

# Lion's Voice



Issue 5 September 2010

## CONTENTS

### Teacher's Corner

- > **Aptitude and Attitude: Which is which?** 2  
*by George Lampropoulos*

### Cover Story

- > **Disabled Access Friendly Campaign** 3

### Απλά Μαθήματα Σχολικής Ψυχολογίας

- > **Σχέσεις γονέων εκπαιδευτικών** 4  
*by Despina Dimitraki*

### Inside City & Guilds

- > **City & Guilds at the Spring 2010  
IP Exhibition** 6
- > **City & Guilds Teachers' Club  
Exclusive Event** 7

### Latest News

- > **October Examination**
- > **Website in English**
- > **Autumn 2010 IP exhibition**
- > **Teacher Development Seminar Days  
Autumn 2010**

## > Editor's Note

*Dear Readers,*

Just as the academic year 2010-2011 begins, I would like to welcome you all to the fifth issue of our Newsletter. We truly hope that this school year will be the most productive and creative yet.

Our feature article in this issue discusses the theme of aptitude and attitude in foreign language learning. Teachers are presented with the meaning of both notions and most importantly, with ways these two language learning factors can be used in class to improve learners' performance.

Our psychology column by school psychologist, Despina Dimitraki, focuses on the relationship between teachers and parents and how it can affect and improve students' performance. Teachers are given practical advice on how to prepare, organise and deal with a frequently dreaded "teacher-parent" meeting.

Last but definitely not least, our cover story discusses the disabled access friendly campaign organised by Paul Shaw, a colleague in Thessaloniki. The philosophy and aims of the campaign can be found in this article along with ways each and every one of us, whether teacher, language school owner or publisher, can help disabled learners.

Do not miss our latest news which include the October examination and registration dates, information on the autumn 2010 IP exhibition events, as well as information and dates of the upcoming round of Teacher Development Seminar Days.

**George Lampropoulos**  
*Editor*

#### Editorial Team:

*George Vassilakis  
Despina Dimitraki  
George Lampropoulos  
Markos Mournouris*

#### Design:

*Marketing & Communication Department*



## > Disabled Access Friendly Campaign

Lion's Voice and PEOPLECERT S.A. fully support the Disabled Access Friendly Campaign, which was started a few months ago by our colleague and friend Paul Shaw in Thessaloniki. Find out what this campaign is all about and how you can help!

### Philosophy of the campaign

The best Foreign Language Centres already extend the work they do in language teaching to raise pupils' awareness of the society in which they live and try and make it a better place. This awareness of the world in which we live and the belief that through their own actions students have the ability to make improvements, is at the heart of education. The disabled are currently disabled more by infrastructure, other people and their attitudes than by their own physical situation. Only by showing children that persons with disabilities do not have to be an invisible minority, but vibrant and valued members of society, can we expect future generations to want changes. Only by providing children with the information necessary to allow them to put themselves in other people's shoes, to understand others and to feel what others feel can we expect those changes to be made. Only then can the future become a more enlightened one.

### Scope of the campaign

This campaign targets privately owned Foreign Language Centres in Greece, where the vast majority of Greek children attend in order to learn foreign languages, usually English. The campaign is aimed primarily at children with difficulties in walking and in wheelchairs.



### Aims of the campaign

foreign languages (not just of English), with material that can be used in teaching and skills building as well as examination practice, but that will at the same time raise awareness about issues affecting the physically disabled. Also, language centre owners will be encouraged to make small changes to their premises so that disabled students (and teachers) will be able to enter and leave their premises with dignity and ease, and participate in the centre's activities. These efforts will contribute to forging stronger bonds between the Foreign Language Centre and the community.

### How is this done?

The campaign's website is addressed to both able and disabled-bodied persons as one community. It provides Foreign Language Centre owners with useful information on the needs of physically disabled students, provides teachers with material and worksheets for use in the classroom, and provides all of us with a forum to share our experiences either as, or with, the disabled.

#### e-mail:

[disabledaccessfriendly@hotmail.com](mailto:disabledaccessfriendly@hotmail.com)

**Facebook group:** Disabled Access Friendly

### Food for Thought

#### School owners

- ✓ Could your school accommodate a physically disabled student?
- ✓ Is there a simple ramp at the door and a desk suitable for a wheelchair user?

*Join the campaign and raise the social profile of your school in the community!*

#### Teachers

- ✓ Do you want to help your students understand the needs of the physically disabled?
- ✓ Would you like to receive free teaching material that raises awareness on these issues?

*Join the campaign and become a teacher that makes a difference for tomorrow!*

#### Publishers

- ✓ Do you feel a social responsibility to guide young students to become responsible citizens?
- ✓ Is there material in your books that raises awareness about the physically disabled?

*Join the campaign and gain respect as instigators of positive changes in social attitudes!*