

Languages and Multicultural Education Resource Centre Newsletter Issue 4, 2008

Cultural Diversity Quest 2009

The Cultural Diversity Quest Awards are now open! All Victorian students, teachers and schools are invited to submit an entry about their experience of cultural diversity in one or more of the Award categories. Winning entrants will receive prizes and have their work displayed at the Immigration Museum. Entries must be received by **25 February 2009**. For further information, entry forms and guidelines, see:

<http://www.education.vic.gov.au/about/events/quest/default.htm>

Pathways and Transitions: post-compulsory education, Work and refugee Young people

This publication aims to contribute to the development programs for young people (16+) from refugee backgrounds as they navigate pathways between education and work. It can be found at:

http://www.immi.gov.au/media/publications/settle/_pdf/07_08/pathways-transitions-2008.pdf

Chinese, Japanese, Indonesian and Arabic essay writing competition for VCE Year 11 and Year 12 students

2008 is the UNESCO International Year of Languages and the University of Melbourne's **Asia Institute** is inviting VCE Year 11 and Year 12 students to participate in an essay writing competition.

The topic for the 1500 word essay is:

'Kevin Rudd has called on Australians to learn new languages and make their nation the most Asia-literate country in the West.' Clinton Porteous, Herald Sun, August 13, 2008.

Discuss your experience in learning Chinese, Japanese, Indonesian or Arabic through the following questions and themes:

- **What positive things have happened to you in learning an Asian language?**
- **How does the experience of learning the language change the way you see the world?**
- **Why do you think young Australians should be encouraged to learn Asian languages?**

The theme of the essay is based on Prime Minister Kevin Rudd's recent addresses discussing the importance of Australia's relationship with Asia, in particular the vision for Australians to have a deeper understanding of Asia in terms of literacy, language and culture.

Due Date: Friday 6 March 2009, 5.00pm.

Further information, email: ai-events@unimelb.edu.au

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New Resources at LMERC

New French resources

LMERC has purchased new French resources published by Duval Education. Costain, Meredith & Laidaw, Julienne (2007) *La bande des V*, Thomson Duval, Quebec.

A new values education series promoting core social values that are essential in every school. This flexible and fun series can easily be incorporated into your existing values or personal development programs. *La bande des V* Student Books are enjoyable and engaging resources that kids will love. Featuring in a comic-book format, each book presents a scenario that highlights a particular core value.

Pittar, Gill (2007) *Je lis, tu lis*, Thomson Duval, Quebec.

Je lis, tu lis is a guided reading series adapted from the Thomson Nelson *InfoRead books*. Designed for students in Grades K–3, there are 84 books divided into 4 sets. The collection offers a variety of types and levels of resources allowing you to address Science and Technology, Social Studies or Health concepts while addressing individual reading abilities. *Je lis, tu lis* is levelled according to Fountas–Pinnell (F.–P.).

Pittar, Gill (2007) *Méli et Mélo*, Thomson Duval, Quebec.

Sixty-four books for the *Méli et Mélo* series for children between the ages of four and eight. The stories relate the adventures of two little girls from different backgrounds and their multicultural friends. The books promote the acceptance of diversity and the learning of life skills. They have a delightful simplicity and are set mainly in a rural environment.

Williams, Deborah et al (2007) *Étincelle*, Thomson Duval, Quebec.

Étincelle is an ideal complement to any quality reading program. These books are written for early, emergent, and fluent readers in Pre-Kindergarten through Grade 3. These fun stories help children develop confidence in their reading process through the use of predictability and patterned text.

New German resources

Krulak-Kempisty, Elzbieta, Reitzig, Lidia & Endt, Ernst (2007), *Der grüne Max 1. Lehrbuch 1: Deutsch als Fremdsprache für die Primarstufe*, Langenscheidt, Berlin.

German language activity textbook.

Baier, Gabi, (2007) *Tatort DaF Horkrimi : Verschollen in Berlin*, Ernst Klett, Stuttgart.

A series of detective readers each with an audio CD with the complete spoken text. The readers tell thrilling stories including a great deal of regional cultural information such as maps and explanations of local customs. At the end of each story there are exercises for reading and listening comprehension, relating to each chapter and the story as a whole.

Cristina Berger, Maria & Maddalena, Martini (2005) *Generation E :*

Deutschsprachige Landeskunde im Europäischen Kontext, CIDEB, Genua, Germany.

Activity book explores the German speaking countries through the overall topics of Europa, Geschichte, Geographie, Kultur and Trends and final summary.

Silvin, Thomas (2008) *Lese-Novelas* [audio CD], Hueber, Ismaning, Germany. This new series practises reading and listening comprehension for learners at A1 level. Library has: *Franz, Munchen*.

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Langenscheidt (2007), *Bilderbogen D-A-CH : videoreportagen zur Landeskunde*.

This DVD contains 12 area-study topics: 7 from Germany, 2 from Austria and 3 from Switzerland. Short town and country portraits, interviews and coverage of historical points give a vivid picture of the German-speaking countries. Also included for each topic are two or three listening and viewing comprehension activities (in PDF format) with answer key.

Xanthos, Sigrid & Douvitsas, Jutta (2007) *Leseclub*, Hueber, Ismaning, Germany.

A series of basic readers for children at the A1 level containing retellings of classic fairy tales. Full-colour illustrations support the understanding of the text. A vocabulary is listed at the beginning of each book. Library has: *Leseclub 1: Der Hase und der Igel*, *Leseclub 4: Sinbad der Seefahrer*.

Werner, Sabine & Strack Friedhelm, *Lesen und Uben*, Cideb, Genua, Germany, 2006.

A series of graded readers featuring exciting short stories and language activities. Book with CD. Library has: *Wie im Film*, *Tor ohne Grenzen*, *Albert Einstein*.

Zeitgenossische Bilderbuchillustration in Deutschland

Collection of German artworks.

New DVDs

Australia Government – Department of Immigration and Citizenship (2007), *A Sense of Place*, Ronin Films.

An intimate portrait of four Vietnamese Australians, who for the past 30 years have searched to build their identity and home in Australia. Their paths have never crossed yet they have common experiences in their struggle for identity, maintaining a connection to their cultural roots and reconciling two worlds – Vietnam and Australia.

Offside. Madman. 2006. Directed by Jafar Panahi. Rated PG.

A group of female supporters must disguise themselves as men in order to attend a football match in which Iran competes for a place in the 2006 World Cup. Although set in Iran, this DVD would complement a study of *Parvana* by Deborah Ellis.

Youth for Human Rights International (2006), *Youth for Human Rights*, Golden Era Productions.

30 Public Service Announcement advertisements that highlight the importance of each of the 30 articles in the Universal Declaration of Human Rights.

New web resources

Australian Research Alliance for Children & Youth (2008), *Achieving Outcomes for Children and Families from Culturally and Linguistically Diverse Backgrounds*. Available from:

<http://www.aracy.org.au/AM/Common/pdf/Topical%20Papers/Achieving_Outcomes_for_Children_and_Families_from_CaLD_Backgrounds-Final_Website_Version.PDF>.

A paper that reports on research discussing strategies for successful inclusion of children and families from culturally and linguistically different backgrounds.

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Examines some of the highly successful services and programmes in place in Australia that support multicultural or migrant communities and families.

Hayman, Lisa (2008) *Victorian Studies of Asia Wiki*. Available from:

<<http://studiesofasia.wikispaces.com/>>.

Within Victoria, the Effective Schools Model is used as a key strategy for School Improvement. This model has been used to develop a document which will provide school leadership teams with strategies to support the implementation of programs to enhance Asia Literacy. Wiki includes useful links to Studies of Asia resources.

Articles of interest in recent journals ...

Asia: journal of the Asia Education Teachers' Association, vol. 36, no. 2, June 2008.

Focus: Religion.

This issue focuses on the study of religion and ideas for teaching religious education. Includes photocopiable activities that can be used as part of units of work.

Ethos, vol. 16, no. 3, term 3, 2008.

Wilson, Jill. *What is a Good Resource?*

Article based on a lecture given to a group of pre-service teachers about how to teach well. Discusses the topic of finding a good resource to use in different classroom contexts, and makes some recommendations. Wilson offers several criteria or stages which can be used to evaluate the usefulness of a resource.

Focus, vol. 23, no. 1, June-Sept 2008

Focus: Pacific Progress

This issue examines AusAID's contributions in assisting economic growth in the Pacific and East Timor. Articles discuss the widespread benefits that aid has brought to the region.

Magpies vol. 23, no. 4, September 2008.

Gleeson, Libby. *Getting it right: culturally and historically. Writing Mahtab's story.* Libby Gleeson shares her experiences in researching her latest novel. The novel is the story of the journey of an Afghan family, fleeing their home in Herat and persecution by the Taliban, told by the eldest daughter, Mahtab. To research the story, and to make the first person narrator authentic, Gleeson spent time with Afghani girls and their families in Sydney.

Hunter, Linnet. ***Know the Author Illustrator: Shaun Tan.***

Hunter examines the work and career of successful author/illustrator: Shaun Tan. After a brief discussion of Tan's influences and achievements, Hunter interviews Shaun about his latest work (*Tales from Outer Suburbia*) and his thoughts about his career.

New Internationalist

No. 415, September 2008.

Focus: Drowning in plastic: Living in a toxic world.

Issue features articles about the problems brought about by the increasing prevalence of hazardous chemicals and food additives. Articles also discuss the problems caused by our reliance on plastic products, and outline some green solutions.

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Copies of articles or information about these and other journals held by LMERC are available on request. (Copyright provisions apply)

At the Immigration Museum

OUR STORIES: PAST, PRESENT AND FUTURE

Until 23 November
Immigration Museum Education Centre
Bookings & further details 99272754

THE WATERS OF TUVALU - a nation at risk

Community Gallery Exhibition
Until 16 November
Immigration Museum Community Gallery
Bookings & further details 99272754

For further information please contact.

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<http://museumvictoria.com.au/ImmigrationMuseum/>

Professional Learning Opportunities

Date	Event	Venue	Further information
5:30-7pm various dates and locations throughout Victoria(see flyer)	Boys, blokes, books & bytes; A reading program for Middle Years boys.		Erin Ritchie eritchie@slv.vic.gov.au (Free but limited places – must register) PDF flyer available: http://www.emr.vic.edu.au/pdf/bbbb_flyer_2008.pdf
9:30am – 3:30 pm on various dates (see flyer)	Australian Government Quality Teacher Programme; Consumer and financial literacy professional learning program	Various locations across Victoria.	Liz Aird liz.aird@sev.asn.au Flyer available: http://www.sev.asn.au/teachers/financial-literacy.html
Wednesday 22 October	Values are invaluable	Dallas Brooks Hall	Philippa Lovell plovell@ceo.melb.catholic.edu.au

Professional Learning Activities offered by Victorian Foundation for Survivors of Torture (VFST) can be found at: <http://www.foundationhouse.org.au>

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Calendar – Important Days

Date	Event	Further information
18 th -26 th October	Children's Week Australia	http://www.childrensweek.org.au/
20 th October	Hoshanah Rabah	http://www.bje.org.au/kids/templateFolder.php?id=202&gid=2
21 st October	Shemini Atzeret	http://www.bje.org.au/kids/templateFolder.php?id=207&gid=2
22 nd October	We are One Day	http://www.weareoneday.org/index2.htm
22 nd October	UNICEF Day for Change	http://www.unicefdayforchange.org.au/
22 nd October	Simchat Torah	http://www.bje.org.au/kids/templateFolder.php?id=213&gid=2
22 nd October	Universal Children's Day	http://www.un.org/depts/dhl/children_day/
24 th October	World Development Information Day	http://www.un.org/ga/president/57/pages/speeches/statement021024-DevelopmentInfo.htm
24 th -30 th October	World Disarmament Week	http://disarmament.un.org/education-new/index.html
28 th October- 1 st November	Diwali (Deepavali)	http://www.diwali.nl/diwali2008.html http://www.diwalfestival.org/
31 st October (Australia)	World Teachers' Day	http://portal.unesco.org/education/en/ev.php-URL_ID=54385&URL_DO=DO_TOPIC&URL_SECTION=201.html
13 th November	Guru Nanak's birthday	http://www.sgpc.net/festivals/index.asp
16 th November	International Day for Tolerance	http://www.un.org/depts/dhl/tolerance/
9 th December	Eid al Adha	http://www.religionfacts.com/islam/holidays/adha.htm
6 th -9 th December	Hajj	http://www.hajj.org.au/
10 th December	International Human Rights Day	http://www.un.org/events/humanrights/2007/
18 th December	International Migrants Day	http://www.un.org/depts/dhl/events/migrants/

The EDNA calendar for Australian schools is a comprehensive listing of special days, weeks and events. It can be found at:

http://www.edna.edu.au/edna/go/schooled/schools_events

For religious holidays and observances:

The Interfaith calendar: <http://www.interfaithcalendar.org/2007.htm>

For multicultural events and festivals in Victoria:

<http://www1.visitvictoria.com.au/displayObject.cfm/ObjectID.0007C337-47CA-1A83-846A80C476A901EF/vvt.vhtml>

Get ready for 2009...

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2009 International Year of Reconciliation

<http://www.reconciliationday.net/UNITED_NATIONS_2009.html>

On 20 November 2006, the General Assembly decided to proclaim 2009 as the International Year of Reconciliation. It expressed its steadfast determination to pursue reconciliation processes in those societies affected or divided by conflicts, describing such processes as necessary for the establishment of firm and lasting peace.

2009 International Year of Natural Fibres

<http://www.fao.org/es/esc/en/15/320/highlight_322.html>

To raise awareness of natural fibres, to promote efficiency and sustainability of the natural fibres, and to foster an effective international partnership among the various natural fibres industries.

International Year of Human Rights Learning

The General Assembly has proclaimed the year commencing on 10 December 2008 as the International Year of Human Rights Learning, to be devoted to activities to broaden and deepen human rights learning based on the principles of universality, indivisibility, interdependency, impartiality, objectivity and non-selectivity, constructive dialogue and cooperation. It aims to enhance the promotion and protection of all human rights and fundamental freedoms, including the right to development.

Lunar New Year: Year of the Ox

Lunar New Year in 2009 falls on Monday 26th January, Australia Day!

<http://www.cultureandrecreation.gov.au/articles/chinese/>

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