

Newsletter June 25

X: @ThamesWestLH Instagram: thameswestlh Email: info@thameswestlanguagehub.org.uk Website: www.thameswestlanguagehub.org.uk

NCLE CPD Webinar

Joe Dale, Independent Languages Consultant was the key speaker discussing 'Al and Technology: Developing Languages for the Future'. Our very own Emily Lewis ran a session on the use of Chat GPT to enhance analysis of assessment and linking to student development. Feedback from the session was very positive:

"It was all very engaging and inspiring. I have been teaching over 30 years and to have such a refreshing CPD session to keep things relevant instead of a session which recycles things which have been done time and again was so brilliant!"

"Investigating how I can support my SCITT students to use Chat GPT to identify likely misconceptions in their planned lessons and to adapt their lesson plans to support with this...Lots of good takeaways!"



Berlin visit





Dame Alice Hudson CEO of Twyford Trust took part in an Information Tour to Berlin organised by the Goethe-Institut giving insights into the German cultural and educational scene. The group visited a primary school, the Berlin State Institute for Qualification and Quality Development in Schools, a comprehensive school, a technical college, Mercedes Benz and the Goethe-Institut. The party of delegates were inspired by the engagement of primary school students with language learning which leads to significant progress being made by the end of secondary school (as measured by the common European Language framework). It was fascinating to compare the provision for high quality vocational education within the state education system in Berlin with the T Level programmes which the Trust has underway on a smaller scale. We look forward to working further with the Goethe-Institute on industry links where possible.





German Exchange

In May, Year 9 students from our lead school Ada Lovelace CofE High School participated in the German exchange. They visited their partner school, the Johannes-Kepler Realschule in Bayreuth. During the week, students participated in day trips to Bayreuth, Pottenstein and Nuremberg, as well as spending a day in school lessons and with their host families.



X: @ThamesWestLH Instagram: thameswestIh

Email: info@thameswestlanguagehub.org.uk Website: www.thameswestlanguagehub.org.uk

Cultural Exchange Club

Vanessa Zielen, the German Language Assistant at Ada Lovelace and William Perkin, also took on the role of Cultural Exchange Ambassador with the UK German Connection. Over the past four months, she helped students to connect online with students in Germany—sharing hobbies, school life, and even creating a video about Ada Lovelace.



The best part? Swapping national holidays! Ada students introduced their German virtual partners to Pancake Day with a podcast, a recipe, and some beautiful pancake photos. In return, they taught us about St. Martin's Day and showed us how to make lanterns.

Axel Scheffler visits Holy Family

Thanks to the Goethe-Institut students at Holy Family Catholic Primary School were able to demonstrate the progress they are making in German when Axel Scheffler visited the school on 10th June.

They performed German music and songs and spoke to the celebrated illustrator in German. They were also lucky enough to watch a demonstration of his drawing and hear him read aloud from his newest book in both German and English. Ms Lyon from Ada Lovelace is very proud of their achievements.











Photos with kind permission of Goethe-Institut UK | Photo: Jayne Lloyd

The Oxford German Olympiad

Congratulations to George Karageorgis (Y11) at Ada Lovelace who was a runner up with his essay on past Olympic athletes.

Sixth form students Marcus, Gabriel and Shion from Twyford CofE High School won the group submission category with their proposal for a game show with emphasis on German culture. Shion was also runner up for his individual submission from the perspective of the Violin of the Shoah played in the Auschwitz orchestra.



Anthea Bell Competition

Timofei Semenov from Ada Lovelace received a Commendation for his translation in the 2025 Anthea Bell Prize for Young Translators. The judges commented on the very high standard of entries they had received.

Stephen Spender Translation Competition Congratulations to Anna Mrabian from William Perkin who won the Schools Laureate prize for Key Stage 4 in this competition.

Arabic Reading Competition

Ada Lovelace student Mariam Abushahla was awarded a certificate of exceptional effort in the Arabic Language Reading Competition 2025. This category celebrates learners who demonstrate remarkable perseverance and dedication in their learning journey.

