

# Welcome to the first EAL eNewsletter!

The theme of this month's first eNewsletter is about *Welcoming Newcomers*.



## Welcoming Newcomers:

If your school doesn't already have a *protocol in place for welcoming newcomer students* I strongly suggest you check out the "Newcomer Checklist" document I've attached. It's a great place to start when welcoming a new student. It's so important to make a great first impression! What kind of first impression does your school make? How many of these can you answer yes to?

- Our school has a specific process for welcoming newcomers.
- All staff members, including administrative staff, are aware of and understand the process.
- Our school has a designated reception team.
- Multilingual welcome signs, in the languages of the community, are posted in the school.

## Feature article on Welcoming Newcomers:

Helping ELL Newcomers: Things Your Students Need to Know

By: Barbara Law and Mary Eckes (2010) <http://www.colorincolorado.org/article/38165/>

The article discusses key things newcomers need to know to get through the school day.

## How your SWIS worker can help:

Call your Settlement Worker in Schools (SWIS) at any time to help with the adjustment process of your new students. SWIS workers are the liaison between home and school. They can help with the registration process, help families understand what needs to be done for the first few days of school, and they are a great resource for any questions you might have regarding the student's **background and culture**. Another great way to use your SWIS worker is to invite them into to your classroom to do a presentation on different cultures, discrimination etc.

Check out their websiste here at <http://www.mjmcinc.ca/> or email them directly:

Moose Jaw Elementary Schools Danee VanTassel [swis.elementary@mjmcinc.ca](mailto:swis.elementary@mjmcinc.ca) Moose

Jaw High Schools- Jaella Nicholson [swis.highschool@mjmcinc.ca](mailto:swis.highschool@mjmcinc.ca)

Rural Schools, Westmount and Sunningdale- Dakota Leggott [swis.rural@mjmcinc.ca](mailto:swis.rural@mjmcinc.ca)

## Upcoming Events/Important Dates:

**Saskatchewan Multiculturalism Week** - \_November 15-23, 2014

**Art Contest: Multiculturalism ... What It Means To Me**

**Deadline: Nov 7th at 4 pm**

Art will be on display at the Newcomer Welcome Center

[Contest details.](#)

**All Elementary Schools:** Your SWIS workers Danee and Dakota are putting together packages for teachers to use during multicultural week. Packages will include things like a video on multiculturalism, a craft, a PP, etc. They are also more than happy to visit your classrooms in person.

**Moose Jaw High Schools: Cultural Fair**

**November 18th at Central Collegiate**

CCI will be putting on a Cultural Fair. Moose Jaw High Schools will receive an invite to come check it out for the afternoon of the 18<sup>th</sup>. The cultural fair will be open to the public over the noon hour (12pm-1:00pm).

**New EAL TV series called Let's Talk English.** It is a variety-style program with 6-7 features per episode designed to help viewers learning English improve their communication skills — speaking, listening, reading, vocabulary, grammar and cultural knowledge. Check out some episode here <http://www.omnitv.ca/on/en/shows/lets-talk-english/>

## Featured Online Tools

Have you checked out the website [www.Starfall.com](http://www.Starfall.com) ? It's designed for PreK-K students but is a great place to start for any EAL student needing to learn the basics- Alphabet, sounds, calendar, learning to read etc. It's amazing that this website is still free!

For more advanced ELLs, try [www.Lingro.com](http://www.Lingro.com) when doing any research projects. Lingro will turn any webpage into a live dictionary.

For making your school more welcoming check out this website with free printable multi-lingual signs to post around your school. [http://www.schoolslinks.co.uk/resources\\_dl.htm](http://www.schoolslinks.co.uk/resources_dl.htm)

## Print Resources for Newcomers:

Does your school have **picture dictionaries**? Picture dictionaries are a great way for ELL's to communicate their basic needs. Check out Nelson Education's Picture Dictionaries on pages 47 and 48 of their [online catalogue](#). Printable order form can be found [here](#); And online order form can be found [here](#)

Do you have a **Teachers Pay Teachers** account? If not, you should definitely go to [www.teacherspayteachers.com](http://www.teacherspayteachers.com) and create a free account. It is an open marketplace for educators to buy, sell and share their original resources.

Here is an EAL memory game I found on TPT for free! Create an account and download this game for free.

<http://www.teacherspayteachers.com/Product/Rhyming-Concentration-Game-225006>

## Acronym Key:

**EAL-** English as an Additional Language  
**ESL-** English as a Second Language  
**ELL-** English Language Learner  
**EL-** English Learner  
**L1-** First Language  
**L2-** Second Language/Additional Language  
**SLA-** Second Language Acquisition (second language can refer to any language being learned in addition to the person's first language).  
**SWIS** worker- Settlement Workers in Schools