

April Newsletter

Dear MFL colleague,

Routes into Languages Cymru has been having a thriving academic year so far. Collaborating closely with ERW, CSC, GwE and EAS, more than 2000 pupils across Wales have been reached by our Student Language Ambassadors to know more about the advantages of chasing a career in languages. Our SLAs have been visiting their schools, assisting in language sessions or participating in Careers Fairs and other events. We have also trained 442 Pupil Languages Ambassadors and have held 8 Masterclasses for A-level pupils and teachers across Wales, and are still looking forward to yet another set of exciting activities and events that will be held within the following months.

Spelling Bee National Final

With more than 5,700 pupils registered by now, this year's competition has experienced a 76% increase on last year's 3,264, with more than 50 schools participating.

Routes into Languages Cymru's National Final of the Spelling Bee Competition 2016/17 will be taking place at Aberystwyth University on Wednesday, 5 July 2017.

This will be the seventh year of this national competition that sees year 7 pupils of French, Spanish, German and Welsh 2nd Language come together to compete in spelling. The competition has grasped the imagination of many schools and there has been intense competition at the early stages. We have been impressed by the maturity of pupils and their enthusiasm.

A-level Film and Book resources

Bangor, Cardiff and Swansea University have recorded and prepared a series of videos and/or handouts developed and used by our lecturers as a tool to analyse the key topics of some of the new WJEC A-level specifications films and books, such as main themes and characters, aimed to strengthen the pupils' comprehension and generate further discussion and thought.

Five of these presentations were funded by CADARN, working in partnership with Routes into Languages Cymru and also being presented as useful tools to develop analytical thinking. This set of resources is available on:

<http://routesintolanguagescymru.co.uk/posts/a-level-masterclasses/>

LingoMap

As previously mentioned in our newsletters, the Routes Cymru website has now a page dedicated to Lingo Map. A map is displayed with pins locating where some of our students on their third year abroad are currently based. By clicking on the pin the user will see their profile as well as a link to their blog page, where they are writing blogs on GCSE specific themes. 18 students from Cardiff, Bangor, Swansea and Aberystwyth are currently participating.

<http://routesintolanguagescymru.co.uk/student-ambassadors-2/lingo-map/>

Wales, Europe and the World

A language day Wales, Europe and the World (WEW) event will be held at Bangor University on 28th June 2017. Partners such as CareersWales, Confucius Institute, EuropeDirect, Goethe Institut, North Wales Deaf Association, SignatureLeather. And the Centre for Galician Studies in Wales, will be delivering sessions in which pupils will have the opportunity to learn about languages in the workplace, hear languages students talk about their year abroad, try taster lessons in languages such as Mandarin Chinese, practise the languages they are already learning, and participate in cultural activities with a language theme (e.g. dancing, language games, etc.).

Social Media and Emails

We regularly post updates via our social media channels so please link to us via twitter and if you know of any colleagues who wish to be included on the Routes mailing list for email updates please let a member of the team know.