

School Vision Statement

The School of Languages aspires to excellence in student achievement, professionalism in teaching and richness in learning, to promote a deeper understanding of language and culture in the school community and beyond.

Newsletter

TERM 1 2016

Message from the Principal – Lia Tedesco

It gives me great pleasure to welcome all members of the school community to the 2016 school year. I particularly wish to welcome students and parents who have joined the school for the first time, and I look forward to meeting many of you as I visit teaching centres over the coming weeks.

Our term newsletter is a key means through which we communicate with our school community. We send it to our parent community via SMS link each term; and we also mail a copy to our feeder schools and make it available on our school website.

We would like to congratulate our year 12 students who studied either a SACE or an International Baccalaureate language course last year.

306 students in total completed a SACE Stage 2 language with us; and of those:

- 37.25% achieved an A
- 45.42% achieved a B.

The following 5 students deserve a special mention for receiving an A+ with merit, and were presented with Merit Certificates at Government House on Tuesday 9th February:

- Wathnak Vy, student representative on our School Council, for Khmer Continuers.
- Sonam Budhwan, for Hindi Continuers
- Jai Lih Caleb Lai for Indonesian Continuers
- Daniela Rueda Pinzon for Spanish Continuers
- Michael Tran for Vietnamese Continuers



Wathnak Vy receiving his award at the SACE Board Merit Award Ceremony at Government House.

Last year there were also 39 year 12 students who studied an IB language course with us. 23% of them achieved a perfect score of 7; and 43.6% achieved a near perfect score of 6. We would like to congratulate the following students who achieved a perfect score of 7, and whose achievements were acknowledged at a ceremony at the Adelaide Town Hall on Monday 8th February:

- French ab initio: Kimia Ghomashchi
- French ab initio: Bridget Herrman
- German B (High Level): Nadia Albrecht
- German B: Matthew Albrecht
- German B: Kimiko Krumbiegel

- Hindi B: Taniya Chopra
- Japanese B: Jiayi Li
- Spanish ab initio: Vincent Guerin
- Spanish B: Valeria Guajardo

Languages offered in 2016

This year the school is offering after hours classes in:

Afrikaans*	Kurna
Arabic	Khmer*
Bosnian	Kirundi
Chinese*	Korean*
Croatian	Nepali
Dari	Persian
Dinka	Pitjantjatjara
French*	Polish
German	Portuguese
Hindi*	Punjabi
Hungarian	Serbian
Indonesian*	Spanish*
Italian*	Swahili
Japanese*	Vietnamese*

*The Languages marked with an asterisk are available at primary and secondary levels.

Classes are held in 25 different school locations:

- Adelaide High School
- Alberton Primary School
- Australian Science and Mathematics School
- Belair Primary School
- Burnside Primary School
- Colonel Light Gardens Primary School
- Glenunga International High School
- Lockleys North Primary School
- Magill Primary School
- Mitcham Girls High School
- Nairne Primary School
- North Adelaide Primary School
- Our Lady of the Sacred Heart College
- Playford International College (previously Fremont- Elizabeth City High School)
- Prospect Primary School
- Roma Mitchell Secondary College
- Salisbury East High School
- School of Languages
- St John Bosco School
- Thiele Primary School
- Thomas More College
- Torrens Valley Christian School
- Westminster School
- William Light R-12 School
- Woodside Primary School

A copy of the school timetable can be obtained by contacting the school office on 8301 4800, or on our website at www.schooloflanguages.sa.edu.au

Enrolments

Confirmation letters have been sent to all students who have enrolled with us, together with our school Information booklets. If you have not yet received the package, please contact the school and we will mail one out to you.

Parent/caregiver information sessions are being held this term. Please refer to the last page of this newsletter for dates, times and locations. If you have missed one or are unable to attend, please do not hesitate to contact the school for any information you may require.

Please note that invoices for payment of the school subject charges will be sent out after week 5 this term. Payment can then be made through EFT or credit card. (Cash payments are also possible at our School of Languages office only).

School Council

In 2016, the Annual General Meeting of the School Council will be held on **Tuesday 15th March, at 7pm**, at the School of Languages at 255 Torrens Rd, West Croydon. Our guest speaker will be Associate Professor Angela Scarino, who will speak about the newly established state level Ministerial Education and Languages Committee. All parents and students are welcome.

The role of the Council is:

- to exercise a general oversight over the wellbeing of the school
- to provide advice on the educational needs of the school community
- to consider the general education policy within the school, and provide advice on the views of the school community regarding educational developments within the school
- to manage and monitor the distribution of school finances.

Membership is comprised of:

- 8 parent representatives
- 1 student representative
- 1 staff representative
- the Principal

and representatives of key Languages stakeholders:

- the Modern Languages Teachers Association
- the Multicultural Education and Languages Committee
- the Ethnic Schools Association.

Parent representatives are appointed for a two year period; and student and staff representatives are appointed for a one year period. We will have a number of vacancies in 2016, and you are invited to attend the AGM and consider nominating for a position, to support the school through this important committee. For further information do not hesitate to contact the Principal.

Lessons and Homework

At the beginning of the year all students are provided with an outline of the year's work. Each lesson they also receive a weekly lesson plan, which contains information on the lesson content, homework to be completed between lessons and assessment/s due the following week. Please use this information to monitor progress and do not hesitate to contact the school with any queries.

Students are strongly advised to spread their homework over two to three sessions during the week, rather than doing a week's worth of homework all at once. Frequent and regular practice is the key to successful language learning. It is expected that students will spend the following times on Homework each week:

- Years R - 2: up to 30 minutes
- years 3 - 7: 30 - 60 minutes
- years 8 - 10: 1.5 - 2.5 hours
- years 11 - 12: 3 - 4 hours.

The free app called *Learning Potential* may be of interest to parents and students. It is developed by the Federal Government, and has more than 160 hints and ideas for parents to help their children with their learning. It was launched in August 2015, and additional content and functional improvements will continue this year. It is available for both Android and Apple devices. For more information visit www.learningpotential.gov.au

Volunteers

To make it easier for parents and guardians to volunteer their time, the Department for Education and Child Development has updated its relevant history screening policy and procedures.

As a result, parents and guardians who volunteer to directly support their child will no longer require a relevant history screening.

As has always been the case, a child related employment screening is not needed to attend single events or activities at our school.

Screenings are just one measure used to help keep children safe. Everyone who works with children

plays a part in child protection, including watching out for inappropriate behaviour.

Volunteers still need to undertake Reporting Abuse and Neglect training. A free training session will be conducted at the school on Friday 11 March, 1-3pm. Please contact the school to register your attendance.

Find out more about child related employment screening and keeping children safe at www.decd.sa.gov.au.

If you have any questions about being a volunteer, screening or these changes, please contact Anne Reuter, Assistant Principal: Student and Staff Services.

Student Attendance

Given that students have only one lesson each week, it is critical that they attend every lesson. If a student is not able to attend a lesson the School of Languages must be advised in advance. If it is known that a student will be absent for more than three lessons (e.g. family holiday, overseas trip) parents/caregivers need to seek permission in writing for an Extended Student Absence, prior to the absence.

Student Absences and SMS Messaging Information

To report student absences or lateness, please advise us in advance through one of the following means:

- by phoning the school on 8301 4800 between 8:30am to 3:30pm
- by emailing the teacher (the email address is provided on the weekly lesson plan)
- by sending a message to the teacher through edmodo (the edmodo access code can be found on the weekly lesson plan)
- for classes at Adelaide High School, by phoning the supervisor on 0403 607 566
- by phoning the teacher (if they have provided you with their mobile phone number).

In the case of unexplained absences or lateness, a SMS text message will be automatically sent to the mobile phone of the first named parent/caregiver (on the enrolment form), explaining that our records show that your child is absent from class, or late to class.

The message will arrive on the phone displaying the number "0418149916". You should store this number in your mobile phone under "School of

Languages” so that when the message arrives, you are aware the message has come from the school. You can then reply by pressing the reply option on your mobile phone, and with the name of the student, year level, date of absence/lateness and the reason they are absent/late; e.g. *Steven Scott, Year 11 was sick yesterday (Tuesday 15th November)*; OR by phoning the school on 8301 4800, between the hours of 8:30am and 4:30pm.

Class cancellations

Please note the following class cancellations for Term 1:

- **Monday 14th March** - Public holiday
- **Saturday 26th March** – Easter Saturday
- **Monday 28th March** – Easter Monday

Bushfire Season

As the hot weather approaches, the risk of bushfires increases. For students who travel through a bushfire prone zone to attend School of Languages classes, or students who attend classes in teaching centres in bushfire prone zones, please refer to our Bushfire Policy (on our school website), to familiarise yourselves with our procedures.

Study Tours

The School of Languages inaugural Spanish Study Tour is heading to Spain in April 2016. Students will be spending 3 weeks in Salamanca, Seville and Granada and will be engaging in 4 hours of intensive language classes every morning and cultural-immersion activities every afternoon. This is the first of many planned Study Tours to get underway in the coming years, with France, Italy & Korea planned for 2017 and Germany, Spain & Japan planned for 2018. Students of French, Italian and Korean who are interested in the 2017 Study Tours will soon be receiving preliminary information about these opportunities.☐

School of Languages Staff 2016

Leadership Team:

Principal:	Lia Tedesco
Assistant Principals:	
Teaching and Learning:	Adriana Basic
Student and Staff Services:	Anne Reuter
Coordinators:	Ben Anderson Andrea Corston Sonia Mattiazzo Halina Pietrzak Ivana Quadrelli Shontelle Stanyer
Business Manager:	Shaun Ryan

Teaching Staff:

Afrikaans:	Mirella Grove, Alma Jansen van Vuuren
Arabic:	Salwa Tawadrous, Gina Tawfiles
Bosnian:	Muhidin Durmanovic
Chinese:	Lynn Davis, Isabel Feng, Tong Tong Li, Hong Tian, Karen Wang, Shohret Yusoph
Croatian:	Branimir Cirjak
Dinka:	Peter Deng
French:	Piero Barazin, Gisele Blanchard, Craig Bowyer, Bibbiana DePasquale, Jenny Ditillo, Elizabeth Entraigues, Louise McKenna, Colette Merckel, Mary Smallwood, Shontelle Stanyer
German:	Mechthild Heusel-Timmins, Anne Reuter
Hindi:	Tajinder Kaur, Amita Malhotra
Indonesian:	Jinap Ato, Andrea Corston, Dianne Dahim, Ellis Robb
Italian:	Stefanie Angelini, Piero Barazin, Giselle Blanchard, Bibbiana DePasquale, Jenny Ditillo, Lucia Gentilcore, Ivana Quadrelli
Japanese:	Eri Brown, Hisako Diggins, Kelly Greatrex, Chizuru Lock, Junko Okochi, Barb Smith
Khmer:	Sokho Chau, Yok Le Ly, Chharida Mann, Lean Hor So, Rany Thach
Kirundi	Andre Ntibesha
Korean:	Ben Anderson, Parky Anderson, Lucy Im, Yong Mi Muirhead
Nepali:	Lok Poudyel
Persian:	Amir Alikhani, Marjan Sobhani
Pitjantjatjara:	Greg Wilson
Polish:	Joanna Burnat. Halina Pietrzak
Portuguese:	Marina Ribeiro de Almeida
Punjabi:	Satwinder Kaur
Serbian:	Mia Uzelac
Spanish:	Ben Anderson, Parky Anderson, Lucia Gentilcore, Flor Groenen, Carolina Barquero Masero, Lorena Pineda Gonzalez, Patricia Rosales, Teresa Vaccaro, Carmen Vasquez
Swahili:	Andre Ntibesha
Vietnamese:	Ly Le, Phuong Ngo

Support Staff:

Office Staff:	Thori Chea Jenny Ivchenko Hayley Fairs Fiona Calleja
IT technician:	Rita Evdokiou

Key Dates for Term 1

Week 2

Classes begin in all centres (week beginning Monday 8th February)

Week 3

Parent/caregiver information sessions:

- at the Australian Science and Mathematics School, **Monday 15th February, 7:00 – 8:00pm**
- at Belair Primary School, **Tuesday 16th February, 4:15 – 5:00pm**
- at Nairne Primary School, **Wednesday 17th February, 4:15 – 5:00pm**

School Council meeting – **Tuesday, 16th February, 7pm**

Week 4

Parent/caregiver information sessions:

- at Torrens Valley School, **Tuesday 23rd February, 4:30 – 5:15pm**
- at Thomas More College, **Wednesday 24th February, 5:15 – 6:00pm**
- at School of Languages, for secondary programs, **Thursday 25th February, 6:30 – 7:30pm**

Week 5

Parent/caregiver information sessions:

- at School of Languages, for primary programs, **Monday 29th February, 4:30 – 5:15pm**
- at Salisbury East High School, **Tuesday 1st March, 5:30 – 6:30pm**
- at Glenunga International High School, **Wednesday 2nd March, 7:00 – 8:00pm**

Week 6

Friday 11th March – 1:00pm – 3:00pm. Reporting to Abuse and Neglect training for Volunteers

Week 7

Monday 14th March - Public holiday – classes cancelled

School Council AGM - **Tuesday 15th March, 7pm**

Week 8

Assessment period 1 closes

Saturday 26th March – Easter Saturday – classes cancelled

Week 9

Monday 28th March – Easter Monday – classes cancelled

Week 10

Friday 8th April – Study Tour to Spain departs

Week 11

Last day of lessons **Saturday 16th April**

TERM 1 SCHOOL HOLIDAYS: **Sunday 17th April – Sunday 1st May**

Term 1 reports and Term 2 newsletter distributed during school holidays.

Saturday 30th April – Study Tour returns from Spain.

Term 2 commences Monday 2nd May