



September 2009

# PRIMARY MFL NEWSLETTER

## Cambridgeshire Advisory Service

### Special points of interest:

- National Support for Languages
- Regional Support for Languages
- Local Support for Languages

**To: Subject Leader for MFL**

### Introduction

This newsletter focuses on support provided by national and regional organisations and support you can access through the Advisory Service.

debates on current policy and policy developments.

The international policies add a really interesting dimension. This includes links to European policies and the language policies of Australia and South Africa.

### National Support

The Languages Company supports the delivery of the National Languages Strategy on behalf of the DCSF. There are 3 main ways in which the Languages Company seeks to do this:

The Learning and Teaching pages contain links to word files, pdfs and websites containing articles about important aspects of learning and teaching languages. These pages will also include guidelines and case studies. They are pages that will develop over time.

- Supporting the introduction of primary languages
- Implementing the languages review
- Coordinating and promoting languages

The site will certainly help to keep you in touch with the languages teaching scene.

You can also sign up for the Languages Company Newsletter and to join discussion forums.

The website of the Languages Company is:

The site has a news section which helps you keep up to date with language teaching.

The policy section includes English and UK polices, discussions and

[www.languagescompany.com](http://www.languagescompany.com)

### Inside this issue:

The Languages Company	1
Links into Languages	2
A MFL Celebration	3
European Day of Languages	3
CAS Courses and Local Support Group	4

## Links into Languages



Links into Languages is a national network supporting language teaching across all phases in the regions. The regional centre for the East of England is based at the University of Cambridge.

The Links into Languages website is at:

[www.linksintolanguages.ac.uk/index.html](http://www.linksintolanguages.ac.uk/index.html)

### Resources Library

Each Regional Centre hosts a resources library for access to research literature relating to language teaching and learning; a bank of published materials, including ICT materials, for all age ranges; as well as resources that have been developed at local or national level. This is being developed at Anglia Ruskin University.

### Links Professional Development Programme

The core programme is designed to address shared national priorities. Each course will cost £50. Courses for primary schools from September include:

- Strategic leadership for languages in primary schools
- Integrating languages across the curriculum
- Planning progression and transition within and across key stages
- Embedding the KS2 framework and developing oracy and literacy.

The face-to-face courses will be supported by downloadable resources and online forums for sharing experience and good practice. It will also include other events tailored to meet regional and local needs.

The website allows you to search for events in the Eastern region or elsewhere in the country and apply online.

### LinkedUp Award Scheme

From 1 September 2009 this scheme will offer funding opportunities for networks and development projects carried out by the teaching community.

The aim is to support approximately 12 projects per region from September 2009 to March 2011.

This could include:

- helping networks which already exist to take innovative and effective ideas further through project work;
- encourage new networks to come together to develop projects to help transform the language learning experience of pupils, making them better, bolder and more motivated language learners;
- encourage a range of different institutions to work together - schools and colleges, teachers, pupils, teacher trainers, universities, government and support agencies at different stages in the development and implementation of the scheme;
- award an additional recognition, the “Links Mark”, to all schools and other institutions involved in successful projects.

Full application guidelines and an application form will be available on LinkedUp Award Scheme pages on the Links into Languages website from September 2009.

### Regional Centre

On the site you can follow the links to find out what is happening in the Regional Centre for the East. The menu allows you to find out about up and coming events, past events and news.

## A Celebration of MFL Teaching and Learning

On Thursday 25th June 150 students from Year 1 to Year 6 and staff from 5 ASCA Cluster primary schools gathered at Abbey College to celebrate language learning. They shared and taught each other a game, song or poem.

Pupils from Somersham presented a DVD produced by Year 3/4 pupils documenting their work during the school's Modern Foreign Languages week and then played a game with the other children to help them with German pronunciation.

Pupils from Asbeach performed The Little Caterpillar poem in English, French, Spanish and German. Upwood pupils sang These are my eyes so I can see in French and

German. There were even some German biscuits to try.

Children commented:

'great to see what the other schools had done'

'fantastic'

'nerve racking but enjoyable'

Chris Young, Head of Modern Foreign Languages was impressed to see the amount of language work that had been going on in primary schools over the past year.

Do you feel inspired to organise a similar celebration?



## European Day of Languages, 26th September 2009

The European Day of Languages (EDL), is a Council of Europe initiative. It is held annually on the 26th September to celebrate linguistic and cultural diversity. The day was first celebrated in 2001, the European Year of Languages and involves more people every year.

This year the EDL falls on a Saturday. It would be sensible for your celebrations to take place in the week leading up to or following 26th September. Currently there is EDL information on MFL Homepage at:

[www.mfl.ccceducation.net](http://www.mfl.ccceducation.net)

The National Centre for Languages (CiLT) will be updating their EDL pages during the Summer term. The web address for these pages is:

[www.cilt.org.uk](http://www.cilt.org.uk) then select Promoting Languages > European Day of Languages

You could even take part in the project below.

## World Mini Book Making Project

You are invited to take part in this activity by King Edward VI Grammar School between now and September. The aim of the activity is to engage students world-wide in making mini-books in a foreign language.

It is a great start of the year activity and pupils really enjoy reading each others' books. A photograph of all the books made in your school can be a powerful image of pluri-lingualism for EDL. On 26th September King Edward VI Grammar School will publish the total number of books made from participating schools.

For a PowerPoint slide show of the project and links to a video on how to make a mini book please go to:

[www.mfl.ccceducation.net](http://www.mfl.ccceducation.net).

Please share the information with any partner schools you have, including schools abroad.

## Local Professional Development Courses

### CAS Autumn Term Courses

Course code: 19155

Course title: Getting Started in MFL Oracy  
Tuesday 29 September, 13:00 – 16:00 at  
Hinchingsbrooke Country Park

Course code: 19141

Course title: Getting Started in MFL Literacy  
Wednesday 4 November, 13:00 – 16:00 at  
Hinchingsbrooke Country Park

Course code: 19138

Course title: New to Subject Leadership in MFL  
Tuesday 24 November, 13:00—16:00 at  
Godmanchester Professional Development  
Centre

For further details of these courses, including costs, our Conditions of Booking and how to book a place, please see the CAS Course Booklet or visit [www.cas.ccceducation.net](http://www.cas.ccceducation.net) and follow the links to CAS course booklets.



a new logo. The meetings are free.

The theme for the Autumn meetings is:  
Gadgets - the wonder of the computer chip -

Improving speaking and listening through a variety of gadgets and gizmos

The Autumn term meetings take place from 16:15—17:45 on the following dates:

Tuesday 17 November at  
Cambridge Professional Development Centre  
Course Code: 19166

Wednesday 18 November at Godmanchester  
Professional Development Centre  
Course Code: 19167

Thursday 19 November at the Oliver  
Cromwell Hotel, March.  
Course Code: 19168

Now that Comenius East no longer exists, all bookings will be taken by CAS, tel: 01480 375634 / 375597 or email: [CAS@cambridgeshire.gov.uk](mailto:CAS@cambridgeshire.gov.uk)

### LSG Discussion Groups.

A number of colleagues felt it would be helpful to have opportunities to discuss issues relevant to primary languages. The first of these will take place on Monday 12th October, from 16:15 - 17:45 at Cambridge Professional Development Centre the topic is: Developing your language skills.

Course Code: 19814

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### VISIT OUR WEBSITE

[www.cas.ccceducation.net](http://www.cas.ccceducation.net)

### VISIT THE MFL HOMEPAGE

[www.mfl.ccceducation.net](http://www.mfl.ccceducation.net)