What’s new

Cultural Diversity Quest 2010
The Cultural Diversity Quest 2010 is open to all Victorian schools. The “Quest” gives all students, schools and teachers the opportunity to explore, express and celebrate Victoria’s cultural diversity through a range of media such as art, design, digital media and writing. Closing date for entries is 25 February 2010. Entries can be lodged at LMERC at any time during term 4. Award winning schools and students will be presented with their awards and prizes at a ceremony in March 2010, during Cultural Diversity Week (14-21 March). See attached flyer for more information regarding categories and resources to assist in the preparation of entries or visit the Quest website, www.education.vic.gov.au/about/events/quest/enter.htm.

New resources

Roy, James (2007) Town. University of Queensland Press, Queensland. In this award-winning novel, James Roy presents thirteen short stories that explore the lives of some of the young residents of an Australian town. All the stories are interwoven and deal with issues such as love and loss, grief, humour and passion. 298 pages.


New LOTE resources


Japanese film classic

The Bad Sleep Well (2007) DVD, Madman Films. Directed by Akira Kurosawa. Five years after a company executive was driven to suicide by jumping out of the seventh floor of corporate headquarters, his illegitimate son exchanges identity with an old friend in order to marry the handicapped daughter of the corrupt industrialist he holds responsible. Kurosawa’s film noir offers a strong critique of capitalism and corporate Japan.
Sharp Tack Productions (2007) DVD, *I can speak*. Language-learning DVD series based on research that suggests children are more receptive to learning a second language before the age of 6. Each DVD teaches children common words and function words that can be used to build phrases and sentences. Episodes contain animation, live action, photographic images and popular children’s music. Currently available in French, Italian, German and Spanish.

**Get Married** (2007) DVD. StarVision, Indonesia. Directed by Hanung Bramantyo. Indonesian romantic comedy that centres around three young men and a young woman: all born at the same day in the same village and who develop a strong lifelong bond. Mae, the young woman, lives with her parents and they try to find a man for her.

*Kumpulan Lagu Terbaik Anak-Anak : Versi Rame-Rame* (2004) DVD, MRIC Animation Studio. 20 animated Indonesian nursery rhymes on DVD.

**Let’s Explore France** (2007-2008) DVD, Visual Education Media, Auckland, NZ. Series of DVDs that allow students of French and SOSE to discover regions of France and learn more about French culture. Each DVD has an accompanying CD ROM containing teachers’ notes, vocabulary, student activities, puzzles and slides.

New global education resources

**Kirikou and the Sorceress** (1998) DVD. Les Armateur. Directed by Michel Ocelot. Kirikou is born into an African village that is under the spell of the cruel sorceress Karaba. Kirikou is eager to break the spell, and sets off on an adventure to rid his village of the evil sorceress’ influence. Duration: 71 minutes.

Mitchell, Jane (2009) *Chalkline*. Walker Books, London. Rafiq is only nine when Kashmiri soldiers raid his village and come to his school looking for recruits. Their method for selecting recruits is to make a line on the chalkboard at a certain height, and anybody who crosses this chalk line will be recruited. Unfortunately, Rafiq is tall for his age and is the first boy to cross the chalk line. Forced to become a soldier, Rafiq is thrust into a life of violence. However, his sister Jameela holds onto Rafiq’s memory. Endorsed by Amnesty International as contributing to a better understanding of human rights and the values that underpin them. 232 pages.

Oxford Literacy (2009) *Journeys*. Oxford University Press, South Melbourne. The Oxford Literacy *Journeys* titles feature the stories of children, their families and their belongings as they journey from all parts of the world to make their new home in Australia. They also include traditional tales from the families’ respective homelands. Teachers’ book and reader for each title.

*Turtles can fly* (2005) DVD. IFC Films. Directed by Bahman Ghobadi. In a village on the border between Iran and Turkey, a 13-year-old boy must find a satellite dish so that the villagers can keep informed of the US invasion of Iraq. Duration: 98 minutes.

Smith, Sue Erica & Seah, Serena (2008) *Discovering Buddha : lessons for primary school*. Buddhist Council of Victoria, North Carlton. *Discovering Buddha* is a very comprehensive collection of materials, designed for primary school teachers, related to Buddhism and the historical and religious figure known as the Buddha. Students can use this resource to learn – to a high standard – about the tradition of Buddhism. Sections of the resource include: information about the teachings of Buddhism, the life of the Buddha, the Jataka tales and other stories of virtuous actions, meditations, special days and festivals, and more fun and engaging activities.

The classroom strategies complement the Victorian Essential Learning Standards, especially Personal Learning, Interpersonal Development and Thinking Processes. Further information about this resource can be obtained by emailing educationinfo@bcvic.org.au or visiting the Buddhist Council of Victoria website.

New ESL resources

Flammia, Nicholas V (2003) *ESL: information gap activities in the content areas*. Delta, Illinois. A collection of 25 reproducible Information Gap activities cover various content topics and encourage ESL students to engage in a dynamic exchange of language and vocabulary practice. Each activity includes a full lesson plan and requires students to engage in the roles of speaker and listener; utilising the language and vocabulary involved.

Coggins, Debra, Kravin, Drew, Coates, Grace Davila & Carroll, Maria Dreux (2007) *English language learners in the mathematics classroom*. Corwin Press, California. This resource uses straightforward terms and examples to help teachers develop specialised understanding and knowledge of strategies for supporting a high level of mathematics learning along with language acquisition. 124 pages with index.

Back to top
This resource provides guidance and support in establishing a high-support curriculum for English language learners. Gibbons outlines areas that enable English learners to participate in high-quality learning. Gibbons presents guidelines and instruction through examples of activities and tasks that can be used across the curriculum to support learning.

This book provides a framework for the assessment of young language learners and a discussion of related research; includes: guidelines and examples of contexts, issues and practices of the assessment of young language learners.

**Articles of interest in recent journals ...**

*Asia: journal of the Asia Education Teachers’ Association, vol. 37, no. 3, September 2009.*
Focus: Indonesia
This issue focuses on the importance of Indonesian and Asian studies and education as a way of strengthening the relationships between our governments; includes ideas on: intercultural dialogue, teaching Asian geography, visual literacy and units of work.

*Australian Journal of Language and Literacy*
Vol. 32, no.2
Chen, Honglin and Harris, Pauline. *Becoming school literate parents: An ESL perspective.*
Paper explores how an ESL parent developed a sense of a literate identity as her children entered formal schooling.
Molyneux, Paul. *Education for biliteracy: Maximising the linguistic potential of diverse learners in Australia’s primary schools.*
Article contends that academic language proficiency in English need not be at the cost of supporting students’ emergent bilingualism and biliteracy. Reports on bilingual education programs offering models for schools seeking to maximise students’ language and literacy potential.

Ideas on how to use an effective reading program to achieve literacy goals. Snowball provides methods for various teaching and learning experiences to include in a successful literacy program, article also makes reference to ESL teaching.

*Ethos*  
Vol. 17, no. 3 (Term 3 2009)
Article discusses the importance of cultural and religious understanding. Nicole promotes religious learning as a way to educate students on tolerance and respect of different belief systems. A comprehensive teaching and learning activity focusing on religion is shared.

*FKA Children’s Services Newsletter Resource, no. 140, August 2009*
Focus: Acknowledging Cultural Values within Environmental Education.
This issue includes articles aiming to raise awareness of the differing cultural values involved in Environmental Education. Articles include strategies that can be used by early childhood professionals to educate children about environmental issues.

*Magpies*  
Vol. 24, no. 4 (September 2009)
Morgan, Sally. *Creating early readers for Indigenous students.*
The author of *My Place* discusses her current project as editor of the new *Waarda* series of Indigenous readers. Morgan speaks about bringing together authors who come from different nations and the process of translating real-life experiences into stories that would interest children.

*Metro No. 162*  
Walsh, Mike. *Bruce meets Li: Mao’s Last Dancer.*
Discussion of the cultural, political, and economic themes involved in Bruce Beresford’s film adaptation of Mao’s Last Dancer. Walsh analyses the film’s representations of China, America, and Australia, and the wider implications of these political commentaries. LMERC has the audiobook and novel versions of Li Cunxin’s autobiography Mao’s Last Dancer (junior and adult). We also have The Peasant Prince; the picture-book version.

Walsh, Mike. *Everyone behaving badly.*
Mike Walsh looks at some of the Asian films that featured at this year’s Melbourne International Film Festival. Walsh also discusses some of the issues raised by the political and social dissent evident in many of this year’s Asian films.

Davidson, Rjurik. *Balibo: a film with something to say.*
Article examining the accounts of the Balibo Five as expressed in the film *Balibo* and the book Cover-Up: The Inside Story of the Balibo Five. Rjurik praises the film but also criticises the fact that it didn’t deal with the broader political context as well as Jill Jolliffe’s book. LMERC also has *Shooting Balibo: blood and memory in East Timor,* Tony Maniaty’s new book about the Balibo incident and his personal experience of it as a journalist. 

Back to top
New Internationalist
No. 424 (July/August 2009)
Focus: Some like it cold: Surviving change in the Arctic.
This issue focuses on the impact that climate change is having on the Arctic and what the future may hold for this region.

New Internationalist
No. 425 (September 2009)
Focus: Where have all the Bees gone?
This issue features various articles about bees and their importance in biodiversity and sustainability.

Practically Primary
Focus: The Stories We Tell
Issue features various articles from contributors who approach stories and storytelling as a way of learning.

Takarabako
No. 20 (June 2009)
Living with the Environment in Mind
Feature article outlines the various environmental initiatives being promoted in Japan.

What's on
2010 Australia-Indonesia BRIDGE Project
The Asia Education Foundation is pleased to announce that applications for the 2010 Australia-Indonesia BRIDGE Project are now open. The Australia-Indonesia BRIDGE Project aims to increase knowledge and understanding between Australia and Indonesia through school-to-school partnerships that link students in both countries.
Details are listed below in the ‘Professional Learning Opportunities’ section.

Beyond Beliefs
Beyond Beliefs is a new secondary school curriculum resource kit and professional learning program which explores the relationship between Muslims and non-Muslims living in Australia. The program and kit are free. Beyond Beliefs provides a compelling insight into one of the most challenging social issues of our times. This professional learning opportunity will give you the confidence and tools to tackle this difficult issue with your students. The program and kit is designed to give teachers confidence and tools to explore this area with students. All participants at the workshop will receive this resource kit at no cost.
Details are listed below in the ‘Professional Learning Opportunities’ section.

Values education – making a difference in your school
Guest speaker Dr Neil Hawkes
Dr Neil Hawkes has worked around the world in bringing values-based approaches to life in schools. He has been a keynote speaker at national Values Education Forums in Australia.
This one-day teacher professional learning activity will provide practical challenges for schools striving to understand and manage the changing needs of disengaged students and communities.
The presenters will offer:
• a framework for understanding the behaviours presented by students struggling to engage with their education;
• strategies for engaging students in positive relationships and effective communication;
• skills in questioning and empathic response
• guidelines for engaging families and local community as partners in positive educational achievement; and
• whole school approaches for building resilient school communities.

 Teachers from government and non-government primary and secondary schools are invited to participate in this practical and interactive workshop designed to support the application of values-based approaches.
This activity is funded by the Australian Government as part of a national values education teacher professional development program. CRT is available but places are limited.
Details are listed below in the ‘Professional Learning Opportunities’ section.
Effective schools in challenging times

This one day workshop will address the challenges for schools striving to understand and manage the changing needs of disengaged students and communities.

The presenters - Gary Shaw, Rob Mason and Deborah Pike - will offer:

- a framework for understanding the behaviours presented by students struggling to engage with their education;
- strategies for engaging students in positive relationships and effective communication;
- skills in questioning and empathic response
- guidelines for engaging families and local community as partners in positive educational achievement; and
- whole school approaches for building resilient school communities.

Teachers from government and non-government primary and secondary schools are invited to participate in this practical and interactive workshop designed to support the application of values-based approaches.

This activity is funded by the Australian Government as part of a national values education teacher professional development program. CRT is available but places are limited.

Details are listed below in the ‘Professional Learning Opportunities’ section.

Dr Neil Hawkes - Values Education

Dr Neil Hawkes has had a successful career as a teacher, head teacher and chief education adviser in the UK. Neil is a Director of Living Values which works internationally to underpin national education systems with Values Education. He is also a Director of The Values Education Trust which is currently being constituted in the UK to help schools to adopt Values Education.

Over the last 4 years Neil has supported the implementation of values-based approaches in Australia schools. This session is a must for pre-service, beginning teachers and for educators interested in quality learning and teaching. Participants will receive classroom resources for using values-based approaches including:

- The Values Education Good Practice Schools Project - Stage 2 Final Report
- Building Values Across the Whole School
- Supporting Student Wellbeing Through Values Education

Details are listed below in the ‘Professional Learning Opportunities’ section.

Festivals

Hepburn Springs Swiss Italian Festa

The Swiss/Italian Festa is an annual festival, highlighting Hepburn’s heritage offering multicultural activities.

When: 9-18 October
Where: Main Rd, Hepburn Springs
For more information, call 03 5348 3555, email info@swissitalianfesta.com or visit http://www.swissitalianfesta.com

Polish Festival @ Federation Square

Polish Festival @ Federation Square - bringing a Taste of Poland to Melbourne.

When: 15 November
Where: Federation Square - Corner Swanston and Flinders St Melbourne
For more information, visit http://www.swissitalianfesta.com

World Movies Film Nights: The Wall

In cooperation with World Movies TV Channel, the Goethe-Institut will open its doors for the traditional World Movies Nights. On the basis of the 20th anniversary of the fall of the Berlin Wall four films related to the cold war and its ideological climax of the Wall will be presented at 8.00 pm on Thursday nights throughout November. Movies to be screened are: The Tunnel (Der Tunnel), Cold Summer (Die Mauer – Berlin ’61), Never Mind the Wall (Wie Feuer und Flamme), and Irrational Remains (Der irrationale Rest).

For more information and to check the film schedule, visit: http://www.goethe.de/ins/au/lp/ver/vme/en5000542v.htm

Access Asia Study Tours

Australian educators have the opportunity to enhance their understanding of contemporary Asia, its cultures, history, traditions and education through in-country professional learning programs. Join one of the January 2010 study tours to the following destinations:

- **China Study Tour: Group A** (6–18 January) – Chengdu, Xiān, Tianjin, Beijing
- **China Study Tour: Group B** (6–18 January) – Shanghai, Xiān, Tianjin, Beijing
- **India Study Tour** (8–21 January) – Delhi and Agra with optional Varanasi pre-tour (5–8 January)
- **Japan Study Tour** (5–17 January) – Osaka, Kyoto, Hiroshima, Otsuki
- **Vietnam Study Tour** (3–16 January) – Hanoi, Sapa, Hue, Hoi An, Mekong Delta, Ho Chi Minh City

Details are listed below in the ‘Professional Learning Opportunities’ section.
At the Immigration Museum

Handing on the Key: Palestinians in Australia
Temporary exhibition – until 22nd Nov 2009
Immigration Museum Community Gallery
Bookings & further details 99272754

The Immigration Museum is proud to present

Talking Faiths- an exhibition of interfaith dialogue.
Please find attached your e-bulletin detailing the project and inviting you to explore Talking Faiths online. Talking Faiths will be launched on November 26 at 2pm at the Immigration Museum. Click here to experience Talking Faiths online.

Tatiana Mauri Community Engagement Manager
Bookings & further details 99272754

Professional Learning Opportunities

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<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
<th>Venue</th>
<th>Further information</th>
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<tr>
<td>Thursday 15 October</td>
<td>Values education - making a difference in your school</td>
<td>Dallas Brookes Hall</td>
<td>To register interest or for further information, contact Gary Shaw on 03 96372031 or <a href="mailto:shaw.gary.r@edumail.vic.gov.au">shaw.gary.r@edumail.vic.gov.au</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thursday 15 October, 5:30-8pm (Neil will speak at 6.15pm)</td>
<td>Dr Neil Hawkes - Values Education</td>
<td>Yasuko Hiraoka Myer Room, Sidney Myer Asia Centre - University of Melbourne, Parkville Campus</td>
<td>RSVP essential <a href="mailto:gsa@gsa.unimelb.edu.au">gsa@gsa.unimelb.edu.au</a> or 8344 8657 For further information: <a href="http://www.values-education.com">www.values-education.com</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thursday 22 October, 9.00 am to 2.30 pm</td>
<td>Beyond Beliefs</td>
<td>Melbourne Convention and Exhibition Centre - 1 Convention Centre Place, South Wharf</td>
<td>This is a free workshop and places are strictly limited. Register online by visiting <a href="http://www.acsa.edu.au">www.acsa.edu.au</a>. For further information call ACSA on 02 6260 5660</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Monday 26 October</td>
<td>Effective schools in challenging times</td>
<td>The Regal, Warnambool</td>
<td>To register interest or for further information, contact Gary Shaw on 03 96372031 or <a href="mailto:shaw.gary.r@edumail.vic.gov.au">shaw.gary.r@edumail.vic.gov.au</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dates throughout January</td>
<td>Access Asia Study Tours</td>
<td>China, India, Japan, and Vietnam</td>
<td>Hurry to ensure your place! Registrations close Friday 23 October 2009! For registration forms and itineraries, visit <a href="http://www.asiaeducation.edu.au/for_teachers/travel/access_asia_study_tours_teachers/access_asia_study_tours_landing.html">http://www.asiaeducation.edu.au/for_teachers/travel/access_asia_study_tours_teachers/access_asia_study_tours_landing.html</a></td>
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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

Back to top
### Calendar of important days

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:

For multicultural events and festivals in Victoria:

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<th>Date</th>
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<tr>
<td>October 22</td>
<td>Music: Count us in</td>
<td><a href="http://www.musiccountusin.org.au/content/view/18/6">http://www.musiccountusin.org.au/content/view/18/6</a></td>
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**Back to top**
Get ready for 2010…

2010 International Year of Biodiversity: http://www.countdown2010.net/year-biodiversity
The UN declared 2010 the International Year of Biodiversity (IYB). Throughout the year countless initiatives will be organized to disseminate information, promote the protection of biodiversity and encourage organizations, institutions, companies and individuals to take direct action to reduce the constant loss of biological diversity worldwide.

The year 2010 will be celebrated as the International Year for the Rapprochement of Cultures. The goal of the International Year consists in making the rapprochement of cultures the hallmark of all policy-making at local, national, regional and international levels, involving the greatest number of relevant stakeholders.

2010 International Year of the Tiger: http://www.squidoo.com/2010YearOfTheTiger

Back to top