

# ACT Bilingual Education Alliance (ACTBEA) Update

JUNE 2015

## 1. LANGUAGES POTLUCK LUNCH

- Sunday 14 June, 11am to 1pm
- Polish-Australian White Eagle Club, 38 David Street Turner

A fun event for families raising children in more than one language and others interested in promoting language learning and bilingual education.

- Bring along your favourite foods to share
- FREE fun activities for children
- Enjoy dishes from around the world

For more details or to RSVP (by 10 June) email [canberrabilingual@gmail.com](mailto:canberrabilingual@gmail.com)

This event is organised by the ACT Bilingual Education Alliance and supported by the ACT Government Participation (Multicultural) Grants Program 2014-2015

Please pass the word among your groups and networks. Poster can be downloaded from: [http://actbilingual.weebly.com/uploads/4/4/9/1/4491774/pot\\_luck\\_poster\\_june\\_2015.pdf](http://actbilingual.weebly.com/uploads/4/4/9/1/4491774/pot_luck_poster_june_2015.pdf)

## 2. BILINGUAL MARKETPLACE

Colourful bilingual flash cards and 'play match' snap cards in a number of languages. Available to families for personal shopping and/or can be used as a way to raise money for your school or group. For more information visit the "bilingual marketplace" website at [www.bilingualshop.com.au](http://www.bilingualshop.com.au)

This is linked to the Languages Australia website, a 'yellow pages' of language education options for children aged 0-18 years in Australia. See <http://languagesaustralia.com.au/> for details and how to sign up for their free Bilingual News with articles, resources, parent tips / ideas for raising bilingual children in Australia.

## 3. 2015 CHINESE SUMMER CAMPS FOR OVER 10 YEAR-OLDS JULY 2015

Sichuan Youth Adventure Camp, 5 July 2015 – 13 July 2015 (9 Days)

Chengdu, Sichuan Province, China

Chinese and Australian students will take part together to promote and deepen understanding and knowledge of Australian and Chinese cultures. The students will also establish friendships, develop team spirit and improve their self confidence and communication skills.

- Eligibility: 10 to 18 year old Australian youth
- Number: 30 to 40 Australian youth
- Cost \$1380 (return trip Canberra Melbourne and international airfare and travel insurance). Costs of accommodation, meals, activities, Chengdu tour and transportation in China covered by host institution)
- Accommodation: Home stay for 5 nights. Outdoor camping for 1 night. Hotel for 3. Students must stay with the group through the whole program.

For more details see <http://learningmandarin.weebly.com/activities--events.html>, email [future.ec@hotmail.com.au](mailto:future.ec@hotmail.com.au) or call 6160 1338, 6140 3437 (Joanne) or 0405 198 868 (Jamie)

Summer Camp—Hunan Normal University Camp 6 July 2015 – 18 July (13 days)

Hunan Normal University, Changsha, Capital City of Hunan, China

- Eligibility: 14-20 year olds with Chinese background (can be down to 12 years old)
- Activities: Chinese language, kungfu, folk dance, calligraphy, paper cutting and so on; communication with local students; visit local tourism areas

- Size: 30 people (10 Canberra, Melbourne 10, Sydney 10)
- Cost \$1890 (participants only need to pay for international airfare, Sydney – Canberra bus tickets and Visa fee; other costs covered by Hunan Normal University)

Registration Deadline: 1 June 2015.

For more details contact Xiaohui Zhang, Chen Chu, Yunfei He: Mobile: 0415762723; 0423908819; 0425910505 or Email: [ascc@trilong.com.au](mailto:ascc@trilong.com.au)

#### **4. SPEAKING A MILE IN SOMEONE ELSE'S SHOES**

An article indicating that even being around people who speak different languages may help children learn to take others' perspectives, making communication more effective for everyone.

For full text of article see:

<http://www.psmag.com/health-and-behavior/children-exposed-to-other-languages-better-understand-people-and-not-just-in-the-literal-sense>

#### **5. SOCIAL AND AFFECTIVE FACTORS IN HOME LANGUAGE MAINTENANCE AND DEVELOPMENT**

A new international Research Network with the following aims:

- Research: To foster collaborations and exchanges between scholars working in the field of social and affective factors in home language maintenance and development.
- Dissemination: To disseminate research findings on the importance of home language maintenance and development to stakeholders including Departments of Education, policy makers, childcare centres, schools, parents, minority language-speaking communities and the mainstream society.
- Advocacy: To lobby for the recognition and uptake of research findings and to provide expert advice to stakeholders. This might include submissions to Senate inquiries, support and advice to communities on grassroots initiatives and other activities.

If you are interested in this network, please contact Dr Susana Eisenclas or Dr Andrea Schalley of Griffith University at [a.schalley-at-griffith.edu.au](mailto:a.schalley-at-griffith.edu.au) or [s.eisenclas-at-griffith.edu.au](mailto:s.eisenclas-at-griffith.edu.au)

#### **6. PATJI-DAWES AWARD TO HONOUR OUTSTANDING ACHIEVEMENTS IN LANGUAGE TEACHING BY AN ACCOMPLISHED PRACTITIONER**

Nominations are made by someone who has achieved a very high level of fluency in their chosen language and would like to honour their teacher by setting out what it was about their practice which inspired and enabled them to unlock the rewards of learning another language despite all the difficulties involved.

The teaching may take place in any setting – school, university, private language school or an indigenous community – provided that the learner is led, by the teacher's inspiration, to a high level of mastery in the chosen language.

This new award reflects the belief of the ARC Centre for the Dynamics of Language:

- that achieving proficiency in other languages is one of the great learning experiences in the human condition
- that this happens all too rarely in contemporary Australian society, and
- that there is unfilled need for public recognition of those who defy our national mediocrity in this arena.

For details of the nomination process, see <http://www.dynamicsoflanguage.edu.au/get-involved/dawes-award/> Deadline for submission of nominations: 20 August 2015.

For more information about the ARC Centre see <http://www.dynamicsoflanguage.edu.au/>

## **7. HINDI IN AUSTRALIA National Workshop 17 July 2015**

Hindi is now recognised in Australia as one of the five priority Asian languages for study in Australian schools. In response to this, ACARA (the Australian Curriculum and Reporting Authority) has been working with the community to develop a National Hindi Curriculum to be introduced in 2016.

This workshop offers an opportunity for those interested in Hindi to meet to discuss the current state of Hindi in Australia, in education, the community, and in media. The workshop includes keynote speakers from Sydney and Melbourne and is open to all interested parties.

- Friday 17 July 2015, 10am-5pm
- McDonald Room, Menzies Library, ANU

For details contact: [peter.friedlander@anu.edu.au](mailto:peter.friedlander@anu.edu.au)

## **8. CHILDREN'S BOOK COUNCIL OF AUSTRALIA ACT BRANCH EVENT: JUDGES TALK**

- Tuesday 9 June 2015, 5.30pm for 6 pm
- ALIA House, 9-11 Napier Close Deakin
- Light Supper included

COST: \$15 members, \$25 non-members

Michele Huet, the ACT fiction judge who has many years' experience in children's literature, will give an insight into the world of judging quality children's literature. Come along and gain an insight into the fabulous Notable selection and Short List books.

For more information and to RSVP (by Friday 5 June, Event Code: JN15) email: [act@cbca.org.au](mailto:act@cbca.org.au)

### **FEEDBACK AND CONTRIBUTIONS TO FUTURE ACTBEA UPDATES WELCOME**

Copies of previous Updates can be downloaded from <http://actbilingual.weebly.com>