gwen McCrossan.

## **Available online resources**

### **PowerLanguage Platform: French, Gaelic, Spanish and German**

<http://www.plplatform.net/>

**Username: Argyll-Bute**

**Password: Argyll-Bute1**

### **GrowStoryGrow:**

<http://www.growstorygrow.com/>

**Username:gsg461**

**Password: gsg461**

Argyll & Bute have a licence for this website until April 2017. This site has around 100 stories in French and Spanish and a smaller selection of stories in German, Italian, Polish and Mandarin. Useful for practitioners with no prior knowledge of a language and can be used for L3.

### **Go!Gaelic:**

<http://go-gaelic.scot/>

Resources for teaching Gaelic as L2 or L3.

## SEN Teacher:

<http://www.senteacher.org/worksheet/99/Word-And-Picture-Cards.html>

This link takes you **Literacy Printables : Picture Cards** where you are able to create your own dice inserts which will fit the foam dice in your PLL resource pack, if you do please click **share** and others can access them. When you click the button **load cards** you will find pre-made cards in the **languages** section. The ones which have been made specifically for Argyll & Bute teachers have A&B next to the title.

## Audit Process

Language leaders have distributed audit forms to schools and are now in the process of collecting these. The form is straightforward to complete and is a useful document for schools rather than adding to workload. There are 5 headings for practitioners to consider:

**Wall display-** Are languages on display in the classroom?

**Spoken Language-** e.g. Do I greet the learners in French/Gaelic or say good bye or use days of the week in my daily routine?

**Evidence in Plans-** Have I included French/Gaelic in my plans?

**Other Evidence-** e.g. children sang a song in French for parents at assembly.

**Feedback on PLP (Powerlanguage Platform) -** Let us know what you think of the resource, mention any technical issues.

This form should only take a few minutes to fill in and will allow the teacher to think about next steps in language learning. Please return this audit form to your local language leader before the end of term. This audit process will be ongoing as we hope it will allow us to assess how 1+2 Languages is developing across the authority. The aim is for representatives from schools to return audit forms to language leaders on a regular basis, when they meet up at cluster languages meetings. Please also give feedback on the format of the audit form to language leaders as all suggestions are welcome and headings can be adapted.

## Cross-Sector Collaboration

Language leaders have begun collaboration with secondary colleagues to enhance the transition process. SCILT (Scotland's National Centre for Languages) will be running a transition workshop for Primary Language Leaders and Secondary Principal Teachers of Languages on the 21<sup>st</sup> November 2016. The aim of this workshop is to create strong links between primary and secondary colleagues



to ensure smooth transition from Primary to Secondary school for learners. On the day we hope to establish transition projects between schools.

## Examples of good practice



Strath of Appin Primary School created a very special French Fashion Show (Défilé de Mode). The children were able to present themselves in French and describe what they were wearing. The children also served food using the French language.



Recently the children at Dalintober Primary School learned all about the different countries which make up La Francophonie.

Please get in touch with Gwen McCrossan if you would like to provide examples of good practice which can be included in the next edition of the Argyll & Bute 1+2 Languages newsletter.

## Language Leaders Contact details

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### Oban, Lorne and the Isles:

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