Mawson Primary School

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Why settle for an ordinary school?
来看看我们学校
从幼儿园到六年级的
中文学习课程!

Our MIP Students are pictured above with the Honourable Julia Gillard MP and Her Excellency Liu Yandong, State Councillor in the Government of the Peoples Republic of China. 12 December 2012.
A Unique Mandarin Program

Mawson Primary School is one of only three primary schools in the ACT to offer students the opportunity for intensive language study. The school offers Mandarin, an important non-English language for Australians, thus promoting language acquisition and the understanding of Chinese culture.

No previous knowledge of Mandarin is required. Students are not expected to have access to Mandarin speakers for support outside of school hours. The Program is designed for students with a wide range of ability levels.

All children from Kindergarten to Year 6 learn Mandarin in one of three programs:

Languages Other Than English (LOTE) classes. Up to 1 1/2 hours students focus on the development of their speaking, listening, reading and writing skills.

Mandarin Immersion Program

In 2014 students in Kindergarten, Year One and Year 2 are able to participate in the ONE DAY Mandarin Immersion Program (MIP).

In Years 3-6 students are able to participate in a TWO DAY Mandarin Immersion Program (MIP). These programs challenge student learning by providing a high level of instruction in Mandarin and provides the opportunity for students to gain a deeper understanding of Chinese language and culture. It includes the teaching of some elements of the Australian Curriculum.

Mandarin Language Pathways

Advanced Mandarin programs are available to graduating MIP students at Melrose High School and then Canberra College. Several weekend schools also provide advanced Mandarin courses.

The Benefits of Bilingual Education

Research indicates that there are many benefits of being a bilingual learner. These include:

- Enhanced literacy learning in English by:
  - Developing better understandings of the structure and workings of languages
  - Developing skills and strategies for decoding and making meaning from words
  - Developing flexibility and competence in dealing with language concepts
  - Developing sensitivity to language with a better ‘ear’ for listening

- A positive effect on a child’s intellectual growth and flexibility in thinking
- An appreciation of other people and their culture
- An opportunity to communicate with people from another culture
- Increases future employment opportunities

Do you want your child to be able to:

- Learn the Australian curriculum in Mandarin
- Converse in Mandarin
- Read and write Chinese characters
- Write in Pinyin
- Learn about and appreciate Chinese culture
- Know how to communicate and transfer knowledge and skills across another language and culture?

Mawson Primary School’s Mandarin Language Programs are the answer.