



Spring 2010 Newsletter

¡Hola! Welcome to the Spring 2010 issue of the Little Linguists newsletter. I hope you have all been enjoying the term so far and have learnt lots of Spanish! Many thanks for turning out in all weathers and apologies for the lessons we had to reschedule at the start of term due to the bad weather.

Hopefully now spring is on the way and we can start to think about the warmer weather and summer holidays. In this newsletter you'll find an update on Little Linguists, details of the group classes, waiting lists, other types of classes that we can offer and the term dates for the summer term.

I hope you enjoy the newsletter and thank you for your continued support.

Update

This term we are continuing to run group classes in Baldock, Letchworth, Royston, Harpenden and Hertford for children from 3 years. We now also have a dedicated Key Stage 2 class in Royston on Mondays at 5.15pm. We also run lunch clubs and after school clubs in primary schools across Hertfordshire, in addition to private groups and 1-1 and 2-1 sessions. We are now also offering Spanish classes to day nurseries and pre-schools across the county and have started to teach French in day nurseries and at school clubs in certain areas.

Unfortunately a combination of circumstances meant that we were unable to start the classes in St Albans. I now have a waiting list and the room and teacher are on stand-by – we just need a few more children to make it viable. If you know of anyone who might be interested in their children learning Spanish and who live in the St Albans area, do let them know and, if they join a group, you will get a free lesson.

What's new in 2010

- **Activity packs**

As you know, we introduced activity packs for the majority of the groups this term. They include all the materials that you need for the term in one user-friendly package and, in addition, you will find all the games and activities that the children enjoy in the classes as well. I hope that you have found them useful and an improvement on the photocopies that you received previously. The cost of the packs is £7.50 (+ £1.50 p&p) per pack which, for an average 12 week term, works out at just over 60p per class. As with last term, the activity packs will be sent out **free of charge** – with just the £1.50 charge for postage – if you book and pay for next term **before April 5th**. You can find all the term dates towards the end of the newsletter.

- **Vive le français**

I have had a huge increase in the number of enquiries for French clubs and am looking into starting some groups, along the lines of the current Spanish classes. We are already running French clubs at some primary schools and in some day nurseries and are hoping to extend this service considerably. If you have an interest in French, or know of people who do, please let me know so that I can gauge the demand across Hertfordshire, Essex and North London and take it from there. We are also now able to set up private French groups for your children – please contact me for more information.

- **Spanish and French for primary schools**

As you may be aware, primary schools are introducing more and more language provision at KS2. Some schools have also introduced basic language provision at reception stage and KS1 but these younger age groups are not always provided for sufficiently. Little Linguists is able to offer language tuition for primary schools at all stages, whether it be as a lunch club, after school club or as part of the school day when the class teachers have their preparation time. If you think that your child's primary school might be interested, please mention Little Linguists to them and I can send them out an information pack.

- **Private tuition and exam coaching (GCSE, AS and A Level)**

Our network of tutors has grown considerably and we can now offer a comprehensive range of tuition in all major European languages across all age groups, all levels of ability and for all purposes – including children, private coaching, for business and commercial purposes and for GCSE and A level. Our rates are extremely competitive so please pass on our details if you have any friends who may be interested.

Private tuition is available on a 1-1, 2-1 or small group basis and we can also arrange private Little Linguists groups in Spanish or French, if you know of one or two other people who are interested in their children learning a second language. These groups can work out very cost effectively (even cheaper than the group classes!) so do contact me if you are interested.

Younger Siblings and classroom stuff

As you know, we welcome younger siblings into the classes free of charge up to the age of 30 months and up to 36 months if they are not actively participating in the classes. They do however sometimes find it difficult to stay concentrated for the full session and can occasionally become distracting to the other children. If you feel that your little one is causing a distraction, I would be very grateful if you could bring along some toys, crayons etc to keep them entertained and happy and to allow the older children to focus on their class.

Don't forget – in the general group classes there should always be an adult responsible for each child in the classroom – this is to help your child with activities and also other things that they may need – like toilet trips and to deal with runny noses!! It also means that you get to learn lots of Spanish too...

Current Group Classes

Royston	Mondays 3.45-4.15pm Mondays 4.30-5.00pm Mondays 5.15-5.45pm	Pre-school - Year 1 Key Stage 1 Key Stage 2
Letchworth	Tuesdays 3.45-4.15pm	Pre-school - Year 1
Harpenden	Tuesdays 3.45-4.15pm Tuesdays 4.30-5.00pm	Pre-school – Year 1 Key Stage 1 plus
St Albans*	Wednesdays 3.45-4.15pm Wednesdays 4.30-5.00pm	Pre-school - Year 1 Key Stage 1 plus
Baldock	Thursdays 3.45-4.15pm Thursdays 4.30-5.00pm	Pre-school - Year 1 Key Stage 1 plus
Hertford	Thursdays 3.45-4.15pm Thursdays 4.30-5.00pm	Pre-school - Year 1 Key Stage 1 plus

* Waiting list only

A quick springtime puzzle

Find the following items (in Spanish) in the wordsearch grid below:



c	o	n	e	j	i	t	o	t	f
h	v	w	a	h	v	m	x	u	p
c	e	s	t	a	l	a	s	l	s
f	u	s	a	u	k	o	d	i	q
l	h	o	t	i	l	l	o	p	l
g	o	r	e	d	r	o	c	a	i
o	s	i	c	r	a	n	u	n	y

Next term dates.....

Monday 26 April – Friday 16 July 2010

Half term: 31 May – 04 June

Please check your individual course confirmation letter for your specific course dates as there may be some local changes due to teacher and room availability and Bank Holidays.

PRICE FREEZE! You'll be pleased to know that prices for the general group classes will be remaining the same as this term. These are £5.50 per session and £3.95 for siblings. This is an eleven week term and the cost therefore for one child will be £60.50 and for a younger sibling £43.45. In addition, there is a one off payment for the activity packs of £7.50 (+£1.50 p&p) for the term. **Please do check your individual course confirmation letter for details specific to your group.**

If you pay for your course before April 5th you will receive the activity pack for just £1.50 (p&p) – making a saving of £7.50.

As with last term, the teachers will no longer be able to accept payment for the classes in the class. Please could you either pay by cheque or by BACS – you will find all the payment details on the course confirmation letter accompanying this newsletter.

I hope that you will be continuing with us next term. As usual, I will reserve all existing students a place in their current class unless advised otherwise. If for any reason you do not wish to continue or your schedule is changing and you need to change class, I would be very grateful if you could let me know as soon as possible before the end of term. I can then offer places to children on the waiting lists.

Money saving offers from Little Linguists....

- Recommend a friend – if you recommend Little Linguists to a friend, they can enjoy their first lesson free of charge. If they then join the group you will receive a lesson free of charge the following term. There is no limit to this offer – the more friends you introduce, the more free lessons you will receive. Please ask them to mention your name at the time of booking!
- First lesson free (for new and returning Little Linguists) – the first lesson has always been a completely no obligation free trial. I am happy now to extend that offer to children who may have had a break from Little Linguists – maybe they had ballet or swimming at the same time or started school and were finding it all a bit much. Returning Little Linguists and their siblings can now enjoy their first lesson back for free. Come along and see how you get on!
- Book and pay early – If you book and pay for your course next term before 5th April you will receive the activity pack for just £1.50 (p&p).

I hope that you enjoy the rest of the term and look forward to welcoming you back for the summer term and (hopefully) warmer weather!

Wordsearch answers: cesta; cordero; tulipan; narciso; pollito; huevo; conejito