



english**teachers**  
association  
*switzerland*

*Connect, Grow, Thrive*

## ETAS May e-Newsletter



Photo by [Ron Sumners](#) for ETAS

Dear <<First Name>>,

Save the Date! The **ETAS 2019 Professional Development Day** is taking place on **Saturday, 7th September** at the **International School of Berne** in **Gümligen**. A click on the image below takes you to the school's website. This year's plenary speakers **Dr. Briony Beaven** and **Lindsay Clandfield** will share their expertise and insights in their respective specialist areas with us. The **full programme** and information about **early-bird registration** will soon be posted on the **ETAS website**. The PD Day team and the ETAS National Council are looking forward to seeing you in September!



Early spring saw ETAS regions partnering with the publishers to bring the latest research and newest publications to interested English teachers. **Pearson's Mary Schnueriger** introduced teachers in Zürich and Basel to the themes of **mediation** and **online interaction** that are the focus of the CEFR Companion Volume published in early 2018.

Mediation addresses the communicative competences that many of our learners require to navigate between cultures and languages in plurilingual organisations (see **Angela Lloyd's article** in the **Winter 2018 issue** of the **ETAS Journal**). The new mediation descriptors capturing these competences are designed to help teachers develop real-life tasks that feature the mediation of texts, concepts and communication. In the same way, the online interaction descriptors illustrate learner competences in online activities such as posting on social media or engaging in forums for online education.



Mary Schnueriger of Pearson talking about *mediation* and *online interaction*

**Oxford University Press** also partnered with ETAS at the Basel launch event during which **Jennifer Hinam** and **Katrina Ward** introduced the new editions of classroom favourites **Headway** and **English File**. Attending teachers were particularly interested to hear about the wide range of resources made available to teachers on the new online resource centre.

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Jennifer Hinam and Katrina Ward introducing the new editions of *Headway* and *English Files*

What else? Well, how about boosting your own professional development by actively contributing to the **ETAS Journal**? The **Journal team** is planning to publish a **Special Supplement on *Integrated Skills***. Scroll down for more details.

Don't miss out on **last month's Twitter recap**, which includes three insightful articles on ELT. In one of them, Sandy Millin introduces her lesson plan for C1/C2 learners based on the novel *Good Omens* by Terry Pratchett and Neil Gaiman.

The **report on the ETAS outreach survey** is now available online. Read on to find out about the results.

And much more ...

Kind regards,  
Your ETAS team

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## Report on the ETAS outreach survey

The Executive Committee is pleased to publish the **report on the ETAS outreach survey**, which so many of you helped with in February. Lots of great suggestions from members and non-members about events and ETAS' strengths and weaknesses were offered. The Committee is hard at work making some of these suggested changes already! Please get in touch with **Sue Wood**, **Antoinette Breutel** or **Ben Hoyt** if you'd like to be a part of these changes!

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## ETAS Journal News

### Get involved: Special Supplement on Integrated Skills

Are you interested in getting involved in a **Special Supplement** for the ETAS Journal focussing on ***Integrated Skills - Writing and Speaking***, especially practical aspects, for the **Winter 2020 edition**? If so, please contact the

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**Publications Chair** (publ@e-tas.ch) or the **Journal Editor, Don Paul** (journal@e-tas.ch).

## Have you ever thought about writing a resources review? Here's your chance!

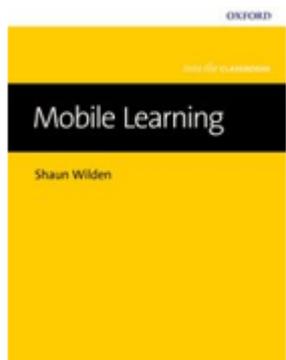
The ETAS Journal team still has plenty of resources available for the **Focus on Digital Literacy**. Take a look below for some examples. Whether you are a digital resident or just curious about teaching with technology, **Hannah McCulloch** (bookreview@e-tas.ch) is looking forward to hearing from you.



Kyle Mower, Graham Stanley: *Digital Play. Computer games and language aims* (Delta Publishing)



Ben Goldstein, Paul Driver: *Language Learning with Digital Video* (CUP)



Shaun Wilden: *Mobile Learning* (OUP)

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Express DigiBooks

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## Regional ETAS Events

**Bern, 6th June:**

**ELT Springboard - End of term reflection**



Image on [eltspringboard.wordpress.com](https://eltspringboard.wordpress.com)

It's (almost) that time of year again, one last push for end of term and then some time to think about the year that's just finished! *ELT Springboard Bern* will be doing some reflection too. This time the Springboarders have made a quick survey and would appreciate it if you could put your answers **here** by 2nd June.

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Read more about the survey on the **corresponding *ELT Springboard* website**. The results of the survey will be discussed in the meeting on **Thursday, 6th June at 8pm at Tibits Gurtengasse in Bern** (about 200 meters from the main station). If you're coming to the meeting, please RSVP at **elt.springboard@gmail.com**.

## **St. Gallen: Academic Reading Group**



The ***ELT Academic Reading Group*** in St. Gallen has been meeting monthly since January 2016. The aim of the group is to discuss a different academic article each month related to various aspects of English language teaching. The group is open and free to all teachers from any background. All you need is a keen interest in all things related to English teaching. It's a great place to meet like-minded teachers and share ideas. The meetings are on the second, third or fourth Friday of every month (depending on everyone's availability) at **9.30 in the Migros Bahnhof Cafeteria**. For more information please write to **Gemma Lunn** (gemma\_lunn@hotmail.com).

## **Lausanne: Social-Professional Apéro for teachers of English and other languages**

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Photo ETAS Vaud

Have a mid-week unwind with other teaching professionals at our monthly social-professional networking apéros! Meetings take place at **Tibits restaurant** at **Lausanne station**. For any questions please write to **Sharon Acton and Sonia Spenlehauer** at [vaud@e-tas.ch](mailto:vaud@e-tas.ch).

## **Basel: SPARK**



Launched by ETAS members **Antoinette Breutel** and **Guadalupe Salazar**, **SPARK Basel** reaches out to ETAS members and non-members, as well as teachers of other languages to build a community of engaged teachers. The meetings are free, however, everyone pays for their own drinks and nibbles. For more information please write to [\*\*basel@e-tas.ch\*\*](mailto:basel@e-tas.ch).

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## **Other ELT Events**

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**Horgen/ZH, 18-19th May:**

## **15th Cambridge English Annual Spring Seminar**



The **15th Cambridge English Annual Spring Seminar** in **Horgen/ZH** on **18th and 19th May 2019** will be focussing on digital tools that you can use in your exam preparation classes. During the seminar you will be working with tools that are practical, user-friendly and that will give you confidence to work with technology in your classroom. For more details and to register, please refer to the [event website](#).

**Zug, 18th-20th July:**

## **Drama in Education Days 2019**



Join like-minded language teachers working with learners of all levels to discover the possibilities of working with Theatre and Drama in Education! The **5th annual Drama in Education Days** will be held at the **University of Teacher Education Zug (PH Zug)**, Switzerland from **18th-20th July**. The keynote speakers are **Jonothan Neelands** (*University of Warwick, UK*), co-author of *Structuring Drama Work* (2015), and **Patrice Baldwin** (*UK*), author of *With Drama in Mind: Real learning in imagined worlds* (2012). More information can be found online [here](#). Contact: **Eva Göksel** ([drama@e-tas.ch](mailto:drama@e-tas.ch)).

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For more upcoming events please see [here](#).

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Image by [Pixabay](#) / Creative Commons

## Last month's most popular Tweets were:

- **Good Omens lesson plan** via @sandymillin
  - **Innovations in English language teaching for migrants and refugees, a free booklet from** @TeachingEnglish
  - **Does technology work?** via @TheConsultantsE
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Photo Credit Burst / [Pexels](#), CCO

## EFL Webinars

Your opportunity to embark on professional development at home! Check out the **EFL Webinar section** on our website. ETAS members can explore new topics and interact with teachers around the globe, all from the comfort of home! Click on the image above to find out more.

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## ETAS in the Social Media

 [ETAS Facebook group](#)

 [@ETAS\\_CH](#)

### Social Networking on Facebook

If you haven't discovered us on Facebook yet, please surf on over next time you're online and check out what's happening in ETAS' social network. Our **Group** has attracted the interest of thousands of teachers in Switzerland and around the world with almost 1,400 members.

If you have any questions, please contact **Hannah McCulloch** or **Coco Frei**.

### Follow ETAS on Twitter

ETAS is also present on Twitter **@ETAS\_CH**. Keep up to date with the latest developments and ideas in the world of ELT and find magnificent new lesson

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ideas! If you are not familiar with Twitter or don't know why it's such an amazing resource for teachers, **this blog post** has some handy tips.

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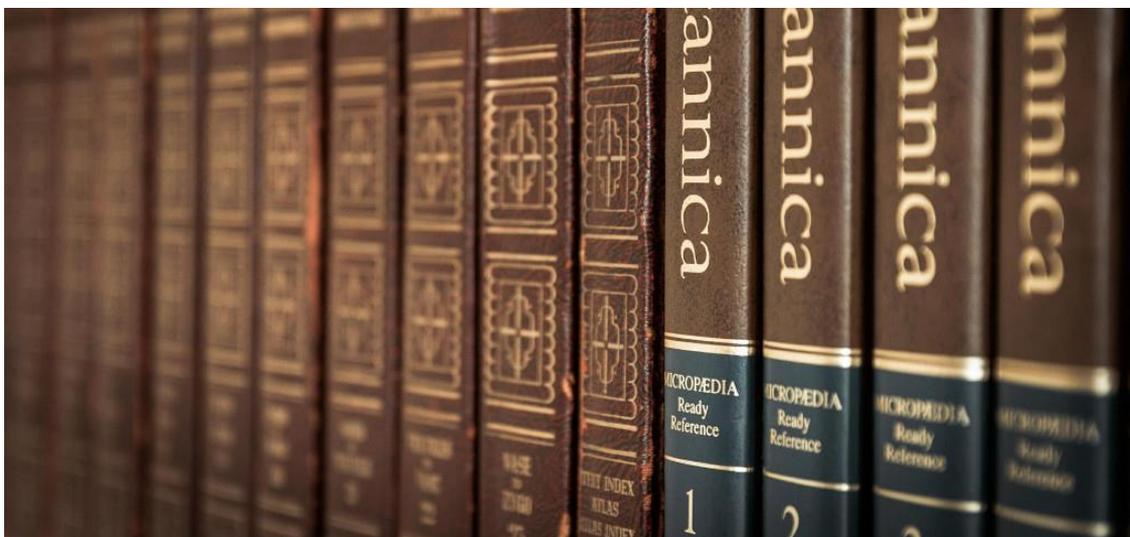


Photo Credit: [Pixabay](#) / Creative Commons

## ETAS Library

The ETAS Library has a wealth of useful and relevant ELT titles available for you to borrow. Don't forget to check out the **online Library catalogue**. Click on the image to find out more about Library terms of use and payment.

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## ETAS Office

**Phone hours:**

Monday, 8.30 – 11.30

Wednesday, 8.30 – 11.30 and 13.30 – 16.30

ETAS Administrator, Annegret Richmond, can also be contacted via mail.

**Office address:**

ETAS Office

Im Hubel 3

CH-6210 Sursee

Tel: +41 (0) 24 420 32 54

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Fax: +41 (0) 24 420 32 57

Email: [office@e-tas.ch](mailto:office@e-tas.ch)

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**e-Newsletter Editor:** Markus Jürgen Dietz

**Proofreader:** Rachael Harris

**Reviewers:** Antoinette Breutel-O'Donoghue, Helena Lustenberger, Annegret Richmond and Sue Wood

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