

## ISMLA Annual Conference Saturday 25 January 2025

### Held at North London Collegiate School

#### Bev Whiteside and David Moss were invited to attend as guests to represent NALA.

NALA was able to provide a publicity flyer to 120 delegates which was given to each delegate in their welcome packs.

This was an excellent opportunity to network with ISMLA, most notably with Olly Hopwood, ISMLA Chair and Kevin Dunne, ISMLA Vice-Chair. There was also opportunity to make the work of NALA known to individual delegates and those hosting the various exhibitions.

The event was a departure from conferences in the past as it featured teach-meet style sessions for the sharing of ideas and only one keynote speech.

There was an excellent **introduction by Vicky Bingham, Headmistress of North London Collegiate School** highlighting the importance of Languages within the curriculum and the role of independent schools in keeping alive the teaching of lesser taught languages such as Italian.

**Professor Thomas Wynn, School of Modern Languages and Cultures, Durham University** gave an inspiring talk on **Why Languages are brilliant**

#### A few notes

James Baldwin quote, *'Only by asking big questions do we grow as people, find our place in the world.'*

Modern Languages is a transformative subject more than most others. Builds resilience. You can't detach language from its culture.

Languages give a huge chronological depth – you can link the *Me-too movement* to the Enlightenment for example.

In ML teaching, we do English too but better!

Learning a language builds resilience – for example from the year abroad

Languages make professional sense – graduates earn better money! Creativity skills are becoming more important in an age of AI. What you need to show is interest or aptitude.

ML graduates have one of the highest rates of employment across a range of sectors.

#### AI session

These AI applications were used by schools. Many managed the use of phones in schools depending on age and year group. Writing tasks now not allowed outside the classroom as AI is often used at home.

Speak clearly. **Dictate on Word. Gemini AI app.** Give detailed instructions to get what you want.

Use **Copilot.**

**Mixu app** like voice note.

**Suno** helps create catchy song. Really fun and silly

Upload image and a quiz is generated **Quizzizz.**

**Parli using WhatsApp** . Really good.

**Edparcel** uses YouTube videos

**Mote or Forgot** can transcribe off YouTube and create questions.

**Whiteboard App** from Microsoft (lots of apps available in Teams)

**Canva** – access through Teams and it gives immediate feedback.

**Padlet (Sandbox)** – Whiteboard App

**Edpuzzle** – creates questions for Youtube Videos

**Notebook LM**

**Immersive Reader**

**One Note**

**TWEE** – upload speaking into Twee and it can produce transcripts to support marking of GCSE Speaking for example.

**Chat GPT** – can create lyrics of a song in TL then input this into **SUNO** and it will make it into a song.

**SNORKEL** – display photocard on the board, student speaks their answer, and it is auto graded for pronunciation. Student can then repeat the process until they are producing the correct version. Every Lang has 20 activities free.

### **KS3&KS4 session Classroom Ideas for teaching.**

Groups of three. Take it in turns to read a phrase out loud. Points for best pronunciation. Swap for next phrase and they decide who will read

Use mini whiteboards, can be used to discuss answers and provide opportunities for editing.

Several classroom games shared.

Vocab testing weekly.

Use a booklet.

Provide transcripts for weaker learners when doing listening tasks.

Competitions – Spelling Bee, Translation B, Love Languages Competition.

### **Grading Discussion – 15 minutes. This was a panel with David Blow (ALL) Wendy Adeniji (Headteacher and author) Davina Marie (Head of Department)**

Some adjustments have been made to grading with more achieving Grade 9. However, the pandemic slowed this process down.

Many teachers wanted recognition of alternative qualifications.

Teacher supply is of ongoing concern, making it difficult to recruit qualified staff.