

HALLOWEEN 2023 · VOL. 3

LINGUISTIC PROGRAM NEWSLETTER

KIDZ CLUB EDUCATIONAL CENTRE



Bonjour et Bawoo!

Happy Halloween, everyone!

Not to be contained to just one day, Halloween is a global phenomenon as part of pop culture's lexicon.

During the week leading to Halloween, the children learn about the significance of the commemoration in France and its regions, as well as the grammar associated with the icons of the spooky season!

Children are encouraged to dress as their favourite Halloween character and participate in the daily photoshoots at the centre.

A fun Halloween season for all!

Stuart

What's New?

It's Halloween!

A week-long commemoration of the event commencing on October 23!

A new article!

The effect of bilingualism on brain development from early childhood to young adulthood. Part Two.





The effect of bilingualism on brain development from early childhood to young adulthood.

Christos Pliatsikas, Lotte Meteyard, João Veríssimo, Vincent DeLuca, Kyle Shattuck & Michael T. Ullman

Introduction (continued from the last issue) Bilingualism and brain structure in adults

Therefore, structural changes associated with bilingualism may be expected in (at least) those brain structures involved in bilingualism. Bilingualism entails the learning of the knowledge and skills involved in the use of the languages (including phonology, lexico-semantics, and grammar), as well as the (apparently constant) control between them (Green and Abutalebi 2013). Thus, bilingualism may be expected to affect the structure of cortical and subcortical regions involved in (perhaps among other functions) language learning, processing, and control, as well as the white matter tracts that provide connectivity between these regions.

Indeed, the reported structural effects of bilingualism in adults (measured as differences between bilingual and monolingual groups, or sometimes in training studies) are most commonly reported in grey matter regions that have been found to underlie such language-related (as well as other) processes (for details, see Pliatsikas 2019). These regions primary include: frontal and nearby cortex, including the three portions of the left inferior frontal gyrus (IFG), namely, opercularis (IFGop), triangularis (IFGtr), and orbitalis (IFGor), as well as the frontal pole, the middle and superior frontal gyri (MFG and SFG), and the anterior cingulate cortex (ACC); temporal cortex, including the superior, middle, and inferior temporal gyri (STG, MTG and ITG), Heschl's gyrus, the temporal pole, and the hippocampus; and parietal cortex, including the supramarginal gyrus, the angular gyrus, and the superior parietal lobule (Mechelli et al. 2004; Mårtensson et al. 2012; Abutalebi et al. 2014a; Klein et al. 2014; Stein et al. 2014; Kaiser et al. 2015; Olulade et al. 2016; Hämäläinen et al. 2018). Subcortical structures that are affected mainly include the basal ganglia, in particular the caudate nucleus, the putamen, and the globus pallidus, as well as the thalamus (Burgaleta et al. 2016; Pliatsikas et al. 2017; DeLuca et al. 2019a), with some effects also having been reported in the cerebellum (Filippi et al. 2011, 2020; Pliatsikas et al. 2014).

Coming next month, part three!



Early Childhood Teacher Kathy Mossop is seen here with Kidz Club Linguistic Program Coordinator Stuart A Blair teaching children how to use a language learning app.

Kidz Club Linguistic Program

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