

# TESOL @ WINTEC

Volume 4

December 2015

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## Greetings from Sue and Adie!

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**Kia Ora, Talofa, Namaste, Salam, Dobar dan, Ni Hao, Bula, Hola, Annyong, Nabad, Hello, Hi!**

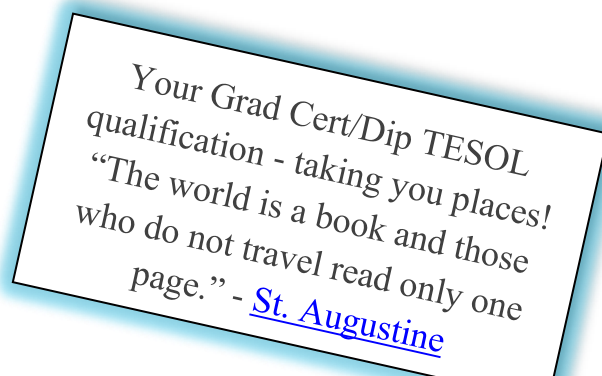
Welcome to the fourth edition of our newsletter!

We have finished our second semester and are looking forward to a break, but also looking forward to meeting new students in 2016 as well. We are particularly happy to welcome the nine new teachers who have received the MoE TESSOL Scholarships for 2016. Thank you for choosing Wintec!

This has been a busy year, with teaching and research, and we have also been asked to provide PD for Wintec staff about working with EAL (English as an additional language) students in mainstream Wintec classes.

We wish our graduates all the best as they start looking for work or decide what to do next! We hope to see a number of you at your Graduation ceremony in March, 2016. Whether you are staying in Hamilton or leaving, please keep in touch and let us know what you are up to!

Keep reading for: web site reviews, reports of our current research, and news about our students.



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## Important Dates

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### Semester 1 Intake for Grad Cert/Dip TESOL

- Starts Monday 22 February 2016
- Enrol Now!

### Semester 2 Intake for Grad Cert/Dip TESOL

- Starts Monday 25 July 2016

### Wintec Graduation:

- 18 March 2016 – Marae Graduation
- 21 March 2016 – Founders Theatre

### School of Education Special Awards:

- 21 March 2016

### CLESOL Conference:

- 15 -17 July 2016 - Hamilton

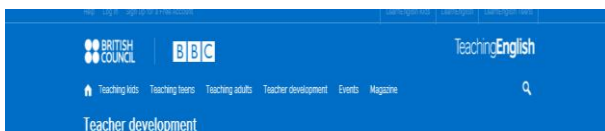
## BBC Learning English



The BBC Learning English website is well worth a visit if you are a teacher looking for resources for your teaching. It is part of the BBC World Service and has been offering free audio, video and text materials worldwide since 1943 and is full of treasures! There are a raft of resources for Upper Intermediate, Intermediate, Lower Intermediate and an interesting section called English My Way to help with everyday English. The resources are all downloadable with flashcards, videos and session (lesson) plans all available. There are relevant and authentic news clips that can be used for listening, along with up to date 'must have' phrases for your English learners to learn, pronunciation practice and dramas that are accompanied by scripts for your students to practise their speaking.

For each section they offer full length courses which are also designed to be standalone lessons which means you can choose the most appropriate for your learners. If you have some free time over the holidays lose yourself in this site: <http://www.bbc.co.uk/learningenglish/english/hygiene>

## British Council – Teaching English



Another site worth exploring is the British Council site for Teaching English. This site connects over 100 countries with high quality language materials for learners and teachers. It is another fantastic site with a vast range of resources for

teaching and learning English providing resources appropriate for a wide range of learners including children, teens, university students and workplace English.

<https://www.britishcouncil.org/>

## English Language Partners NZ



This web site is a wealth of information for both refugee and migrant learners of English and those who teach and work with them as they create new lives in New Zealand.

From the Home page, you can access the following pages: Learn English, Teach English, For Employers, Our Centres, Support Us. If you are a learner, there are 10 different options for learning English, as well as learner stories, and web sites for learners. If you are a teacher, or interested in becoming a teacher, there is a link to the ESOL Home Tutor training course, as well as teacher stories. There is also a fantastic collection of teaching resources, including lots of colour photos and line drawings – all from the NZ context!

But wait – there's more! There are reference resources, including grammar resources, teaching tips and ideas, and there is also an extensive list of websites for teachers, including many from New Zealand. In other words, this is a great web site to explore if you are a teacher looking for NZ-related resources.

You will also become aware of the amazing work that English Language Partners does in the New Zealand community, and that it is basically all done at no cost to the language learners. ELP is a charitable organization, and need the support of the public!

<http://englishlanguage.org.nz/>

**Picture Perfect: The potential of photographs in the tertiary classroom**

I recently presented some of my current research at TERNZ (Tertiary Education Research in New Zealand) Conference up in Auckland. I have been researching the use of photographs in the tertiary classroom as a teaching, learning and assessment tool. It was a very interesting conference with some great networking and ideas shared. I gained some wonderful feedback from my presentation.

The research project I am currently undertaking is a qualitative case study which will take place over a two-year period, in order to gain an understanding of ways in which photos are being currently used to promote teaching, learning and assessment further. Most of the data has been collected from a Wintec wide online survey, and the interviewing and observations of six Academic Staff members from across a range of schools in Wintec. Next comes the analysis of all this data which should be keep me very busy over the summer!



*“Google’ is not a synonym for ‘research’.”*  
— [Dan Brown](#)

**Assessing ELLs in New Zealand Primary Schools**

I became interested in this topic a year or two ago, with the transition to a new system for applying for the Ministry of Education ESOL funding, which happens in all primary and secondary schools twice a year. I wanted to find out how teachers viewed the move away from a cohort-based form of assessment to something more like a standards-based form of assessment, where learners’ language skills are matched against the descriptors in the English Language Learning Progressions (ELLP). I also wanted to find out how teachers were coming to their Overall Teacher Judgements (OTJs) about the learners’ skills.

So far I have interviewed three ESOL specialist teachers in primary schools, and will interview mainstream primary teachers in 2016, as they now have the most responsibility for completing the funding applications.

The findings so far indicate that teachers feel positively about the move to the new system, although they feel there is more to learn.

The Ministry provides some great online PD for teachers regarding ELLs and the new assessment system:

- [Meeting the needs of English Language Learners](#)
- [Using ELLP to support Funding Applications](#)

I presented my findings at the Language, Education and Diversity (LED) conference in November, and I would be happy to share my presentation - just email me!

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## Thanks to our Mentor teachers

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We would like to take the opportunity to thank our wonderful mentor teachers who provide ongoing support and advice for our Grad Cert and Grad Dip TESOL students.

Many thanks go to Zena from Fairfield Intermediate, Gaylene from Bankwood Primary, Danielle from Gordonton Primary, Christie from Hillcrest High, Carol from Knighton Normal, Craig from Cambridge High, Jo from Fraser High, and Jono from the Centre for Languages at Wintec.



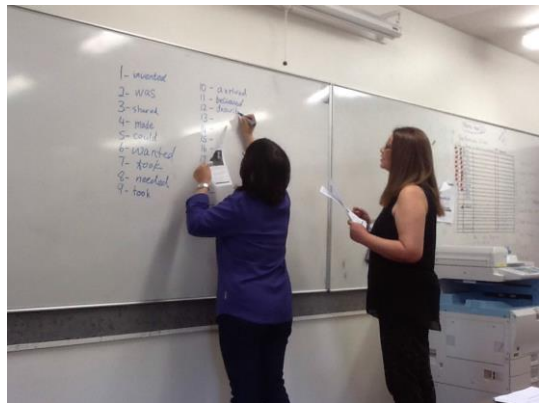
*Picture shows Gary, a Grad Dip TESOL student from China, at Bankwood Primary*

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## Our Students

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- We had a very enjoyable and successful Teaching Practicum this semester, with some of the TESOL students teaching the students who came to our Free English Classes at Wintec, others working in their schools, either primary or secondary, and one working with learners in a community class. This is always a time of great learning and usually a lot of fun as both new and experienced teachers explore different ways of connecting with and facilitating the learning of English language learners.



*Two of our Grad Cert TESOL students teaching - Jody and Janine*



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## What next?

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Many of our graduates move on to interesting jobs teaching English both in NZ and overseas. Some have already applied for new jobs, some have been accepted! Erika, who has just completed the one-year full-time Grad Dip TESOL, is off to Japan in February, and others have applied for English teaching jobs both in NZ and overseas. We would really appreciate it if you are able to let us know where you are and how your teaching experience is going!

**Have a wonderful Summer break! If you would like to contribute to our future newsletters, or just contact us, our emails are:**

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