



FLAME Newsletter

September 2013

Moving ahead

Welcome to the September edition of the newsletter. This edition has information about events, the new KS3 curriculum, Language World, how Speak to the Future's 1000 Words Challenge could be significant in supporting CLIL in schools, and links to resources. And we've also included a reminder to put in a proposal if you would like to run a session about CLIL at the 2014 Language World conference. Only 5 days to go!

If you haven't yet booked for one of our **primary Open Day events** there is still time to do so. They are a great way to discover new and exciting ideas for Key Stage 2, so please **help us to spread the word** to colleagues in primary schools.

FLAME is planning new developments for the next twelve months including guidelines for primary and secondary schools, research into CLIL initiatives in England and a wider range of CPD opportunities. We are also creating CLIL learning resources for Key Stage 2 that will cover the requirements of the primary Programme of Study and will be available in time for Autumn 2014.

Belatedly wishing you all a great school year,

Kathy

FLAME events *Please spread the word !*

Primary CLIL in all year groups: transforming achievement in languages

Springfield Lower School, Kempston, Bedford, Friday 25th October 2013

At this lively and informative Italian day you will see how the school has brought CLIL into the curriculum for all year groups from Reception to Key Stage 2. There will also be introductory and closing sessions for questions and discussion. You will see 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!**

[More information and booking...](#)

Real learning and real communication: creating confident and successful language learners in the new Key Stage 2 curriculum

Hagbourne C of E Primary School, Oxfordshire, Thursday 14th November

This event is an opportunity to see inspirational CLIL in action at the school, and to gain first hand information and advice about setting up a similar initiative. Topics addressed will include:

- Why cross-curricular language learning works
- How lively and motivating activities meet the requirements of the new Programme of Study
- 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 more motivated to learn. They also make good progress in both the language and the subject being learned.

[More information and booking...](#)

Other events

Network for Languages London: Primary Languages Conference, Saturday 16 November

<http://networkforlanguageslondon.org.uk/course/saturday-16-november-2013-spotlight-on-teaching-languages-at-primary-school/>

Network for Languages: London Primary CLIL training course, Friday 6 December

<http://networkforlanguageslondon.org.uk/course/clil-the-three-fold-cord-strong-cross-curricular-links-using-languages-in-the-primary-curriculum/>

News

Would you like to share your best ideas for CLIL at Language World?

ALL is inviting proposals for sessions at Language World 2014. If you have some new and interesting ideas for either primary or secondary CLIL, why not send in your proposal? We are planning some great CLIL elements at the conference, including CLIL-related materials on the FLAME stand, sessions about primary and secondary CLIL, and a get-together for the FLAME community (that means anybody!).

To contribute a session simply download, complete and return the **Call for Contributions form** (available in [word](#) or [pdf](#)) and email it to us (wendyn@all-languages.org.uk) by **Monday 30 September**.

<http://tinyurl.com/LWcontrib>

New Programme of Study for Key Stage 3 is CLIL friendly

The former KS3 Programme of Study for languages has been disapplied since the beginning of September, allowing schools to have "the freedom to adjust their curriculum to help prepare for the introduction of the new national curriculum from September 2014".

The next six months will be an important time to review and refresh the KS3 curriculum, and it is good news to find that the final version of the Programme of Study for 2014 (published on 11th September) is CLIL friendly. While normal language lessons are essential for students to gain explicit understanding of language structures, all the linguistic competences that are listed in the programme of study can be developed further in CLIL lessons. The requirement to *read literary texts in the language [such as stories, songs, poems and letters]* is a welcome element. Although it doesn't fit easily with a subject such as Maths, it doesn't prevent teachers from using a CLIL approach in language lessons when introducing students to the literature and music of the target language. Indeed, CLIL is what we use when lessons have the joint aim of exploring literature in target language and helping students to become more confident communicators.

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/national-curriculum-in-england-languages-programmes-of-study>

The British Council is holding a conference for headteachers and school leaders with a focus on the place of language learning in a world class curriculum.

The quality of speakers is outstanding and includes discussion of how languages can be 'embedded into the curriculum'. If you are not yourself a school leader, could you make sure your headteacher knows about the event, which is free of charge?

<http://schoolsonline.britishcouncil.org/international-conference>

A focus on...

The 1000 Words Challenge – could it help schools to set up CLIL initiatives?

Speak to the Future has launched its new [1000 Words Challenge](#) this week. It believes that not everyone will become a fluent linguist, but the aspiration for everyone to have 1000 Words in another language is realistic and achievable. Its key messages are:

- Our society and our economic prospects will be vastly transformed for the better if everyone has 1000 Words of another language
- Everyone benefits from being able to speak another language – languages are for all of us
- You don't have to be fluent

Could the campaign be an opportunity to make schools more CLIL friendly? The ethos of a school can have a strong impact on the ease or difficulty of setting up CLIL initiatives. Schools with a strong international ethos will have subject departments that already engage with other countries and are more likely to be positive about setting up CLIL in their subject. A headteacher who wants students to be global citizens will also be more open to CLIL.

What if a school invited all the staff to take the challenge of learning 1,000 words in a language other than English? The challenge could be supported by providing after school lessons and/or online courses. A competitive element would make it fun, such as vocabulary competitions, and to make it achievable there could be easier steps on the way such as 100 word competitions to start with. And what if parents and students got involved too?

The challenge of learning 1000 words is considered to be the equivalent of reaching A2 level of the Common European Framework of Reference (CEFR), the second level up out of six. And there is interesting research that even speakers with far less vocabulary can be effective in communicating.

For information about the campaign: <http://www.speaktothefuture.org/1000-words-challenge/>

For an easy to read overview of the CEFR:

http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Common_European_Framework_of_Reference_for_Languages

CLIL online - a selection of links

This month's recommendations....

ALL about bilingualism!

The ALL website has a new page called 'features' which lists numerous research findings about the benefits of bilingualism. They are a great source of information if you want to make the case for the benefits of CLIL.

http://www.all-languages.org.uk/news/features/speaking_your_mind_links_between_languages_and_other_skills

Want to get pupils using target language to communicate during lessons?

These useful phrases can easily be downloaded and stuck to the classroom walls, with thanks to Caroline Herring and Hertfordshire Grid for Learning. There are lots of other great resources as well.

<http://www.thegrid.org.uk/learning/mfl/general/resources/>

Spanish Rap on CLIL4teachers

Rachel Hawkes uploaded a complete scheme of work that explores rap in Spanish. There are six lesson plans, downloads of the songs and a student booklet. Fun and ideal for Years 7 or 8.

<http://clil4teachers.pbworks.com/w/page/8427867/Music>

*Association for Language Learning, University of Leicester, University Road, Leicester LE1 7RH
info@ALL-languages.org.uk*