

# FLAME Newsletter

July 2013

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## Of primary importance?

Welcome to the July edition of the newsletter. We are focusing this edition on primary cross-curricular language learning, looking ahead to the new Key Stage 2 curriculum in Autumn 2014. The Government has removed the list of prescribed languages for Key Stage 2, enabling schools to make their own decisions. The DFE has also published updated drafts of the Programmes of Study for Key Stages 2 and 3 in their latest [national curriculum framework document](#). The final version of the framework is due to be published this Autumn.

Our '[Focus on...](#)' section looks at whether the new Key Stage 2 Programme of Study can be taught through cross-curricular learning. The [News](#) section includes our plan to make primary CLIL resources available and the [Events](#) list has three exciting primary FLAME events taking place next term.

Have a great summer break!

Kathy

## News

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### Cross-curricular resources for Key Stage 2

FLAME is planning to develop units of learning for Key Stage 2 which combine language learning with another area of the curriculum. The 6 week units will focus on creative and engaging activities that have already worked successfully in the classroom. Learning objectives will be focused on progress in both the subject and language and will be designed to meet the requirements of the Programmes of Study. Resources will include a scheme of work, lesson plans and a range of learning materials and assessment activities. Two units will be developed initially, combining French with two different subjects.

### Could the UK develop a craze for bilingual learning? The author of a Times article who has visited Bohunt School thinks that it might.

A recent Times article features the CLIL initiative at Bohunt School in Hampshire, where each immersion class (one group per year) learns one third of the curriculum through French or Spanish. Chinese is being introduced in addition for the new Year 7 cohort next term, each year's immersion class learning one of the three languages. The immersion programme runs for five consecutive years and pupils take GCSE languages in Year 9 and A level languages in Year 11. A wide range of subjects are involved, with different subjects chosen for each language according to teachers' subject and language skills. As has been shown in other UK schools, the 'immersion' pupils achieve better results in all subjects whether or not they have learned it through the target language.

The article also refers to an ‘explosion of interest’ for immersion learning in the United States, based on research evidence that the pupils achieve higher levels of cognition. So far the trend has led to a thousand US schools introducing bilingual education, in most cases teaching 50% of the curriculum through the target language. Could we be next?

Read the full article at [Foreign language immersion is on the curriculum for pioneering schools | The Times](#)

*With thanks to Hilary Footitt for alerting me to this article*

## A focus on...

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### **A perfect fit? Using CLIL to teach the new national curriculum**

The introduction to the recently published [national curriculum framework](#) states: “The national curriculum provides an outline of core knowledge around which teachers can develop exciting and stimulating lessons to promote the development of pupils’ knowledge, understanding and skills as part of the wider school curriculum.” But this freedom does not prevent teachers from also developing exciting and stimulating lessons in the compulsory curriculum.

The updated Key Stage 2 Programme of Study for languages remains short and to the point, and lists 12 things that ‘pupils should be taught’. Almost all are CLIL-friendly, including:

- *Listen attentively to spoken language and show understanding by joining in and responding*
- *Engage in conversations; ask and answer questions; express opinions and respond to those of others; seek clarification and help*
- *Present ideas and information orally to a range of audiences*
- *Write phrases from memory, and adapt these to create new sentences, to express ideas clearly*
- *Describe people, places, things and actions orally and in writing*

Just one bullet point relates to grammar, which could be taught separately using structures relevant to the cross-curricular lessons, or integrated with them. Two other requirements that might not always feature in a CLIL lesson are:

- Explore the patterns and sounds of language *through songs and rhymes* and link the spelling, sound and meaning of words, and
- *Appreciate stories, songs, poems and rhymes in the language* (my emphasis)

But who could resist scientific stories, SEAL songs, PE poems and RE rhymes?

## FLAME events for Autumn 2013

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### **Enjoyment, motivation and success in the primary curriculum**

Leighton Academy, Crewe, Wednesday 9th October 2013

This is an event not to be missed if you would like to make language learning engaging, fun and effective in delivering the new Key Stage 2 curriculum. Led by Andrea Price, the day will show how the primary school has developed its award-winning approach to language learning by combining language learning creatively with other subjects, and how this approach has increased enjoyment, motivation and levels of achievement. Ofsted has said ""The coverage of modern languages is a particular strength of the school" and "The curriculum is outstanding, providing pupils with exciting experiences and opportunities to learn about the world."

Delegates will observe lessons in which pupils use German or French to learn other subjects in an active and engaging way, followed by discussion about learning strategies and how to build the new national curriculum requirements into lesson planning. Based on the school's many years of experience, there will also be advice about how to set up a cross-curricular approach to languages that is manageable, achievable and fun for pupils.

*See below for booking information*

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### **Primary CLIL in all year groups: transforming achievement in languages** **Italian Day at Springfield Lower School, Kempston, Bedford, Friday 25th October 2013**

This is an open day with a difference! The whole school will take part in the Italian Day, creating a great opportunity to see how the school has brought CLIL into the curriculum for all year groups from Reception to Key Stage 2. There will be a variety of activities and teaching styles, with much delivered in the target language. Learning strategies will include songs, transferring vocabulary, scaffolding learning, stories, questioning and problem solving. Deputy Head Marianne Allen says: "All classes will have a variety of independent tasks for the children to access as well as whole class teaching related to the Key Stage topics. This showcase is to demonstrate that delivery in the target language is not beyond class teachers. Like all schools, we are on a journey. It is not perfect but we hope the enthusiasm of the children and teachers will inspire more schools to reflect on the importance of teaching other curriculum areas in the target language."

Springfield won the Primary Languages Classroom Award for Italian in 2012, and their headteacher has commented "Our teaching style has a profound effect on the children's experiences and the rate that they acquire a new language. It has been an amazing learning journey for the staff and the children, with Italian now being spoken around the school both in, and outside, lesson time." Don't miss this opportunity to see CLIL in action!

*See below for booking information*

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### **Real learning and real communication: creating confident and successful language learners in KS2** **Hagbourne C of E Primary School, Oxfordshire, Thursday 14th November**

This event is an opportunity to see inspirational CLIL in action and to gain first hand information and advice about setting up a similar initiative. The lessons will show how pupils

have higher levels of engagement and achievement when language learning has a real purpose. Topics addressed will include:

- How to set up cross-curricular language learning
- Essential teaching methods
- Learning activities that fit with the requirements of the new Programme of Study for languages
- Examples of learning resources and where other materials can be found

The day is led by Pippa Jacobs, who has developed the school's languages curriculum and is a highly respected teacher and trainer. The school has a well-established programme of using languages to learn in other areas of the curriculum, and as a result pupils have become more confident in using the target language and are more motivated to learn, as well as making good progress in both the language and the subject being learned.

The school is easy to reach by train and a minibus will provide transport between the station and the school.

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### **BOOKING INFORMATION**

To make a booking for any of the above events please contact the ALL office at 0116 229 7600 or email <mailto:info@all-languages.org.uk>. Delegate fees are the same for each event.

ALL individual members and subscribers to FLAME: £70

ALL non-members: £90 including 12 months free membership of FLAME and a £20 discount on ALL membership (mention this when booking if you would like to take up the offer)\*

**BRING A COLLEAGUE! HALF PRICE** for additional colleagues from the same school

**EARLY BIRD DISCOUNT** of £10 for full price bookings made 4 weeks before the event

*\* FLAME members receive the FLAME e-newsletter and discounts at FLAME events (you can opt out if you prefer). Please mention when booking if you would like to take up the ALL membership offer. The discount is for a year's individual membership, which includes a subscription to Languages Today magazine, the ALLnet e-newsletter and discounts on local and national events. For more information see <http://www.all-languages.org.uk/join>*

## **Other events**

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### **Network for Languages London is running a CLIL primary training day in December**

This course explains in detail what CLIL is, how it works and why it works so well in the primary phase. Delegates will be provided with lots of practical examples and will have the opportunity to create their own CLIL module using simple planning tools. For more information see <http://networkforlanguageslondon.org.uk/courses/>

# CLIL online - a selection of links

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## This month's recommendations....

### Online French and German resources

[http://www.isabelperez.com/clil/clicl\\_m\\_5.htm](http://www.isabelperez.com/clil/clicl_m_5.htm)

Isabel Pérez Torres's ESL website is mainly focused on English CLIL but also has links to French and German websites that cover a range of different subjects. Some links may be out of date but others have excellent materials that could be used in the classroom, for example information about [earthquakes and tsunamis](http://terre.haplosciences.com/dossiers.html) in French at <http://terre.haplosciences.com/dossiers.html>, and high quality materials in German at <http://www.planet-wissen.de/index.jsp>

### A lively introduction to CLIL

[http://academia.edu/2025502/Introduction to CLIL Workshop](http://academia.edu/2025502/Introduction_to_CLIL_Workshop)

This slightly quirky take on CLIL on an American website (with English as the target language) consists of 37 slides, drawing on well known concepts but with some less familiar elements. A quotation from 1993 states that 'CLIL promotes negotiation of meaning'. I'm not quite sure what this means so maybe I need to negotiate its meaning?

### And finally...

<http://www.leaponline.eu/funded-professional-developmen/>

Did you know that the EU will pay the full cost of a one week professional development course in France, Germany, Spain or Italy, including travel and accommodation? Contact LEAP to find out more! This really is an offer too good to miss.

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*Do you have news about CLIL or a topic you would like us to feature? If so, please get in touch at*

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