

## **An international perspective to the recovery curriculum**

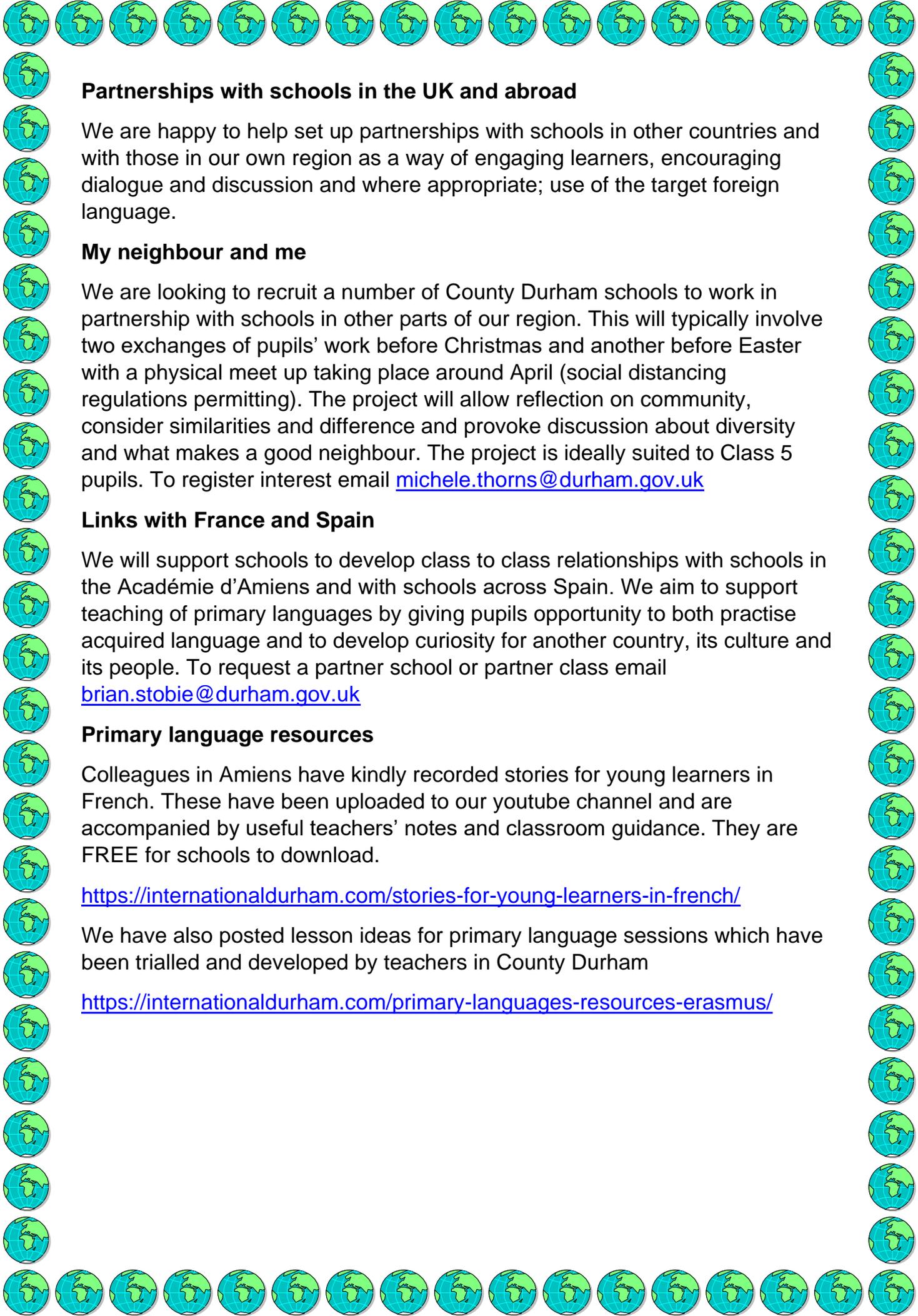
As our learners return to classrooms, we are mindful of areas of lost learning during school closures but we cannot simply pick up from the next page in our scheme of work. Learners' experiences during the pandemic need to be acknowledged and their appetite for learning rekindled. It is important to give time to re-build relationships between peers and between learners and staff.

The global nature of the pandemic allows our learners to understand that their sense of loss was shared by peers in the UK and across the world. Adopting an international perspective to learning can enthuse and engage groups of learners, encourage enquiry and promote reflection.

The County Council's International Relations Team is happy to work with schools to build and develop an international dimension to the curriculum. Schools which follow this pathway will be able to gain accreditation from the British Council's International School Award programme, which is recognised as an indicator of a school's commitment to the broader British Values agenda and to promoting SMSC among its learners.

<https://www.tes.com/news/ofsted-focusing-curriculum-development-schools-could-do-lot-worse-look-international>

**On the following pages are some of the services which we can provide at no cost to schools and academies in County Durham**



## Partnerships with schools in the UK and abroad

We are happy to help set up partnerships with schools in other countries and with those in our own region as a way of engaging learners, encouraging dialogue and discussion and where appropriate; use of the target foreign language.

## My neighbour and me

We are looking to recruit a number of County Durham schools to work in partnership with schools in other parts of our region. This will typically involve two exchanges of pupils' work before Christmas and another before Easter with a physical meet up taking place around April (social distancing regulations permitting). The project will allow reflection on community, consider similarities and difference and provoke discussion about diversity and what makes a good neighbour. The project is ideally suited to Class 5 pupils. To register interest email [michele.thorns@durham.gov.uk](mailto:michele.thorns@durham.gov.uk)

## Links with France and Spain

We will support schools to develop class to class relationships with schools in the Académie d'Amiens and with schools across Spain. We aim to support teaching of primary languages by giving pupils opportunity to both practise acquired language and to develop curiosity for another country, its culture and its people. To request a partner school or partner class email [brian.stobie@durham.gov.uk](mailto:brian.stobie@durham.gov.uk)

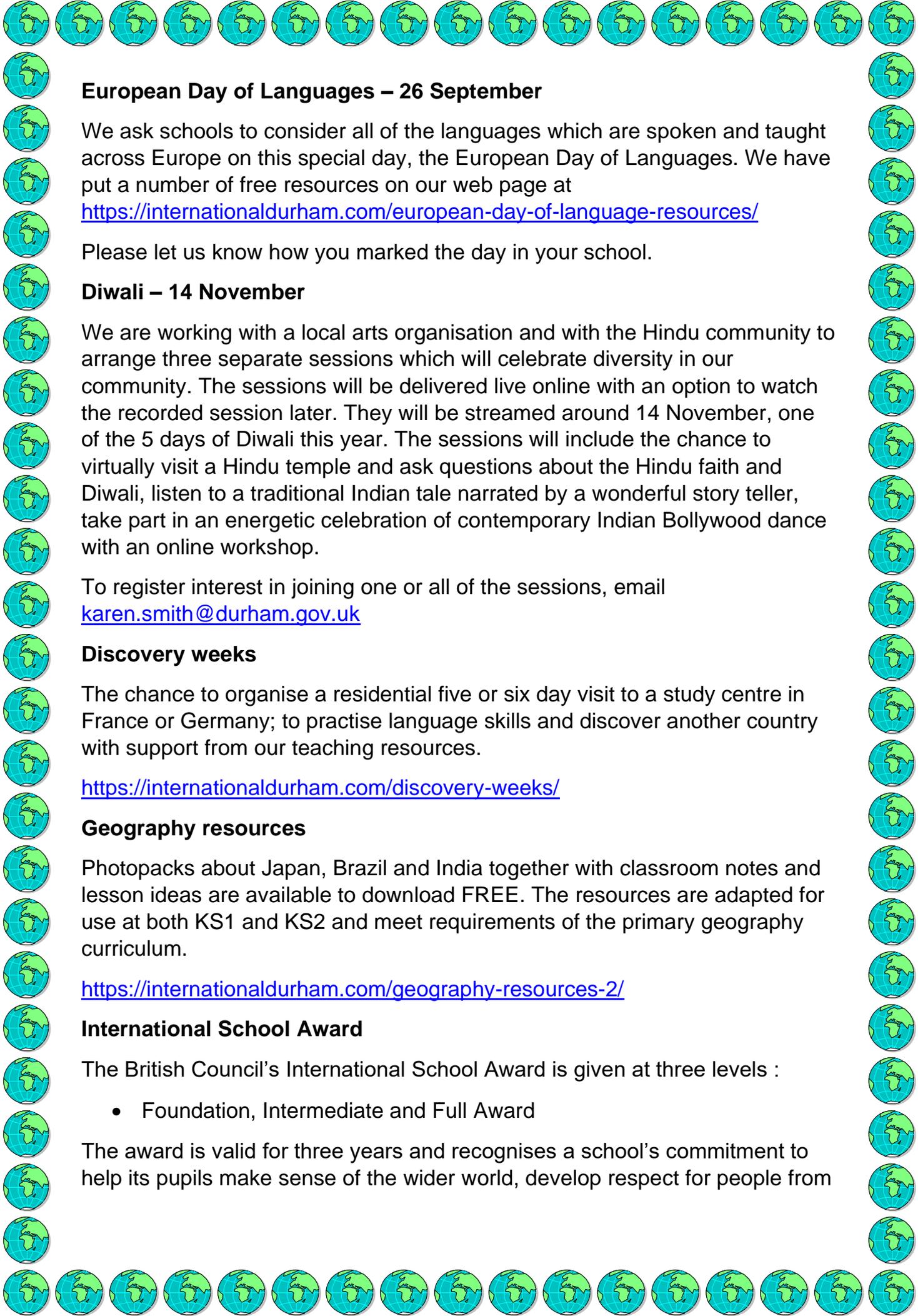
## Primary language resources

Colleagues in Amiens have kindly recorded stories for young learners in French. These have been uploaded to our youtube channel and are accompanied by useful teachers' notes and classroom guidance. They are FREE for schools to download.

<https://internationaldurham.com/stories-for-young-learners-in-french/>

We have also posted lesson ideas for primary language sessions which have been trialled and developed by teachers in County Durham

<https://internationaldurham.com/primary-languages-resources-erasmus/>



## European Day of Languages – 26 September

We ask schools to consider all of the languages which are spoken and taught across Europe on this special day, the European Day of Languages. We have put a number of free resources on our web page at

<https://internationaldurham.com/european-day-of-language-resources/>

Please let us know how you marked the day in your school.

## Diwali – 14 November

We are working with a local arts organisation and with the Hindu community to arrange three separate sessions which will celebrate diversity in our community. The sessions will be delivered live online with an option to watch the recorded session later. They will be streamed around 14 November, one of the 5 days of Diwali this year. The sessions will include the chance to virtually visit a Hindu temple and ask questions about the Hindu faith and Diwali, listen to a traditional Indian tale narrated by a wonderful story teller, take part in an energetic celebration of contemporary Indian Bollywood dance with an online workshop.

To register interest in joining one or all of the sessions, email

[karen.smith@durham.gov.uk](mailto:karen.smith@durham.gov.uk)

## Discovery weeks

The chance to organise a residential five or six day visit to a study centre in France or Germany; to practise language skills and discover another country with support from our teaching resources.

<https://internationaldurham.com/discovery-weeks/>

## Geography resources

Photopacks about Japan, Brazil and India together with classroom notes and lesson ideas are available to download FREE. The resources are adapted for use at both KS1 and KS2 and meet requirements of the primary geography curriculum.

<https://internationaldurham.com/geography-resources-2/>

## International School Award

The British Council's International School Award is given at three levels :

- Foundation, Intermediate and Full Award

The award is valid for three years and recognises a school's commitment to help its pupils make sense of the wider world, develop respect for people from

other religious and cultural backgrounds and build a sense of national identity in a diverse and interconnected world.

<https://www.britishcouncil.org/school-resources/accreditation/international-school-award>

Support is available to schools at no cost. It begins with a short audit and then together we develop an action plan to work towards the most appropriate form of accreditation for your learning community. To explore this further contact [michele.thorns@durham.gov.uk](mailto:michele.thorns@durham.gov.uk)

If you would like support with any aspect of developing an international perspective to the curriculum, please contact

[brian.stobie@durham.gov.uk](mailto:brian.stobie@durham.gov.uk)

Tel 03000 268500

