



January
2008

ETHNIC SCHOOLS ASSOCIATION OF VICTORIA

NEWSLETTER

Community Languages Schools
Where Language and Culture Come Together

WELCOME TO 2008

The Ethnic Schools Association of Victoria and Community Languages Australia trust you are well rested and ready for another exciting year.

Much is planned for this year, which will make learning for our students a valuable experience and a rewarding experience for teachers, parents and community members.

Best wishes for 2008 and looking forward to working with you throughout the year!

Stefan Romaniw OAM
Executive Director, Community Languages Australia

2008 - INTERNATIONAL YEAR OF LANGUAGES

2008 is the International Year of Languages. Schools are encouraged to give some thought as to how to promote this important occasion. The promotion of languages in the community, through business, sport, and the arts are ways of attracting wider support for the teaching and learning of languages.

Consider planning activities to promote your school and the language you teach. Engage children, students, parents and the community to interact and think about the importance of maintaining language and culture and the long term benefits that this brings.

Schools are requested to send in their plans for 2008. The ESAV will open a special section on the website which will allow you to promote your school and your activities. Please send information to Fahry Abubaker - Email: abubaker.fahry.f@edumail.vic.gov.au

TEACHER TRAINING AND PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM FEBRUARY – JUNE 2008

In preparation for the 2008, the ESAV and Community Languages Australia have negotiated the Teacher Training Courses and Professional Development Programs for the February – June 2008 period. These courses and sessions are funded by the Victorian Department of Education and Early Childhood Development (DEECD). Information and registration forms are attached.

Please disseminate this information and submit registrations by the due dates.

Ethnic Schools Association
of Victoria Inc.

Languages & Multicultural
Education Resource Centre

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WORKING WITH CHILDREN CHECKS

Under State Legislation all those who work with children in community languages schools **must undertake** a Working With children check **by July 1, 2008**.

At this time we are negotiating a series of Workshops to assist schools with information and the processes. Information can also be obtained on the ESAV Website www.esav.org.au

QUALITY ASSURANCE FRAMEWORK

The Updated Quality Assurance Framework Manual is now on the web. You are encouraged to benchmark your school's activities against this Framework. Throughout 2008 there will be a number of workshops held to assist you with the process. You can find the Framework on our national website: www.communitylanguagesaustralia.org.au

FUNDING APPLICATIONS

All schools should have received Department of Education Information Packs about the 2008 Funding for Community Languages Schools. **Please read the information carefully.**

- You need to be a non for profit organisation
- You need to have an elected Governing Body
- If you are opening a new campus contact the Department of Education before progressing

IMPORTANT DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

- **State Community Languages Schools Conference**
Saturday July 5, 2008 MELBOURNE
- **National Community Languages Schools Conference**
Saturday October 5, 2008 PERTH
- **Other planned activities**
 - Annual Dinner Dance
 - Event to recognize achievements of VCE students
 - Round Table '*Community languages school in delivering languages education and multicultural policy in Victoria* in cooperation with MACLEM and the Minister for Education

ESAV MEMBERSHIP

Please complete and return your **2008 ESAV Membership Form by March 5, 2008** together with your \$30 Annual Membership Fee – Cheques made out to ESAV Membership. Send to: ESAV – Membership (150 Palmerston Street, Carlton 3053)
