What’s new

The Cultural Diversity Quest website has been updated with new information regarding the 2011 Quest competition at http://www.education.vic.gov.au/about/events/quest/default.htm. To enter the competition teachers are initially only required to send digital photos of physical entries - saving time packaging, delivering and money spent on postage. Advice for teachers entering multimedia entries will be uploaded soon. For more information contact Clare Hardie at hardie.claire.c@edumail.vic.gov.au. Entries can be submitted at any time and teachers are encouraged to enter work being produced this term for the 2011 CDQ when completed.

Global citizenship through using the Talking Faiths Project to support Intercultural and Interfaith learning in your school and community – a practical workshop. A professional learning activity offered to teachers from schools in the Southern Metropolitan Region. The program will begin with a workshop at Springvale Library on Monday, 15 November. There will be online teacher forums following this workshop and two seminar sessions in Semester One 2011. See ‘What’s On’ later in this bulletin for full details.

Multilingual Learning Resources

Lerni website offers multilingual learning resources for emerging communities in Australia and was launched to coincide with Adult Learner’s Week on Monday, 6 September at the State Library of Victoria. See http://www.lerni.net.au for more information.

Using Science and Technology in ESL teaching – our experience in Shanghai (VIC TESOL)

Presenter: Janine Breadmore
Wednesday 24 November 2010 5pm

Recently, the Victorian government showcased teaching practice in Victoria at the World Expo in Shanghai. Janine was part of one of the teams of teachers who taught a series of Science classes to groups of students from a local Chinese Maths/Science high school. The group’s brief was to demonstrate current methods of teaching, while exploring flexible learning spaces and use of technology. Through the work done, Janine would like to share some of what they did and found.

This session will explore a number of themes - the use of technology in ESL classrooms (Interactive whiteboards, flip cameras, net books, data probes…); the advantages of flexible learning spaces; the opportunities that the teaching of ESL through Science can offer; the types of materials and activities used and how students responded to them. Please email Yvette at victesol@victesol.vic.edu.au to register for this event.

Upgrade to LMER Library Management System

LMERC will be closed from 17 of December 2010 to the 17 of January 2011 to enable us to do all the required work and training to upgrade to a new library management system. We request that all loans be returned by 22 of December so that we are able to transfer data from the current database to the new more easily. The after hours return chute to the right of the front door will be available for returns during this time.

New resources

New resources about and from Asia

LMERC staff recently spent some time researching the subject of recent fiction about and from the Asian region. As a result, we have purchased many new fiction titles and developed a new resource list including some online sites that will be available from the LMER website or by emailing LMERC from mid October. A recent edition of the ABC radio national
Book show *Book fairs and Chinese writers* (5/10/10) discussed the reading culture among the youth of China (lots of digital genre fiction) and contemporary Chinese authors and publishing. Podcast available from: [http://www.abc.net.au/rn/bookshow/stories/2010/3029183.htm](http://www.abc.net.au/rn/bookshow/stories/2010/3029183.htm). As ever, if you have any recommendations for sites or titles please let us know.

A small sample of the new resources available from LMERC

**Fiction titles**


A series of short stories that utilise metamorphosing characters from pop culture to stand in for and play with the idea of the ‘authentic’, stable and unchanging subject. The unfolding and evolving characters including their relationships with others is fast paced, edgy and unpredictable. This series of interconnected short stories thwart our attempts to find the true and possibly stereotypical identity of the author (Asian author) behind the text.

Law, Benjamin (2009) *Family Law*, Black Inc Aust/ Hong Kong

A hilarious and offbeat series of essays in the form of anecdotes and analysis of Law's Asian Australian family.


Little Leap Forward narrates the story of his family's life set in the traditional housing in the alleyways of Beijing before and after the Cultural Revolution. The importance of individual creativity and freedom become more central as the weight of an oppressive system begins to affect the family and friends of Little Leap forward. A gentle and perceptive book suitable for grades 3-6.


Ameera’s father sends her from Adelaide to Kashmir for a family wedding. Ameera arrives to find that the wedding is hers. A modern take on the subject of arranged marriages, which usually have a traditional/tribal context and an insight into culture conflict as Ameera's father struggles with his duty and family honour at the expense of losing his Australian family.

**Non Fiction titles:**

Kyi, Aung San Suu (2010) *Letters from Burma*

Aung San Suu Kyi has been under house arrest since 1989, in this book she reflects on daily life in Burma, the life of political dissidents and other complexities of life in a country run by military dictators.

McCrum, Robert (2010) *Globish: How the English Language became the world's language*

The author describes how English has been freed from its English and American roots and has begun to take on a life of it’s own. The globalisation of the English language is examined in the context of international and local change over time.

Nilekani, Nandan (2009) *Imagining India: ideas for the new century*

Written by a well known Indian IT entrepreneur examines the complexities that are contemporary India informed by the past and looking to the future of India as a global power.

Gordon, Stewart (2008) *When Asia was the world*

A series of essays on the Asian world 500-1500 CE. Each chapter is based on the memoirs of different travellers of the period; travellers from Afghanistan and China to South East Asia who were traders, philosophers and physicians.

Ashcraft, Brian (2010) *Japanese schoolgirl confidential: how teenage girls made a nation cool*

Examines the phenomenon of the Japanese schoolgirl archetype in its various manifestations. The author looks at the origins and reasons for the power and prevalence of the schoolgirl image and other popular Japanese icons. Excerpts of this book could be used in conjunction with units of work about Manga and or contemporary Japanese culture in the arts, SOSE or LOTE classroom.

**ESL Resources**

LMERC has recently purchased multiple bilingual dictionaries from the Multicultural Programs unit NSW DET. Dictionaries are available in English and: Arabic, Bengali, Bosnian, Burmese, Croatian, Simplified Chinese, Filipino, Hindi, Indonesian, Japanese, Kirundi, Karen, Korean, Punjabi, Samoan, Swahili, Somali, Tamil, Turkish, Urdu.

**LOTE resources**

New Spanish resources including a new non-fiction readers series about Spanish speaking countries with DVDs included, language texts and two board games: por Viaje Espana and Todos de fiesta!

We have a number of new Chinese language resources including *Zhonghuasanzige*, the classic story The Little Prince in simplified Chinese and *The horse race*: based on the ancient Chinese classic *Tian Ji’s horse race*. 
The report written by Michelle Kohler from the Research Centre for Languages & Cultures University of South Australia and Dr Phillip Mahnken from the Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences University of the Sunshine Coast, "The current state of Indonesian Language Education in Australian schools: Bahasa Indonesia," has been released and copies are available at LMERC.

Articles of interest in recent journals...

Asia: Journal of the Asia Education Teachers’ Association. Vol. 38, no.3 (September, 2010)
Current issue is focussed on Asia in the National Curriculum and specifically China. The journal contains multiple activities and BLM handouts for middle years students using suggested online resources. Themes range from comparing manners and etiquette in Australia and China, to researching Chinese symbols including the YinYang symbol and the process of creating a sculpture for the whole school. The theme of Asia in the national curriculum will be ongoing in coming issues.

E:lit (formerly PEN notes)
This e:updatethe rich and varied approach to teaching comprehension. As the primary way students understand and make sense of things, it is vital to help children to build their comprehension skills. Cairney suggests seven key pointers that can be used to develop the foundations of comprehension.

This e:updatethe e:updatethe on My Place (the book, series on ABC and website) in an educational context that will support the Australian curriculum for English. The many teaching resources associated with My Place provide a fantastic opportunity for primary and lower secondary English teachers to develop materials on literature, language, and literacy. Cohen offers information and ideas that can be utilised to achieve outcomes.

Ethos: the journal of Social Education Victoria.
Vol. 18. No. 3 (term 3, 2010)
Article discusses the importance of human rights education in developing the Millennium Goals, and outlines how these values can be practised in the classroom. The authors provide examples of how children can learn about and through human rights, and enact them in the critical context of the school.

Article outlining some features of the web tool Pageflakes; which can be used to create pages that contain an array of information from many sources. Some helpful study hints for VCE exams are also included.

The Literature Base
Vol. 21. No. 4 (October, 2010)
Issue featuring ideas and units of work for middle primary studies of the exploration of Australia, a lower primary introduction to the seasons, and tips on encouraging middle and upper primary students to write their own fractured fairytales.

New Internationalist
No. 435 (September, 2010)
Focus: Seed savers – the frontline against world hunger
This issue focuses on the importance of peasant farmers’ efforts in seed preservation as corporations attempt to take control of the world’s food supply. The special feature article looks at digital activism and how the web has impacted the way that control structures have been subverted.

TESOL in Context
Vol. 20 No. 1 (September, 2010)
Article discusses the challenges facing those who use technology in ESL and literacy learning. Tour emphasises importance of information and communication technologies as part of a multicultural and multilingual society, and examines the way they are used by people from a non-Australian language or cultural background.

Lo Bianco, Joseph. My Some ideas about multilingualism and national identity.
Lo Bianco differentiates linguistic diversity as a central human characteristic, with group interaction producing bilingualism. Lo Bianco differentiates between additive and subtractive bilingualism, and examines the role of the national state in creating sociolinguistic realities.
What’s on

All workshop details in Professional Learning Opportunities calendar

Global citizenship through using the Talking Faiths Project to support Intercultural and Interfaith learning in your school and community – a practical workshop. A professional learning activity offered to teachers from schools in the Southern Metropolitan Region. The program will begin with a workshop at Springvale Library on Monday November 15th. There will be online teacher forums following this workshop and two seminar sessions in Semester One 2011. The Learning activity is fully funded and will provide CRT support for the selected school teams of up to three people. Building Bridges and the Socratic Circles model are profiled in the Talking Faiths Exhibition and online resource http://museumvictoria.com.au/immigrationmuseum/discoverycentre/talking-faiths/ - a collaborative project that supports intercultural and interfaith dialogue in communities and schools, using migration stories as bridges to increase interest and understanding. The Talking Faiths exhibition consisting of photographs and films documenting the project was recently shown at the Immigration Museum and is now on at the Springvale Library. For an electronic copy of the flyer with full presenter biographies and other details, contact LMER. School teams are invited to apply to Jan Molloy by Friday 5th November. (Ideally teams should include one member of the school leadership team as well as classroom teachers)

Settling Newly Arrived Families

This session will provide an overview of strategies to support families during the initial interview, enrolment, orientation and settling processes.
WHEN: 19 October 2010 (6:30 - 8:30pm)
WHERE: Box Hill Community Arts Centre, Drycraft East Studio, 470 Station Street, Box Hill.

Biodiversity resources

Learncentral is launching an exciting series of Elluminate webinars featuring the use of the Habitat Heroes biodiversity teaching materials. The free webinar series aims to assist teachers in both navigating Habitat Heroes and to inspire them in various classroom ideas. Education-based games and activities, treasure hunts and puzzles entertain and teach children about animal extinction, climate change, water, biodiversity, recycling and other challenges facing Planet Earth. Four webinars are scheduled throughout October.

Diwali at Fed Square - Festival of Lights

Diwali or the “Festival of Lights” will be celebrated this year on Saturday, 30 October at Federation Square. If success of past events is any indication then more than 50,000 people are expected again this year in the square along with many local and overseas artists as well as dignitaries from all walks of life. At Diwali time in India, there is a feeling of “unity in diversity” regardless of religious or other differences. Families come together for meals and to exchange gifts or sweets. Children look forward to Diwali in India in much the same way as they look forward to Christmas in the west. 30 October 2010 (12-9pm), Federation Square, Melbourne

Cultural Diversity – A Challenge in a Monoculture Community by FKA (Free Kindergarten Assoc.)

Some services and communities may describe themselves as mono-cultural. In this session participants will explore the diversity within their service and the wider community. Participants will have the opportunity to explore their own values and beliefs about culture and develop strategies for exploring multiculturalism with children and families who appear to have limited exposure to diversity. The sessions will define a range of diversities that exists within services and communities and expose participants to a range of strategies to support the development of awareness of cultural and linguistic diversity and cultural competency in programming where mono-cultural perceptions exist.
10 November 2010

Walk a Mile in My Shoes – Refugee and Migration Experiences by FKA (Free Kindergarten Assoc.)

Many misconceptions persist about the experiences of refugee and migrant families in today’s media and in public and private discussions. This interactive training session will motivate participants to think about the impact of refugee and migrant life on children and families. Participants will learn about: applying their understanding of refugee and migration experiences in order to offer flexible and responsive programs for children and families. identifying and referral to local support services for refugee and migrant families and ways to develop an action plan to ensure support for refugee and migrant children in services.
8 November 2010

International Conference on Human Rights Education

This conference has been organised in response to the UN World Programme for Human Rights Education to advance the human rights education, in particular in Australia and Asia Pacific region. World class speakers and the conference program will focus on the contribution of human rights culture to the good functioning of the civil society; highlight key trends and achievements in human rights education and in particular, aim to secure greater commitment for future human rights education. It will have a strong development and Indigenous component.
4-6 November, University of Western Sydney – Parramatta Campus
For more information, registration, and for the full program, visit the website at: http://www.humanrightseducationconference2010.com.au/
Travel to Africa with Ghana in Groove - incursions
Experience the vibrant sounds and colours of West Africa with this interactive workshop and performance. Professor Dada Nii and his ensemble, direct from Ghana, will take you there with thrilling drumming rhythms, exquisite songs and vivid story telling. Learn the beats of Africa with Ghana in Groove, percussion workshops and lessons in West African dance, group song and group bell/shaker. For more details and to make a booking, please contact Cultural Infusion on 1800 010 069 or info@culturalinfusion.org.au
Touring dates: August 9 – 20

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

At the Immigration Museum
Exhibitions and festivals - Honouring our Ancestors: Remembering Timor Leste
Until 10 Apr 2011
West Africa: Rhythm and Spirit
12 Nov 2010 - 29 May 2011
Brazilian Festival
Sunday 14 Nov 2010
For more details:

Flying home: wherever that is
‘Revisiting [our birth place is an] experience which often awakes conflicting emotions, especially for those who have fled war or persecution, or who, as children, had no choice about leaving.’ A panel of five writers and a moderator will explore this theme through commentary and through reading of their work. Speakers: Ouyang Yu, Lella Cariddi, Robyn Rowland, Arnold Zable, Maria Tumarkin, Leon Shann.

Professional Learning Opportunities

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<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
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| 14 October, 2:00-5:00pm & 21 October, 6:00 – 9:00 | Supporting Children Learning English as a Second Language (ESL) in the Early Years (birth to six) - Module 2 | fka Children’s Services: 9-11 Stewart St, Richmond | COST: $25 per participant
For more information and bookings, email fka Children’s Services:
fkacs@fka.com.au
Phone: (03) 9428 4471
or visit:
http://www.fka.com.au/professional-development/calendar/september#4
To download booking form:
| 19 October, 6:30-8:30pm | Settling Newly Arrived Families | Box Hill Community Arts Centre, Drycraft East Studio – 470 Station Street, Box Hill | COST: $25 (funded) $50 (unfunded)
For more information and bookings, email fka Children’s Services:
fkacs@fka.com.au
Phone: (03) 9428 4471 or visit:
To download booking form:
| 19 October, 4pm | Playing your way to education: Educational elements of Habitat Heroes virtual world and how to properly use them – web event | http://tinyurl.com/lcparticipant | For more information, visit
http://www.learncentral.org/node/104791 or contact Leigh Hoffman at
schools@HabitatHeroes.com |
| 26 October, 4pm & 21st Century Learning: Recycling in the classroom – web event | http://www.learncentral.org/node/106072 | For more information, visit
http://www.learncentral.org/node/106072 or contact Leigh Hoffman at
schools@HabitatHeroes.com |
| 27 October, 9am | Event as above | http://tinyurl.com/lcparticipant | For more information, visit
http://www.learncentral.org/node/106072 contact Leigh Hoffman at schools@HabitatHeroes.com |
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<tr>
<td>8 November, 6:30-8:30pm</td>
<td>Walk a Mile in My Shoes – Refugee and Migration Experiences</td>
<td>Best Community Development Centre, Banksia Room – 28 Victoria Street, Ballarat</td>
<td>$25 (funded) $50 (unfunded)</td>
<td>For more information and bookings, email fka Children’s Services: <a href="mailto:fkaacs@fka.com.au">fkaacs@fka.com.au</a> Phone: (03) 9428 4471 or visit: <a href="http://www.fka.com.au/professional-development/calendar/november#3">http://www.fka.com.au/professional-development/calendar/november#3</a> To download booking form: <a href="http://www.fka.com.au/professional-development/book-now">http://www.fka.com.au/professional-development/book-now</a></td>
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<tr>
<td>10 November, 6:30-8:30pm</td>
<td>Cultural Diversity – A Challenge in a Monoculture Community</td>
<td>Bendigo Institute of TAFE, City Campus, Building P, P1.49 Library Seminar Room – Hargraves Street, Bendigo (Enter Gates 4 or 5)</td>
<td>$25 (funded) $50 (unfunded)</td>
<td>For more information and bookings, email fka Children’s Services: <a href="mailto:fkaacs@fka.com.au">fkaacs@fka.com.au</a> Phone: (03) 9428 4471 or visit: <a href="http://www.fka.com.au/professional-development/calendar/november#4">http://www.fka.com.au/professional-development/calendar/november#4</a> To download booking form: <a href="http://www.fka.com.au/professional-development/book-now">http://www.fka.com.au/professional-development/book-now</a></td>
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<td>11 November, 2:00-5:00pm &amp; 18 November, 6:00-9:00pm</td>
<td>Supporting Children Learning English as a Second Language (ESL) in the Early Years (birth to six) – Module 3</td>
<td>fka Children’s Services: 9-11 Stewart St, Richmond</td>
<td>$25 per participant</td>
<td>For more information and bookings, email fka Children’s Services: <a href="mailto:fkaacs@fka.com.au">fkaacs@fka.com.au</a> Phone: (03) 9428 4471 or visit: <a href="http://www.fka.com.au/professional-development/calendar/september#4">http://www.fka.com.au/professional-development/calendar/september#4</a> To download booking form: <a href="http://www.fka.com.au/professional-development/book-now">http://www.fka.com.au/professional-development/book-now</a></td>
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<td>15 November, 10am – 3pm</td>
<td>Global citizenship through interfaith and intercultural learning - Talking Faiths project</td>
<td>Springvale Library 411 Springvale Road Springvale.</td>
<td>For further information please contact: Jan Molloy Immigration Museum Ph: 9927 2750</td>
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<td>24 November – Wednesday, 5pm</td>
<td>VIC TESOL PD “Using Science and Technology in ESL teaching – our experience in Shanghai” Presenter: Janine Breadmore</td>
<td>North Melbourne Football Club 204 Arden St, North Melbourne</td>
<td>$10 members / $20 non-members Refreshments provided Please email Yvette at <a href="mailto:victesol@victesol.vic.edu.au">victesol@victesol.vic.edu.au</a> to register for this event.</td>
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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

For religious holidays and observances:
The Interfaith calendar: http://www.interfaithcalendar.org/2007.htm

For multicultural events and festivals in Victoria:

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<td>5 November</td>
<td>Deepawali / Diwali (Hindu festival)</td>
<td><a href="http://www.diwali.nl/diwali2010.html">http://www.diwali.nl/diwali2010.html</a></td>
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<tr>
<td>7 December</td>
<td>Al-Hijra / Muharram (Islamic New Year)</td>
<td><a href="http://www.infoplease.com/spot/islamicholidays.html">http://www.infoplease.com/spot/islamicholidays.html</a></td>
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International Year of Youth
August 12, 2010 until August 12, 2011 is the International Year of Youth. The theme for this year is ‘Dialogue and mutual understanding’. For more information about the year, visit http://www.un.org/esa/socdev/unvin/iyouthday.htm. LMERC holds many resources about contemporary youth issues and dialogue as well as resource lists with links to online sites which may be useful if you are doing work around this important year and theme.

International Year of Forests
The United Nations have declared 2011 the International Year of Forests in recognition that forests and sustainable forest management can contribute significantly to sustainable development, poverty eradication and the achievement of internationally agreed development goals, including the Millennium Development Goals.
See the LMERC Biodiversity resource list for relevant resources online and at LMERC at:

Contact us:
LMERC
Ground Floor, Statewide Resources Centre
150 Palmerston Street
Carlton 3053 VIC
Telephone: (03) 9349 1418
Fax: (03) 9349 1295
Email: lmerc.library@edumail.vic.gov.au
Website: www.education.vic.gov.au/studentlearning/programs/lmerc
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