



TeachMeet

 @EALGlasgow



EAL TeachMeet 4 - 26 February 2015

We held our fourth EAL TeachMeet on Thursday 26 February 2015. Over 30 people came together after the school day to share ideas for working with EAL learners. They came from Glasgow and beyond (as far as Inverness!) and included teachers and researchers. Some of them had attended one of our previous TeachMeets while for some of them it was their first time. It's always good to get people returning to these events - lets us know that people find them useful. It's even better when they are inspired to make a presentation of their own.

Read on to find out more about the presentations

We had some wonderful goodie bags and raffle prizes thanks to:

- Twinkl
- Beelilingual Books
- Snowflake books
- Baby Boom Boom
- Cromasaig9
- GTCS
- European Parliament
- Glasgow EAL Service



Sharing ideas about EAL

Learning from each other

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Presentations

Speaking, Reading and Singing in other languages!

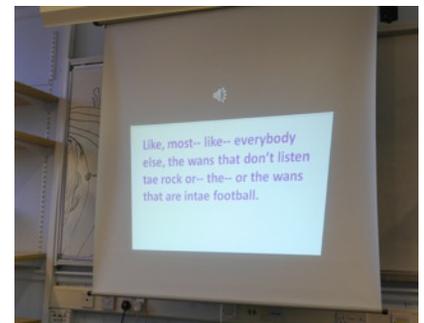
Sadie Ryan is a PhD student at Glasgow University who is carrying out her research in St Mungo's Academy. She is looking at how young people from Poland pick up local accents. She is trying to find out if there is a relationship between how Glaswegian young people sound and how Glaswegian they feel. She has been recording the speech of young people as they take part in interviews and other activities. She let us listen to some of the recordings she has made so far. Even with a small number of examples, we could hear that there were huge differences in the way that young people were speaking. We are really looking forward to hearing more about Sadie's research over the next 2 years.

Barbara McMeekin from Broomloan Nursery and St

Saviour's Pr showed us Badger Books. They publish dual language books in Polish and English which are suitable for older children. Her P6 and P7 Polish speakers love them.

She has also worked with bilingual parents to make bilingual versions of story books like *The Gruffalo* using the PENpal and recordable stickers.

Rosalind Smithson from Hyndland Primary and Thornwood Primary is a member of Voicebeat, a multicultural singing group based in Glasgow. She has been using some of the same songs with her children, with great success. She has worked with parents who have been able to teach the children songs in other languages. She also found songs on www.singup.org. She didn't sing to us – maybe next time?



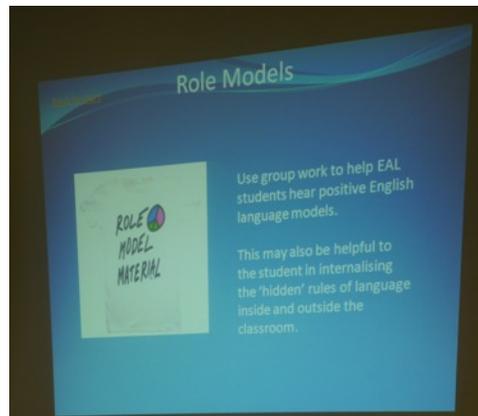
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Spreadsheets, strategies, toolkits and Language Cubs!

The next 2 presenters had decided to present after attending previous EAL TeachMeets.

Mary McKenzie from Govanhill Nursery told us how she stores useful information on a spreadsheet such as what language children use, which parents need an interpreter, etc. She finds it really useful to have all this information in one place and easily accessible.

Karen McCowan is a class teacher in Ibrox Pr. She told us about how she supports two new arrivals in her class using strategies like visual support, pair-

ing and buddying, and resources like the EAL Toolkit on TES. She also uses ideas she picked up at a previous TeachMeet and suggestions from the EAL teacher in her school.

Louise McCamley from St Timothy's Pr talked about Language Cubs. Children from the primary school are paired with children in the nursery class who share the same first language. They showed us a lovely film where the primary children talked about what it was like to be a Language Cub. One of them said, "It's great to help someone." A lovely response, which we would also say about taking part in TeachMeets!

Comments from participants:

I really enjoyed Kamran's talk about the importance of using L1 when possible. Was excellent to hear from a bilingual perspective

Finding out about some amazing but simple ideas to support EAL learners.

Excellent range of topics and information, ideas.

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Date for your diary

Our next EAL TeachMeet will be:

Saturday 30 May 2015
10.00 - 11.30 am

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