



**Mount Sion C.B.S.**  
Secondary School

## Activities and projects: some examples

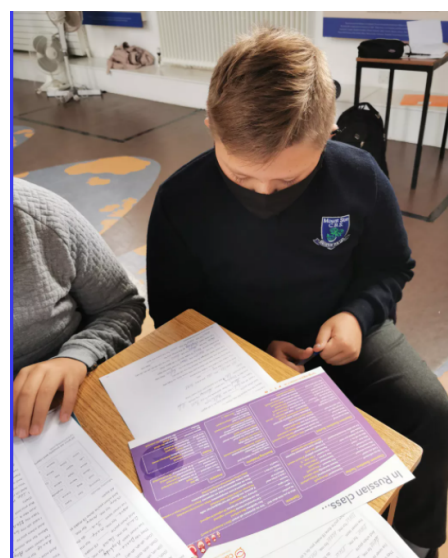
- Survey languages spoken in the school
- Create a wall of bilingual poems with all the languages spoken in the school
- Students produce a "How our school works" welcome booklet in the different languages for new students
- Apply for PPLI school library home languages funding scheme
- Translate letters when communicating with parents
- Subscribe to NASC
- Arrange a tour of the school with first language support for new EAL learners and parents
- Organise Classroom buddies, homework buddies, pair reading buddies
- Use the [PPLI language mats](#) to support learning
- Consider non-verbal ways to communicate
- Consider how all subjects can support and include an intercultural dimension: Business classes can look at currencies



## Developing an inclusive plurilingual MFL classroom

The best way to develop an inclusive plurilingual school environment is to practice language-integration and celebrate cultures across the school

- MFL good practice is EAL good practice
- Allow EAL learners to attend MFL classes. MFL class can represent a 'clean slate' linguistically
- Bilingualism is an asset
- Building language awareness can help all students become more active in and more responsible for their own learning
- Ask students how their home language is the same and how it is different from the MFL?
- Compare syntax
- Teach students to recognise cognates
- Research borrowed words
- Ask students to say words that start with the same sound(s) in the MFL and in their home language
- Ask students to show you how words are changed and formed in their home language
- Comparing the languages of all students can create awareness of these differences and in turn improve literacy skills of all students



More ideas, examples and videos can be found [here](#)

## How was the project successful?

This is a really successful project which is now part of the life of the school. The proposed activities and resources support not only heritage language speakers but the school community as a whole. It celebrates diversity as well as addressing the challenges heritage language speakers can sometimes face in school.

Narell Byrne is EAL coordinator at Mount Sion C.B.S. Waterford. She would like to also acknowledge Ms. Sheridan and all the EAL students' contribution, dedication and enthusiasm