



News

Edition 1 2011

Asia Literacy Scholarship Fund Pre-Launch Survey

The association is close to the official launch of the national Asia Literacy Scholarship Fund. The aim of this fund is to offer scholarships, bursaries and prizes to promote Asia Literacy in primary, secondary and tertiary education.

It is anticipated that the official launch will be in the first half of 2011. In the meantime, we are seeking input from the education community across Australia to help align the funds activities with community priorities. Teachers, students, parents and interested community members are encouraged to take part in our national survey. The survey can be accessed via:

http://www.asialiteracy.org.au/Asia_Literacy_Scholarships.php

We look forward to your survey contribution.



Brisbane Adventurer Leads Great Wall Trek to Sponsor Asia Literacy Scholarship Fund

Brisbane adventurer Mr James Holden will escort a group of Australians on a trek of The Great Wall of China in late October 2011. In support of Asia Literacy, trek organisers will donate \$100 per trekker to the Asia Literacy Scholarship Fund.

The trek will take place over five days covering various sections of the wall north of Beijing. The sections will include Huangyaguan, Gubeikou, Jinshanling, Simitai, Mutianyu, Jiankou. Each section will be conducted as a day trek, so that it will be accessible to trekkers of moderate fitness levels. Some additional time will be included to visit other parts of Beijing and Shanghai prior to returning home.

For further information about this unique adventure you can visit our website at:

http://www.asialiteracy.org.au/Great_Wall_Trek.php

Your Brain on Languages

The Asia Society in the USA recently published a review article on the neuro-linguistic benefits of young children up to the age of 12 years, learning a second language. These benefits include:

- an increased ability to learn other languages later in life,
- higher levels of language and literacy in their first language, and
- increased mental flexibility, improved divergent thinking and higher levels of intellectual ability on standardised tests.

The evidence suggests that academic performance can be significantly enhanced by providing young children with bi-lingual learning experiences. Within the Asian region many developing countries have taken bold steps to ensure children are educated in bi-lingual schools. The developmental benefits to these children as they become young adults in a globalised world will be quite significant.



An Australian school principal addresses an English class in a public secondary school in Hanoi. Asia Literacy Vietnam Program, January 2011

In Australia there are clearly significant historical, cultural and political barriers to adopting such progressive policies. At a micro level however, teachers and parents can initiate independent action by providing Australian kids access to second language skills. Primary schools can now access a program of Integrated LOTE, where students can be taught a simple pre-cursor language that provides the neuro-linguistic benefits of learning a second language. This program can be used as a foundation language, making it easier for kids to learn formal languages such as Chinese or Japanese once they reach middle and senior school.

For primary schools that currently lack the resources to offer a second language option for students, a simple, low cost solution is now available. A program of Integrated LOTE can be established with minimal training and ongoing support for primary school teachers.



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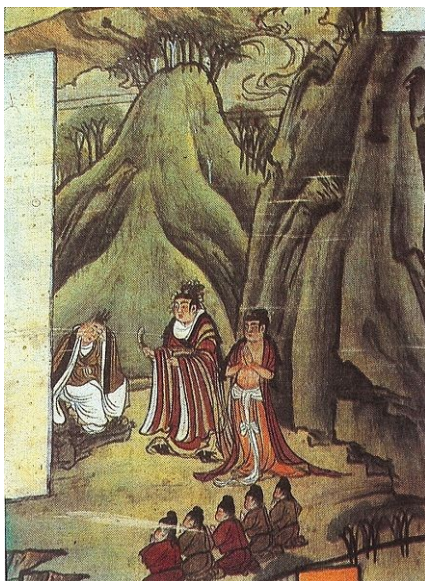
For further information about a readily available Integrated LOTE Program in Australia, contact us via this link:
http://www.asialiteracy.org.au/Integrated_LOTE.php

To read the Asia Society article in full:
<http://asiasociety.org/education-learning/world-languages/-american-schools/your-brain-languages>

In-country Teacher Professional Learning Programs

China Visual Arts Program. Designed specifically for teachers of visual arts at primary and secondary levels, this program offers an in-depth exploration of Chinese art. The program focuses on Beijing and Shanghai with visits to the massive 798 Art Space complex, the National Gallery of China, an industry focus session with the Cultural Affairs Section of the Australian Embassy, Moganshan Rd Precinct in Shanghai, and a range of small specialty galleries throughout Shanghai's former French Concession area.

This program will next start from 25 June & 8 July. Places are limited, please contact us via our website at
http://www.asialiteracy.org.au/Asia_Literacy_PD.php for further details.



**Sakyamuni cuts his hair,
Tang Dynasty
From The Silk Road, Dunhuang**

Indonesia Cross-Curricula Program. This is an exciting new program that will appeal to teachers with an interest in the history and cultures of Java. The program includes a school visit in Jakarta, and cultural sites throughout central and east Java exploring aspects of Buddhism, Islam and Hinduism. Participants will travel overland by train and private vehicle, from Jakarta via Yogyakarta and Borobudur to Surabaya. The program will be hosted by an Australian Indonesia teacher.

This program will run 1-10 July and is timed to provide access to teachers from across Australia. For further details, contact us via this link:
http://www.asialiteracy.org.au/Asia_Literacy_PD.php



[teacherspd.com.au](http://www.asialiteracy.org.au/Asia_Literacy_PD.php)
[Visit Our Partner](#)

Teach In China: Complimentary Member Service
We have now established a permanent network of schools and universities in China who will accommodate Australian teachers on short and long term teaching projects. This service is now available to all association members as a FREE complimentary member service.

We have recently arranged two teachers for a four week project in Sichuan Province and we have a range of other schools and universities available.

For further details, contact us via this link:
http://www.asialiteracy.org.au/Asia_Literacy_PD.php

Teach In Vietnam: Complimentary Member Service
This is a new opportunity available through our newly established network in Vietnam working with colleges accredited by the Ministry of Education and Training in Vietnam. This opportunity offers short and long term teaching projects, similar to those on offer from China. It is now available to all association members as a FREE complimentary member service.

For further details, contact us via this link:
http://www.asialiteracy.org.au/Asia_Literacy_PD.php



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NEW Brochures & Planning Guides

For teachers with an interest in our [Student Links Language Immersion](#) and [Sister School](#) programs we have designed new brochures with detailed planning guides. For schools planning to build connections between their students and the Asian region, these guides aim to assist teachers with the initial planning processes.

Through these programs we are now able to offer access to more than 100 schools across Asia, covering China, Vietnam, Japan and Malaysia.

Business, Tourism, Geography, History & The Arts Student Links 17-30 September

Schools with smaller student groups are invited to participate in a Student Links School Cluster Program in September. The dates will fit with Queensland state school holidays. This program has been designed for a state high school in Brisbane, and we will have 5-10 positions available for students from other schools who maybe interested.

The program will cover a range of activities and sites in Beijing, Ping Yao, and Shanghai. For students studying business, the program will include historical perspectives of Chinese business with visits to China's first banking capital, Ping Yao, and the money gallery of Shanghai Museum. We will also be visiting multi-national and Chinese manufacturers and Australian international businesses as part of the program. Other curriculum areas that can be easily catered for through concurrent activities include tourism, geography, history and the arts.

Teachers interested in offering this program to their students should complete a [Student Links Plan](#) and indicate interest in this specific school cluster program.



Ping Yao
China's Original
Financial Hub

Outstanding Sister School Opportunity

We have a new opportunity with one of our leading schools in China for a secondary school in Australia to develop a pro-active sister school relationship.

The Chinese school offers an enthusiastic team of teachers with strong English skills. The school is looking for an opportunity to send 2-3 teachers on a semester placement in Australia. In addition the school will provide of 20-30 students each year to visit the Australian sister school. This is a leading government school in China, with enthusiastic school leadership.

Sister schools in China with this level of commitment and resourcing are limited, so this opportunity will not last. If your school is looking for an outstanding opportunity to become an Asia engaged school, contact **James Davis** today:

Email: James@Asialiteracy.org.au

Tel: 07 3161 9800

Membership

The Asia Literacy Teachers Association of Australia is comprised of ordinary (individual) and corporate (school) members from all regions of Australia. Members benefit from a range complimentary and discounted services aimed at building links between Australian teachers, students and schools, and their counterparts in the Asian region.

Our approach is to support schools to become Asia Engaged by providing teachers from all curriculum areas, with access to real connections in Asia.

To join visit us at this link:

<http://www.asialiteracy.org.au/page9.php>

Teacher Noticeboard

Work Wanted: A primary school teacher with 12 years experience teaching English, maths and science in the USA, Indonesia and the Philippines is looking for a teaching position in Australia. Currently working in an international school in Indonesia. For further information please contact **Ms Santos de Guzman** dea9291@yahoo.com