



## EDITORIAL

Kia Ora - Guten Tag - 你好 - Buenos dias - こんにちは - Bonjour

---

Welcome to the United Nation's International Year of Languages and this year's edition of "Polyglot". For the first time the magazine is being presented online. We welcome your feedback about this edition and invite you to respond as requested previously.

Naturally, the NZALT biennial Conference was the highlight of this year and the report on conference is the first article in the magazine.

The early articles of this edition follow on from the professional development Immersion Experiences mentioned in the 2007 Polyglot, bringing you stories from those who have taken up these opportunities so those of you thinking about applying can have a first hand look at what is involved.

The second major section on Teaching and Testing brings in a lot of new and worthwhile ideas, all of which are worth reading and applicable regardless of your language speciality.

There is an expanded section this year from the year 7 & 8 teachers who have taken part in the Teaching Professional Development Programme (TPDL) with important results for all.

The inclusion of languages in the curriculum for Years 7 & 8 is having an impact on student learning which those of us who are secondary teachers, will need to come to terms with when we receive large numbers of fairly advanced learners of the languages in our Year 9 classes.

The final section explores some IT tips, giving you food for thought and some ideas you may not have thought about. Finally, we reach out beyond the classroom to target cultures.

As you go through this edition it is hoped you will not just skip to the articles you think may be relevant to your subject but take the time to browse from one article to the next in this expanded Polyglot and glean new ideas from each one.

If you feel there is something we missed this year let us know. We welcome your contributions. Don't forget this is your magazine uniquely supported by you, the teachers, and it's your sharing of ideas which gives life to this magazine.

Gayleen Mackereth (Editor)