

# Languages and Multicultural Education Resource Centre Newsletter Issue 3, 2008

## **New Web link for LMERC**

The LMERC website has a new address and a new look. The website provides information on the resources and services offered by LMERC. The on-line catalogue is also accessible from the website.

The new address is: [www.education.vic.gov.au/studentlearning/programs/lmerc](http://www.education.vic.gov.au/studentlearning/programs/lmerc)

## **New Web link for Multicultural Education**

Multicultural Education permeates all aspects of school practices and policy and aims to ensure all Victorian students contribute to and benefit from cultural and linguistic diversity and a shared social cohesion. The new Multicultural Education website provides a range of useful information and resources for school leaders, teachers and parents regarding multicultural education in Victorian government schools. The new address is:

<http://www.education.vic.gov.au/studentlearning/programs/multicultural/default.htm>

## **LMERC news**

LMERC has installed a computer for LMERC members and visitors to use to access our online catalogue. This will enable users to search the collection, plus making available vetted links and downloads of relevant online resources such as: e-journals, e-newsletters, websites, articles and units of work.

With the 2008 Beijing Olympics set to explode in August, many schools are introducing units of work on this subject. LMERC may be of assistance in this area as we have a collection of resources pertaining to the subjects of China and the Olympic games including a resource list of books and online resources for the primary and secondary level.

Distance Education Victoria has developed a great values teaching tool using the themes of values and the Beijing Olympics which includes interviews with Olympians. [www.distance.vic.edu.au](http://www.distance.vic.edu.au) (click on Beijing Olympics on front page)

## **Human Rights Education workshop**

On Tuesday, 2<sup>nd</sup> of September, LMERC will be hosting a workshop on resources and strategies of human rights education. This workshop will examine:

- Human Rights Charter and its implications for schools
- Human Rights Education and VELS
- Human Rights resources to support classroom and school practice.

The workshop will be interactive and the participants will have the opportunity to discuss and share issues related to Human Rights Education relevant to their school contexts.

Registration is free, but please register by Friday, 15 August to secure a place.

For further information and registration, contact Claire Hardie:

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### MyLanguage.com.au

As a way of enriching Australia's linguistic and cultural cyberspace, seven State and Territory Libraries have created MyLanguage, a national portal for multicultural Australians, enabling access to information on the Internet in over 60 languages.

[MyLanguage.gov.au](http://MyLanguage.gov.au) will provide access to over six-million information links: search engines, web directories, government websites, digital library projects and syndicated news headlines.

### New Resources at LMERC

#### New early and middle years fiction

Compestine, Ying Chang (2007) *Revolution is not a dinner party*. Penguin.

In the tradition of *Wild Swans*, this fictionalised memoir is based on Compestine's childhood in Wuhan during the 1960s and 70s. Ying's parents are doctors and she lives a comfortable life, but when one of Mao's officers moves into their apartment things change.

Gleitzman, Morris (2008) *Then*. Penguin.

*Then* is the second story of Felix and Zelda. They have escaped from the Nazis but now must try to survive, relying on the kindness of others.

Grindley, Sally (2008) *Broken glass*. Bloomsbury.

A novel that explores the lives of India's street children.

Suresh and Sandeep run away from home to escape their abusive father. They hope to find a better life in the city but their new home is a traffic island in a busy road and they find work as rubbish collectors.

Heffernan, John (2007) *Marty's Shadow*. Omnibus Books.

Marty carries with him a dark secret, although he's not sure what it is; perhaps a vague memory of something dreadful. He must confront his past and face the truth of his shadow. (On CBC shortlist)

Lloyd, Alison. (2008) *Year of the Tiger*. Penguin.

Hu and Ren hope to win an archery contest, but trouble follows them. In one of the most dramatic periods in Chinese history, they must work together to save the town and the empire.

Norrington, Leonie. (2007) *Leaving Barrumbi*. Omnibus Books.

Dale is a newcomer to boarding school, and he's having trouble adjusting. He's always lived with Aboriginal people, and now he's surrounded by more white kids than he's ever seen! When his best friend Tomias gets interested in girls, Dale gets left behind. The third novel in the Barrumbi series is a school story about Indigenous and white culture, friendship and families, and growing up. (On CBC shortlist)

Starke, Ruth (2008) *Noodlepie*. Penguin.

Andy's father takes him to Vietnam for a visit and Australian-born Andy must adjust to his relatives and a way of life that is foreign to him.

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Zenatti, Valeria. (2008) *Message in a Bottle*. Bloomsbury.  
Following a gruesome suicide bomb attack on her local Jerusalem café, Tai Levine sends a message in a bottle to Gaza. This desperate act leads to a correspondence that crosses boundaries.

### New picture books

Cheung, Hyechong & Das, Prodeepta. (2008) *K is for Korea*. Frances Lincoln.  
Book presents various items of information about Korea that begin with each letter of the alphabet. Full colour photographs accompany each piece of information.

Chapman, Gaye. (2008) *Little Blue*. Little Hare.  
Little Blue is lost and wants to go home. Will tries to help her find her way home, but they cannot find it. Little Blue's home is not the sort of home Will was expecting. Simple and colourful illustrations complement the whimsical tone of the story.

Graham, Bob. (2008) *How to Heal a Broken Wing*. Walker.  
When Will finds an injured pigeon lying on a busy city street, he takes it home and nurses it back to health.

Hamilton, Martha & Weiss, Mitch. (2008) *The Ghost Catcher*. August House LittleFolk.  
A barber in Bengal is too generous with his customers and never makes enough money, so he finds a way to earn some extra income by becoming a ghost catcher. Cartoonish illustrations accompany this humorous tale.

Hooper, Meredith & Coady, Chris. (1998) *The Drop in my Drink*. Frances Lincoln.  
We all know and love it, but what actually is water? This story answers the age-old questions: where did water come from, how does it behave, and why is it so important? This narrative explains the role of water in the ecosystem, and just how crucial it is to all life on Earth.

Lipp, Frederick & Gaillard, Jason. (2006) *Running Shoes*. Zero to Ten.  
A heart-warming tale about a girl from a poor village who has a secret wish; a pair of shoes may hold the key to making her dreams come true. Beautiful illustrations accompany the intriguing story.

Ker Wilson, Barbara & Lessac, Frane. (2005) *The Day of the Elephant*. HarperCollins.  
Solada and her friends are all excited to be meeting an elephant: the great Mae Jabu. However, their excitement turns to terror as they see a giant wave about to crash on their beach. This is the story of how an elephant was able to save a number of children from the tsunami disaster in Southern Thailand.

Mastnak, Rosemary. (2008) *Dancing with Grandma*. Hardie Grant Egmont.  
One afternoon, Anya decides to stop watching television. Instead, she dresses up like a princess and dances with her grandma.

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Millard, Glenda & Chapman, Gaye. (2006) *Kaito's Cloth*. Scholastic Press.  
It is almost winter and Kaito is sad because the butterflies are all dying. The Lord of Flight explains to Kaito that, although butterflies come and go, flight itself is eternal.

Tashiro, Chisato. (2007) *Five Nice Mice*. Penguin Young Readers.  
The tale of five mice as they discover the joy of making music together and, through music, make friends with the frogs.

### Articles of interest in recent journals ...

#### ***Australian Journal of Language and Literacy*, 31:2, June 2008.**

Hammond, Jennifer. *Intellectual challenge and ESL students: Implications of quality teaching initiatives*.

This article features information gained from recent research in which teachers related their experience of working with quality teaching frameworks in schools with high proportions of ESL students. Teachers' views towards quality teaching frameworks were sought via questionnaires, responses, and case studies, and the findings are discussed in this paper. The paper also details elements that contribute to intellectual quality and challenge.

Gibbons, Pauline. *"It was taught good and I learned a lot": Intellectual practices and ESL learners in the middle years*.

This article reports on some of the findings from research into how the notion of 'intellectual quality' is conveyed to schools with large numbers of ESL students. It aims to discuss and explore what constitutes intellectually challenging learning in the enacted curriculum. Some key intellectual practices, ideas, and concepts are also examined.

#### ***Ethos*, term 2, 2008.**

Wilson, Jill. *A tale of two Indias*.

Article based on experiences at the AEF Linking Latitudes conference in October 2007. The author relates her experiences at two schools in India; one a poor alternative school, and the other a well-resourced urban school. The article also explores opportunities for cultural growth and reform in Indian education.

#### ***The Literature Base*. 19:2, May 2008.**

Merrin, Russ. *Values in children's literature. Part 4: Fair Go & Freedom*.

Part of a series examining the nine core values of the Values Education program and how current children's literature can be used to promote attitudes which reflect these values. 'Fair go' and 'Freedom' are the two ideals discussed in this article. The article gives a good discussion on the meaning of these two concepts, and a list of books which promote these values is also included.

#### ***Migration Action*, issue 1, May 2008.**

Focus: *Social inclusion: economic imperative*.

Issues focuses on the social and economic inclusion of refugee and humanitarian communities as a social/moral concern and an economic imperative. Various figures from communities present the issues from both academic and practical perspectives.

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### ***New Internationalist***

#### **No. 411, May 2008.**

Focus: *Burma: Ripe for change.*

Issue features articles about the issues surrounding the Burmese military dictatorship and the push for change in Burma. Several first-hand accounts and conversations with political prisoners and activists are also featured.

#### **No. 412, June 2008.**

Focus: *Dropping the bomb: How to ban nukes and save the planet.*

Issue discusses the dangers and hazards associated with nuclear weapons, and features articles calling for a ban. Episodes in the history of nuclear weapons have been compiled into a brief timeline, which is also included in this issue

#### **No. 413, July 2008.**

Focus: *Viva Yasuni! Life vs Big Oil.*

Issue discusses the plight of the Ecuador's Yasuni rainforest as it and its people are threatened with destruction by oil companies. This edition draws attention to the prospect of addressing climate change by compensating oil-producing countries for loss of revenue as a result of deliberately not exploiting fossil fuel reserves.

### **TESOL in Context, 17:2, February 2008.**

Mullock, Barbara. *On reading aloud in the TESOL classroom.*

This article examines the practice of reading aloud in L1 classrooms and discusses the role and value of this technique in L2 classrooms. Includes research in the area and highlights the usefulness of reading aloud in a first language and reading aloud in a TESOL context.

Cadman, Kate. *From correcting to connecting: A personal story of changing priorities in teaching English as an Additional Language.*

Discusses the changes over the last ten years that have altered the social contexts of teaching English as an Additional Language (EAL). This article examines the changing global demands of EAL due to the spread of English and other linguistic forms. Includes the autobiographical story of the author's own change in priorities in teaching EAL.

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

## Professional Learning Opportunities

Date	Event	Venue	Further information
Monday 18 August Full day	Understanding the multi-faith classroom in a secular society	Melbourne Museum	Gary Shaw <a href="mailto:Shaw.gary.r@edumail.vic.gov.au">Shaw.gary.r@edumail.vic.gov.au</a> (Free but limited places – must register)
Thursday 21 August 4.00 – 7.00	Meeting the needs of ESL students (for teachers of students P-6)	Treacy Conference Centre, Parkville	Helen Mooy PETA <a href="mailto:helen@peta.edu.au">helen@peta.edu.au</a>
Tuesday 2 September 4.30 – 6.30	Human Rights Education: resources and strategies workshop	LMERC	Clare Hardie <a href="mailto:Hardie.clare.c@edumail.vic.gov.au">Hardie.clare.c@edumail.vic.gov.au</a> (Free but registration essential)

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Monday 8 September 9.00 – 4.00	Beyond four walls: engaging students with ICT rich learning opportunities	Statewide Resource Centre. 150 Palmerston St., Carlton	Diane Mansour Social Education Victoria Tel: <a href="mailto:diane.mansour@sev.asn.au">diane.mansour@sev.asn.au</a>
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Professional Learning Activities offered by Victorian Foundation for Survivors of Torture (VFST) can be found at: <http://www.foundationhouse.org.au>

### Calendar – Important Days

Date	Event	Further information
3 <sup>rd</sup> August	International Friendship Day	<a href="http://www.friendshipday.org/">http://www.friendshipday.org/</a>
4 <sup>th</sup> August	National Aboriginal and Islander Children's Day	<a href="http://www.snaicc.asn.au/children/default.cfm?loadref=5">http://www.snaicc.asn.au/children/default.cfm?loadref=5</a>
6 <sup>th</sup> August	Hiroshima Day	<a href="http://www.kidsturncentral.com/holidays/glossary/defhiroshima.htm">http://www.kidsturncentral.com/holidays/glossary/defhiroshima.htm</a>
8 <sup>th</sup> – 24 <sup>th</sup> August	2008 Beijing Olympic Games	<a href="http://en.beijing2008.cn/">http://en.beijing2008.cn/</a>
9 <sup>th</sup> August	International Day of the World's Indigenous People	<a href="http://www.un.org/depts/dhl/indigenous/">http://www.un.org/depts/dhl/indigenous/</a>
15 <sup>th</sup> August	Children's Book of the Year Awards Announcement	<a href="http://cbca.org.au">http://cbca.org.au</a>
24 <sup>th</sup> August	Sri Krishna Jayanti	<a href="http://www.mangalore.com/festivals/srikrishnajayanti.html">http://www.mangalore.com/festivals/srikrishnajayanti.html</a>
1 <sup>st</sup> – 7 <sup>th</sup> September	National Literacy & Numeracy Week	<a href="http://www.literacyandnumeracy.gov.au/">http://www.literacyandnumeracy.gov.au/</a>
1 <sup>st</sup> September	Beginning of Ramadan	<a href="http://www.holidays.net/ramadan/">http://www.holidays.net/ramadan/</a>
3 <sup>rd</sup> September	National Reading Day	<a href="http://www.alea.edu.au/nationalreadingday/">http://www.alea.edu.au/nationalreadingday/</a>
3 <sup>rd</sup> September	World's Largest Lesson	<a href="http://www.english-to-go.com/wll/wll_2005.html">http://www.english-to-go.com/wll/wll_2005.html</a>
3 <sup>rd</sup> September	Indigenous Literacy Day	<a href="http://www.worldwithoutbooks.org/ILD.htm">http://www.worldwithoutbooks.org/ILD.htm</a>
8 <sup>th</sup> September	International Literacy Day	<a href="http://www.un.org/depts/dhl/literacy/">http://www.un.org/depts/dhl/literacy/</a>
16 <sup>th</sup> September	International Day for the Preservation of the Ozone Layer	<a href="http://www.uneptie.org/ozonaction/events/20thanniversary.htm">http://www.uneptie.org/ozonaction/events/20thanniversary.htm</a>

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](http://www.edna.edu.au/edna/go/schooled/schools_events)

For religious holidays and observances:

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

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For multicultural events and festivals in Victoria:

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

## At the Immigration Museum

### **ZART ART WORKSHOP**

8 August

Immigration Museum Theatre

Bookings & further details 98901867

### **COMMUNITY LANGUAGES WORKSHOP**

8 August

Immigration Museum Education Centre

Bookings & further details 99272754

### **THE WATERS OF TUVALU - a nation at risk**

Community Gallery Exhibition

Teacher Preview

13 August

Immigration Museum Community Gallery

Bookings & further details 99272754

### **CAMBODIAN FESTIVAL**

14 September

For further information please contact.

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

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