

Dr Carmen Cabrera Álvarez

writes to share two initiatives they have been developing at the secondary school where she works – Pitsford School in Northants.

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The first project has been organised by our Year 13 students. They wanted to have a day where they could celebrate their heritage languages and cultures. We are a very small school, but our students have many home languages and cultures.

A group of Year 13 students organised a cultural awareness week, and then led an assembly in December where they explained their plans to the senior school.

Lots of activities took place including wearing clothes linked to cultural heritage, and bringing in foods to try. The week concluded with the School coming together to dance Jerusalema in the sports hall.

<https://bit.ly/3Y3QfIX>

Also, we are now preparing the third edition of *Pitsford Multilingual* magazine in our school, where we encourage students to use not only the languages they learn at school, but also the ones they speak at home (<https://bit.ly/3Dic6Ow>).

Pupils at our school can take part by:

- Talking about a favourite food from another country
- Creating a wordsearch or game with foreign words
- Interviewing people who can speak other languages
- Writing an article on why you like to learn languages
- Talking about speaking another language at home?
- Teaching others some words in another language
- Telling others some interesting facts about other cultures
- Telling a story in a different language

Issue 1:

https://issuu.com/carmenf.cabreraalvarez/docs/first_edition_ps_multilingual_magazine

In Issue 2 some of our students told us about the languages they speak at home. The editorial outline was :

Lennon will teach us some words in Shona and we will learn some facts about beautiful

Zimbabwe. Alanna will tell us about Malayalam and Kerala and Anika will teach us a little bit of Tamil.

We will learn about Gaelic with Finn. He will teach us some words and he will explain how to prepare an Irish stew.

Lucy will teach us how to cook a paella (¡ñam!-yum!) and Emma has prepared a very fun wordsearch in Spanish to practise the school vocabulary.

Alfie and Matthew will present a list of countries that will participate in the UEFA Euro 2020 and will teach us how to say hello in every team's language!

Our Sixth Form students took part in the European Day of Languages creative writing competition last September. The theme was "International City". Peter wrote a moving short story, Matthew created a beautiful poem about London, Tianna described New York and Tyler told us about Kyoto. And all of it in Spanish!

<https://pitsfordinternational.school.blog/2021/05/25/ps-multilingual-magazine-number-2/>