

Estimados alumnos,

Welcome to the **July 2011 edition of the Lorca Newsletter** - as always, there's lots happening at Lorca: we've been busy with our **"Café Español" conversation meet ups** (which have proved very successful) as well as organising **trips to the GFT** to see films like "Viva México" and "Julia's Eyes". Our **Facebook pages** are now well established and contain interesting and informative links as well as comments from teachers and students. **The current term finishes w/c 4th July (Monday evening classes finish Monday 11th July)** - however, don't despair, we've finalised our summer and September term course programmes so there's plenty more Spanish on offer over the next 6 months! We hope you find the information in this newsletter useful and informative, however if you require further details about any of the topics raised please do not hesitate to contact us.

SUMMER COURSES, JULY AND AUGUST 2011:

This year our summer courses begin **w/c 18th July and will run until w/c 22nd August 2011**. Classes will be taking place in the **evening between 6.00 and 8.00pm + Friday afternoons between 1.00pm and 3.30pm**

Courses on offer for summer 2011:

1. 2 week intensive and 4 week **semi-intensive courses**. For beginners and elementary level courses.
2. 1 week **intensive holiday/survival Spanish course**. For beginners and elementary levels.
3. 4 week **revision courses**. For levels 1b-4.
4. 4 week **"top up" courses**. For levels 5 and 6

(1to1's and small group classes still available over the summer period - please ask at reception if interested)

SEPTEMBER-DECEMBER TERM 2011: (15 week term)

Saturday morning classes: start **Saturday 3rd September** and finish **Saturday 10th December**.

Weekday classes (afternoons and evenings): start **w/c 5th September**, finish **w/c 12th December**.

If you are interested in enrolling on any of the above courses or require further information please contact reception.

FACEBOOK

As we mentioned above, our Facebook pages are now up and running: we have 3 accounts and they are all linked to one another. There is a main **"Lorca"** page (general Lorca news), another called **"Spanish film club"** (info. on Hispanic cinema + trips to the GFT) as well as **"Café Español"** (contains up to date info re. the conversation meet ups). We will be continually updating these pages with interesting news, links and discussions so "stay tuned" as they say!

CAFÉ ESPAÑOL (CONVERSATION "MEET UPS"):

We have now run 3 Café Español sessions at the "Old Haidressers" bar in Renfield Lane and they have been very successful. The meet up sessions give students at all levels the opportunity to practice their conversation skills with teachers, other native speakers and their fellow students in a relaxed, informal environment. The feedback we've had has been very positive - students have remarked at how enjoyable it is just being able to speak about lots of different topics in a more natural, less structured way than they would be able to when in class. Thanks again to all those students who have come along to these sessions - your support is much appreciated. If you haven't been along to the Café Español yet and would be interested in participating or want more information please let us know. We aim to run at least 2 meet ups per month. [For more info. please see the Facebook page/student notice board.](#)

SPANISH CINEMA CLUB:

We have set up a Facebook page to promote our Spanish cinema club and, like the meet ups, this is proving to be a real success. As we are a language and cultural centre we have also managed to obtain a discount on ticket prices for groups of 10 or more. Recently teachers have taken groups of students to see "Viva Mexico" and "Julia's Eyes". There is also an opportunity for students to discuss the films with teachers (in Spanish of course!) over a coffee or a light refreshment! [Please visit our Facebook page for information on Hispanic Cinema + trips to the GFT.](#)

REDECORATION OF CLASSROOMS AND OFFICES:

I'm glad to report that all the offices and classrooms have now been painted and damaged blinds replaced! In addition, the student common area has undergone a bit of a transformation: as you will have noticed one of the walls has been partially removed which has had the positive effect of opening up the student area a bit more. We've also put in new seating and tables and laminate flooring has been put down at the students entrance. We think that, overall, the "makeover" has improved the look of the classrooms and offices and I think it would be fair to say that the student common area is a lot smarter than before.

SQA SPANISH MODULES::

We have recently approached the [Scottish Qualifications Authority](#) in relation to offering [SQAF Spanish modules](#) and we hope to become an accredited centre very soon. This will also enable us to apply for [ILA status](#) at a later date. Classes will operate as normal, however if students wish they can apply to do the relevant module. This will not involve you enrolling on a separate course because our current curriculum more than satisfies the SQA requirements: this means that SQA students and non-SAQ students can be in the same class following the same learning programme. We will keep you updated regarding our progress.

FEEDBACKS:

Feedback forms will be handed out to all students next week: we would be most grateful if you could spend a few minutes completing these in class - your comments and suggestions are always appreciated and it helps us to improve the quality of service that we offer as well as enabling us to respond to your requirements.

FIESTA, FIN DE CURSO:

Our "End of term Fiesta" will take place [Saturday 2nd of July! \(12.30pm-2.00pm\)](#). As always we will have wonderful food from Spain and South America on offer (tapas and traditional homemade dishes) and, course, "vino" and soft drinks! What better way to end the term! Hope to see you all there.

That's all for now but we'll keep you posted with all the latest news!

iHasta pronto y muchas gracias!

The Lorca team