

Languages Network Group Scotland

LANGS Meeting: Friday, 01/06/2018, 10.00-15.00; Charteris Land, Holyrood Road, Edinburgh

Chaired by Bethan Owen; **Deputy Chair:** Angela Noble

Salvete/Valete:

- *Welcome to new arrivals:* Lorna Murdoch, PT for Improving Outcomes in Clackmannanshire; Gordon MacKenzie, Pitlochry HS, P&K; Gillian Smith, SCIS; George Reid; former COALA member, now back as an Edinburgh Gaelic tutor.
- *Departures:* Thomas Chaurin is reaching the end of his term as Education Attaché at the Institut Français. Not clear, yet, what we will be doing next, but will be staying in Edinburgh, so hope he might still be part of us. A number of people paid tribute to his hard work and dedication, he has been an inspiration to us all; 'networking skills, charm, energy like no other'; Jude McKerrecher leaving PDO post at CISS (seconded from Craigmount HS); thanks for all she has contributed.
- Changes in Dumfries & Galloway make David Kerr's continuing involvement in LANGS in doubt; *on verra*.

Minutes:

- An amendment to be made at p.5: SLICS: *noted* that City of Edinburgh Council cover the disclosure process; otherwise agreed accurate.

Matters Arising:

- Apologies for cancellation of the last LANGS meeting due to snow. Next one will be October.

Updates:

- SCILT: (Fan Lin):
 - Angela de Britos is leading on a joint **OU/SCILT course** in teaching primary languages (both linguistic and pedagogical aspects): 50 teachers from all over Scotland have been involved in the pilot; 92% retention rate. 20 Spanish, 30 French participants; insufficient uptake for German to run for the moment. From 15 Authorities, 70 teachers signed up so far. Spanish is the largest, numbers wise. There has also been some interest from Wales, NI and England. Would like people to be enrolled by the end of June. Nominated for Herald HE awards. Launch event on 07/06/2018, Edinburgh.
 - SCILT has been redeveloping the **CLPL menu** and this will be launched soon. SCILT will be delivering three workshops for pupils studying Advanced Higher Modern Languages. This is a pupil workshop which will focus on what is required at Advanced Higher level so there will be workshops for pupils in Glasgow, Dundee, Inverness 5, 6, & 7 September. Contact Louise Whyte at SCILT for more details.
 - In the coming session, the Primary Team is hoping to run a series of webinars during the course of the year. The webinars will be about different aspects of

teaching and learning and will be open to all. For more information please speak to the SCILT primary team and look out for details in the SCILT e-bulletin.

- **Professional Learning Partnerships (PLPs)**: flexible, collaborative and longer term style of professional learning that the SCILT team offers. PLPs can and have worked in various ways – all with a collaborative and enquiring approach, meaning that almost anything could be up for negotiation. North Ayrshire has been involved in **Family Learning Scheme**, *Wee Famille* jointly with SCILT. For more information, get in touch with the SCILT team.
- Working partnership with **UCMLS**: Marion Spöring: Hannah Doughty is leading on a joint project to promote 1+2, including Business Brunches, Language Linking Global Thinking, Mother Tongue Other Tongue and Word Wizard. Next UCMLS conference will be on Saturday 15/09/2018 (UCMLS' 25th anniversary); the theme will be MFL Development in the devolved nations. There will be input from Wales and NI. Co-incides with the opening of the V&A in Dundee. Book hotel early!
- **Conversations about Language Learning** Event at Strathclyde Uni, Tuesday, 19/06/2018 (afternoon).
- **CISS:**
 - CISS will continue to support the DYW agenda by helping to set up business links between primary or secondary schools and a local business (recent links include Dunblane Abbey and P1-4 pupils or S6 pupils Mandarin beginning learners with Blackness Castle.); we will continue to work in partnership with Foundres4Schools to support this work. We will also build on the success of the Business Brunches which will be held in Aberdeen, Inverness, Glasgow and Dundee and Edinburgh, as well as each of the Ayrshires. Dates are still to be confirmed.
 - **Confucius Hubs**: are now working with SSFA, the Royal Conservatoire, Edinburgh Zoo and Scottish Opera. 30 workshops have been delivered in all parts of the country to support the opera Zheng He. An effective way of supporting L3 in the primary and developing the knowledge of teachers.
 - **Edinburgh Zoo** has done 180 outreach sessions with Primary Schools. Contact Fan for more information.
 - New **Hanban** teachers and volunteers should be arriving September or October, depending on progress with visas. 59 in number this year. Thanks for welcoming them.
 - **Chinese HT visits**, end August. Any schools/LAs wishing to participate, let Fan know. Tianjin Partnerships – 20 HTs coming at the end of September (though these already have partners).
 - **Scottish HT visit** will run in October, 12-21 Oct.
 - **CISS CLPL**: we have a new Project-Based Professional Learning Programme for 2018-19. It is designed to provide ongoing professional learning to suit the needs of teachers in their own contexts.
 - And **tribute** paid to Jude McKerrecher; she has contributed much over the last 4 years.

Bethan Owen:

- The following guests are providing a mini-marketplace:
 - Le Petit Monde
 - Kidslingo
 - British Council
 - European Parliament
- Debbie Gardner, from Garnock Community Campus, is this afternoon's guest: leading a workshop on bridging the gap between MFL and Literacy.
- Bethan will be leading the second workshop: suggestions of a structure for a future Languages Week Scotland, learning from the success of Maths Week Scotland.

Louise Glen, Education Scotland: Keynote: Raising Attainment and 1+2 Languages: A National Overview of Implementation *[link to LG's presentation to be at Annexe 1]*

- Changes in ES: new CEO has restructured things: ES is about to recruit a SEO for English & Literacy; so Louise will be MFL only; also shortly recruiting a permanent DO for 1+2.
- So: where we've been and where we're at. There is a lot to celebrate; but a lot still to do.
- Since 2011, the MFL position in Scotland has been greatly strengthened: backed up by policy and funding. £27m has gone into MFL; this has presented an unprecedented opportunity for Languages; a once in a generation opportunity...but also in the context of LA cutbacks.
- There were pilots and early adopters. SIG, the Strategic Implementation Group has two branches: one looking at implementation; another connecting with external agencies.
- National advice & support has been available, including the Train the Trainers/Language Leadership Programme; help has been offered with LA Training Strategies – auditing authority provision, designing strategies. The Scottish Education Award now includes a 1+2 award. We are now moving from primary focus to a cluster one. There are currently 3 finalists: Perth Grammar, Larbert HS, Broughton HS clusters.
- How do we measure impact?
 - Scottish Social Attitudes Survey 2016: Language Learning in Schools; shows that 89% of the population in Scotland think MFL learning from age 5 is important. So there is a big buy-in.
 - Ipsos MORI 2017: STEM & Language Choices In School: Secondary: more girls than boys choose to study most common reason to study language: 51% because they enjoy it; 47% not, because they didn't enjoy it. The message, accordingly, is get them on board and they stick with it.
 - HMI Reports: for a long time there was little mention of 1+2, but inspectors are now looking at it more; partly thanks to the appointment of JP Cassidy; but also other HMIs ; the idea was to leave it to embed for a while, but it is now being scrutinised more closely.

- SQA statistics: Passes 2007-2017: N3: -91%; N4: - 77 %...(see Louise’s slides). Also LLW (Languages for Life & Work) accounts for a fair bit not in the stats. LLW is known to be an upward trend. It is available in 10 languages, but the stats don’t disclose this.
- LA Survey: There are 2025 primary schools registered in Scotland; we got information on about 2008 of them a big increase on last year; 358 Secondaries.
 - 96% of primaries are doing an L2 from P1 onwards.
 - Only 32% of secondaries have L2 in place throughout the BGE. But through inspections we know that secondaries are increasingly addressing entitlement.
 - HMI comments from SIFs (Summary of Insp findings) – see Louise’s slide: normalisation of comment about 1+2. Further slides include stated reasons for not providing L2 to full entitlement. ‘Competing priorities’ is not an option.’ ‘Not providing L3: focussing on L2...’ – fine. Get L2 right first.
- OECD Report 2015: ‘hold your nerve’!

Just A Minute: Updates from various bodies/organisations

- **Toria Fraser, Scottish Government:**
 - Will be providing an update on the Government Survey on 1+2 Implementation to ADES, who are meeting next week. SIG, COSLA, Sc Govt, ES are very grateful for the effort made and the frankness of the response. This is a profound, long term change; remember to hold the nerve. Do Coyle observed, ‘we shouldn’t be surprised that there are new issues [such as 32% only in S1-3] arising’. The Government remains fully committed to 1+2 implementation.
 - A question to consider: might you like to consider new approaches with your secondary sector...more collaboration with your RIC (Regional Improvement Collaborative)? Consider virtual learning, rather than physical/geographical environments.
 - Government view on 1+2 is that they are pleased with how it’s gone and how practitioners have engaged with it.
 - The Brussels visit last September reminded me how effective we are together...you’re not alone in your school or authority. And remember the availability of Louise Glen, Toria Fraser and others.
 - British Council awards ceremony held last night: don’t forget what BC does and offers, supporting Global Citizenship etc. The Deputy First Minister will sign the Scottish Government’s Declaration of Intent next week.
 - Highland is about to receive a visit from their partner authority, Versailles. This is a really good way of getting access to native speakers.
 - STEM: Toria is now in a MELTS (i.e. with Languages added) group and there are things we can learn from STEM.
 - Likewise DYW: an Implementation Group on Engagement will be meeting in September. Provides more opportunities for collaboration.
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- **Goethe-Institut: Sabine Schlüter:**

- The Touring Theatre Group will be arriving in Glasgow 28/09/2018: await newsletter: suitable for H/AH age group.
- 2 types of scholarship available for teachers:
 - Langs Classes in Germany 2-4 weeks;
 - Methodological classes, also in German – especially for primary teachers...some more funding available for this; please take up!
- **British Council: Gerry McIntosh/Liz Neil:**
 - Thanks to those who were at Awards Ceremony yesterday.
 - There is a rolling deadline up to the end of term to apply for MLAs.
 - We now have a number of ML teachers who are Ambassadors. Can commission them to do twilights etc.
 - There have been a number of successful KA1 applications. Results of the KA2 applications coming shortly. Almost double the money available in 2019. Probably coming to an end in 2020.
 - BC has published a *Languages for the Future Report*. *Inter alia* it lists the important languages for **business**: Spanish, Mandarin, Arabic, French and German – so these are more important than ever.
- **Bilingualism Matters:**
 - Tenth Anniversary of BM on 07/09/2018: we will be hosting international branches here; please send in your success stories. See also the SCILT newsletter.
- **Scottish European Education Trust:**
 - Thanks to all who participated in Euroquiz.
 - This year SEET has been involved with more than 500 schools, including the Filmmakers' Project and Euroquiz.
 - On 22/06/2018, we will be working with the European Parliament Office in Edinburgh; providing a new route into Euro Scholar: this will be an information session for teachers, showcasing resources etc. There will be places for a full class to go to Strasbourg in 2019. See Twitter.

Workshop 1: Debbie Gardner, Garnock Community Campus: A Holistic approach to Literacy and MFL: [See handouts Annexe 2]

- How to turn Es & Os to Success Criteria. Skills ladders. More user friendly.
- Also focussed on Note Making across the school in S1, using the Cornell note taking system [See Annexe and <https://youtu.be/pZgMpjigCRA>].
 - We trained every member of staff. Seen as an antidote to Google Translate; cutting & pasting from internet.
 - Pupils produce a draft of notes, which teacher approves and they then generate their writing from that.
 - Considered particularly relevant to MFL skillset...attracts PEF funding.
 - Can be used for different types of writing: pamphlets (bullets, key phrases etc.); reports (etc.). The Cornell notes can include pictures, no account taken (at this stage) of spelling; what matters is the result you get from them.

- See ES website about Types & Purposes of Writing: 1. Context; 2. Type of Writing; 3. Audience & Purpose of the task.
- ['Pamphlet' is the new 'poster'!] "Now that you are coming to the end of your xxx topic, your task is to produce a pamphlet informing others about it and [what you can do there/what its main purposes are]..."

Workshop 2: Bethan Owen: Structure for a future Scottish Langs Week:

- *Why?* :
 - Building on the success of Maths week.
 - Raise the profile of MFL; counter any loss of impetus of 1+2;
 - Compete with STEM etc (though it should be seen more as co-operation);
 - Reinforce broader agenda of languages (see NIF 2018);
 - Build new sustainable and symbiotic partnerships.
 - Big loud messages!
- *So: How did Maths week work?*
 - Came from 'Making Maths Count' report. And what's true for Maths in that report is almost universally true for MFL. Addresses negative public perceptions: *I was always rubbish at Maths/hated my Maths teacher...*
 - Communicating that Maths should be more fun; involve more active learning. (though, in fact, Maths is often taught more passively than MFL)
 - Communicating how Maths will be useful for jobs/life
 - Addresses negative attitudes of family (Farmer parent who was anti-French!)
 - Help people appreciate they *already* have a skills base...remove the fear factor
 - Promote the wider benefits of [language] learning
- *Who made it happen?*
 - National profile raising group
 - Scottish Maths Council (presumably like SCILT or LaNGS)
 - Teachers in schools – all sectors
 - Universities
 - LAs
 - Businesses – especially at local level
 - ES
 - Sc Govt
 - Parents & families
- *Tools?*
 - Social Media
 - Local employers
 - Innovative School activities
 - Ministerial support (For Maths week, DFM set a 'daily problem'...for primaries, secondaries, parents etc.; could perhaps be persuaded to do likewise for Languages Week)
 - Wider communications: BBC, media, Scottish Government website
- *When?*

- Feb 2019, probably.
- *Discussion:*
 - Do parents actually *know* about S1-S3 entitlement?
 - “Does it have the level of support Angela Constance gave to Maths in 2015?” – Actually, yes: there is the SIG; and reports made to Toria F, who makes the case for MFL to the DFM et al. And *that’s* where this suggestion came from, and got universal ministerial support.
 - The British Council researched Languages Week elsewhere (Australia etc) – pretty successful. Use it to emphasise the cultural diversity of Scotland.
 - Quite a similar enterprise to UCMLS’ Languages Lost & Found, which should run again in November. Much parental and community, inter-generational involvement.
 - Gillian CT: big hitters needed (Mr Swinney is a mathematician, though has French & German O grades and maybe French Higher). [Aren’t GCT and LG exactly that?]
 - Timing: is February a good idea, given pressures on Secondary in Feb?
 - Louise G: no week is a good week; and there are other advantages – near options choices etc.
 - The Scottish Government says participation & enthusiasm were the keys...the actual impact might come later.
 - Angela DB: what about getting someone to sponsor it? This has been done successfully elsewhere.
 - Liz N: Western Australia provides a really successful model.

Plenary:

- Thanks to all who have contributed to making today a success.
- Thomas Chaurin: It has been a great pleasure to have worked with you all; Local Authority partnerships have been flourishing; there are still 2x grants for the summer course available. My successor is Philippe Sibault, who will be in place by August.
- Toria: on behalf of us all, thanks to Thomas for all his work; particularly with the partnerships.
- Bethan: Au revoir to Jude McKerrecher (finishing her time with CISS), Jenny Sorrie and Auf Wiedersehen to Marion Spöring as Chair of UCMLS, (successor will be Joe Carson of St Andrews Uni).

Dates of next meetings:

- 26/10/2018, Glasgow
- 01/03/2019, Edinburgh
- 31/05/2019, Dundee