

ACT Bilingual Education Alliance (ACTBEA) Update

November 2013

1. AS EASY AS yi, er, san (1, 2, 3): MANDARIN STORY TIMES AT DICKSON LIBRARY

Sundays 3, 10 and 24 November 2.30-3pm at Dickson Library

For children aged 3-7 years. One story read aloud in Mandarin and then in English, followed by an activity introducing basic numbers, words and phrases in Mandarin. This program is free and run by Libraries ACT volunteers. Bookings recommended.

Please note:

- Adult supervision is required for all children attending the program.
- You should arrive 10 mins early to allow the program to run on schedule.

To book and for more information on library events phone 6205 9000 or visit www.library.act.gov.au/learning/whats_on

2. LANGUAGES POTLUCK SATURDAY 30 NOVEMBER 11AM-1PM

Come and have some fun, meet other families raising children in more than one language and find out more about the benefits of being bilingual. There will be interesting activities in various languages for children to enjoy.

Bring along your favourite foods to share with others as well as your cooking skills and recipes. Hot drinks, cups, plates and cutlery will be provided by ACTBEA.

Where? The Function Room, Theo Notaras Centre, North Building, Civic Square (near Canberra Theatre Centre and Civic Library).

For more details and/or to book, please email canberrabilingual@gmail.com or phone Mandy 0408 089 235

3. HARMONY CELEBRATION IN CIVIC SATURDAY 9 NOVEMBER 10AM-3PM

The Centenary of Canberra and Canberra Multicultural Community Forum are hosting a fun family multicultural event on Saturday 9 November 2013.

Buses will depart the Theo Notaras Multicultural Centre in Civic at 10am and 1.30pm for a cultural journey of about 2 hours. Seats are limited and bookings are essential. Contact harmonybus2013@gmail.com for more information.

Meanwhile, at the Theo Notaras Multicultural Centre in Civic Square, enjoy singing, dancing, face painting, multicultural food and activities for the whole family. For more information see www.cmcf.org.au.

4. MANDARIN IMMERSION PROGRAM AT MAWSON PRIMARY

Enrolments are now open for the ONE DAY a week Mandarin immersion program for Kindergarten, Year 1 and Year 2 at Mawson Primary schools in 2014.

No previous knowledge of Mandarin is required. The Program is designed for students with a wide range of ability levels.

In Years 3-6 students are able to participate in a TWO DAY Mandarin Immersion Program (MIP). Advanced Mandarin programs are available to graduating MIP students at Melrose High School and then Canberra College. Several weekend schools also provide advanced Mandarin courses.

For more information, visit www.mawsonps.act.edu.au or contact the school on 6205 8033

5. ACT CHILDREN'S WEEK AWARD FOR CHILD DEVELOPMENT.

Congratulation to Lucia Lu, one of long-term members, who recently received an ACT Children's Week Award for Child Development. Lucia runs the Mandarin for Fun group in Canberra – see <http://mandarinforfun.weebly.com/> for more information.

6. SOME INTERESTING NEW ONLINE ARTICLES/SITES

a) The Anglobubble blog <http://anglobubble.net/>

A blog dedicated to a random and occasional collection of posts, thoughts, snapshots, vignettes and occasional analysis about life in a country with a concentration of monolingual English speakers and how this skews the way we see, experience and understand the world around us.

The take is often humorous and ironic, but the intention is serious. It focuses on the benefits of being bilingual and multilingual – and spreading the good word about languages for English-speakers and others.

b) The difficult task of raising kids to be bilingual

<http://kcur.org/post/difficult-task-raising-kids-be-bilingual>

FEEDBACK ON THESE ACTBEA UPDATES AND CONTRIBUTIONS TO FUTURE UPDATES ARE WELCOME

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