June 2016 Newsletter

Good morning everybody,

We hope you are all enjoying this lovely weather! It is hard to believe that it is almost end of June!

So what has been happening at the Literacy Society?

Over the last few months, our beginner ESL teacher Kara-lee has been taking a Portfolio-Based Language Assessment (PBLA) training course that introduces a new assessment style in the classroom. In a nutshell, PBLA is a comprehensive teaching approach that integrates assessment into the classroom on a regular basis. Students learn real life skills (such as how to read a recipe or how to fill out a job application form) and are assessed on their ability to successfully complete those tasks. This is in contrast to more traditional approaches to teaching English, which tend to overemphasize the importance of grammar. This month the students worked through a unit on healthy eating, where they were assessed on their ability to read nutritional labels and follow instructions for freezing fresh fruit. They also practiced their conversational skills, and were assessed on their ability to hold a casual conversation about their weekend plans with a classmate.

The ESL classes will be closed for 2 weeks during last week of July and first week of August, resuming on August 9th.

The Computer Skills classes have become very popular and we plan on continuing with them in July. This program helps individuals with basic computer literacy skills and covers creating email account, working with Internet and Microsoft word.

We would like to thank everyone who kindly donated to Literacy Society, in the memory of recently passed Mike Landucci. Mike has been a great promoter of Literacy Society for years and an active participant of the Santa Fundraising program. Our condolences go to all his relatives and those who knew him.

Thank you

And we would like to wish you all a lovely summer!

Your FSJ Literacy Society Team