

Chinese Language Teachers first PD Event for 2008 ...



The EDC at Hindmarsh was the venue for the Chinese Language Teachers Association of SA's first PD event for 2008.

More than thirty enthusiastic teachers from both DECS and non-DECS schools across Adelaide and nearby regions met together to share their practices, experiences and resources. New President, Jenny Jin, welcomed the group and introduced recently appointed DECS Asian Languages Consultant, Kathy Cleeves, who addressed the whole group, outlining new DECS structures for supporting LOTE teachers and sharing some very useful and practical resources available to teachers.

As Kathy later pointed out ...

'We are in a great time for Chinese Language at the moment; with an increasing range of support from government bodies, universities and professional associations. Be sure to take advantage of some of the opportunities for yourselves as teachers and your students.'

Following Kathy's address, the group moved into Primary and Secondary Workshops. Opening Primary presenter, Lynn Davis, from Salisbury Heights Schools, shared a whole year unit of work based on the Beijing Olympics. Lynn's obvious love of teaching Chinese and her usual enthusiastic delivery (which included puppets) provided inspiration to the group of Primary teachers.



Highgate's Don Bull shared a DVD he had put together of Chinese New Year Celebrations in Adelaide's Chinatown.

Vi Nhon Vuong from Magill Primary School shared some great ideas for teaching the New Year Festival and also showed a very entertaining video of Lion Dance Championships.



The final Primary presenter, Jing-wen Li from Pedare College, ran a very 'hands-on' session which included oral games, songs and dances and a very useful section on use of 'origami' to help teach new vocab.



The opening secondary presenter was Wei Huang from Hamilton Secondary College, who led a session which leaned on the past and prepared us for the future. She reviewed SSABSA papers from 2002-2006 and discussed the content associated with the teaching of the 'New Theme'.

Then came Shiqin Hu from Tenison Woods College, Mt Gambier, who presented an interesting and informative workshop on contemporary Chinese literature focussing on current social issues in China.

The final secondary presenter was Liu Fang from Immanuel College, who reminded us about the modern age in which we live and teach when she spoke about 'The understanding and practice of teaching a new topic - internet'.



The PD event was followed by a General meeting of the CLTASA.

The Association acknowledges the support of CEASA in providing funding for the excellent venue.