**Cave Languages**

**Primary Language Update – February 2016**

**Primary Language Support and Network Group**

The Spring Term meeting of the FREE Thames Valley Primary Language Support and Network Group is next **Thursday 3rd March 4.15-5.45pm** (refreshments from 4pm) at Keep Hatch Primary School, Wokingham. These meetings are for anyone involved or interested in the teaching of any language in primary school. It is an opportunity to meet other local teachers and find the answers to queries; share successes and ideas; generally feel supported. In addition to this, the theme of the meeting next week will be ‘teaching grammar in language lessons’. If you have any ideas to share that would be great, if not, come along and be inspired. Please can you email me if you are going to attend so that we know how many to accommodate. More information is here <http://www.cavelanguages.co.uk/thames-valley-primary-hub>

**Dyslexia and Language Learning**

**I**f you are interested in finding out more about how children with dyslexia learn a foreign language and strategies which work, there is a free course starting soon. This is a free online course delivered by the University of Lancaster. All you have to do is register and work at your own pace. It starts on the 18th April. There is more information here <https://www.futurelearn.com/courses/dyslexia>

**Twilight Year 6 Course**

The third year 6 twilight methodology training course based on the Cave Languages resources will take place on **Tuesday 8th March 4.15-5.30pm** Earley Crescent Centre. We will be looking at the final two creative projects for the summer term. Please email me if you would like to attend. There is more information here <http://www.cavelanguages.co.uk/training-courses>

**Discount Code for Bi-lingual Dictionaries**

If you are in need of some bi-lingual dictionaries, I would recommend the Collins ones. The Collins Primary Dictionary for Years 3-5 and the Collins French School Dictionary for Year 6. Collins [www.collins.co.uk](http://www.collins.co.uk) currently have a 50% discount on bi-lingual dictionaries. Enter the promo code WEBDICT50 to obtain the discount online.

**Transition Information Key Stage 2 to 3**

You may recall that last year local primary and secondary language teachers met to agree upon a document to transfer information from the Primary MFL coordinator to the feeder secondary schools about language learning in their school. You can find this document here <http://www.cavelanguages.co.uk/sharing-good-practice> in the section ‘Policies and Reports’. I have contacted the local secondary schools to find out how effective they found it and the number of documents they received. It would be very useful to get some feedback from you about its use. So if you could take a few minutes to respond to the following questions and return your answers to me, I would be most grateful:

* Did you send the completed document to any secondary schools?

If yes, to how many?

* If you did not know about it last year, would you be interested in using it this year?
* Did you find the document easy to complete
* Which changes would you make to the current document? Why?
* Would you be interested in meeting up with local secondary MFL teachers  in June 2016 to discuss this further?
* Do you have any other comments, particularly about future use?

**World Book Day**

World Book Day is on March 3rd and you might like to consider including a foreign language activity if you are celebrating the day in your school. How about asking a member of the school community who speaks a language other than English to read a story in that language to your class. Alternatively, contact your local secondary school and see if any 6th form students are available to come to school and read a story in French, German or Spanish for example. Alternatively, create a book mark with words in a foreign language.

**Support 2016-17**

In March, I will be sending out information about the services and support which I will be offering from September 2016. In the meantime, if you are interested in discussing how I could support your school to deliver language lessons, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Best wishes

Sue

Primary MFL Specialist Teacher and Consultant

Cave Languages

[www.cavelanguages.co.uk](http://www.cavelanguages.co.uk/)

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“supporting schools to deliver languages”