

## Why Serbian Language & Culture Classes?

By offering a fun and positive experience, we aim to arouse children's curiosity and interest in their heritage.

While working on Serbian language skills, our students gain awareness of contemporary Serbia and its path through history.

Our classes make connections between the Australian and Serbian cultures, helping children consolidate their Australian identity with their Serbian heritage.

Our broader goal, beyond the classroom, is to encourage a lifelong learning of languages and culture.



Classes are held on Saturdays  
in Deakin and Griffith, A.C.T.  
near Deakin shops / Manuka shops

Enrolments/Enquiries:  
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Our school is named after  
DIMITRIJE "DOSITEJ" OBRADOVIĆ  
a Serbian writer, philosopher,  
dramatist, linguist and  
the first Minister of Education of Serbia.

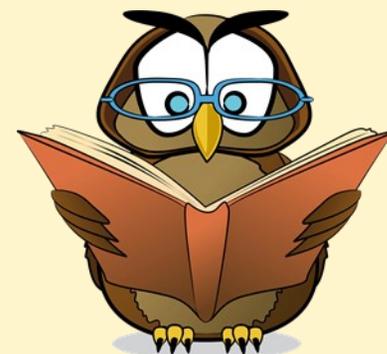


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## Serbian Language School *DOSITEJ*



*Classes in  
Serbian Language  
& Culture  
for Canberra*



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in Deakin and Griffith, A.C.T.  
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## The Family's Role...

### ... away from class

We only have your child for a couple of hours a week, so we want to support *you* as your child's most important teacher of language.

Only *you* can provide the opportunity for your child to speak Serbian every day.

Only *you* can ensure it's always a positive experience.

### ... around class

We provide regular lesson summaries and suggestions for follow up activities at home.

We encourage you to browse through your child's folder between classes and talk with your child about their learning.

We encourage you to build up a library of Serbian literature at home, by suggesting titles and where you can purchase them.

You are always welcome to have a chat with us, after class.

## Our Program

Our classes are highly interactive, up-beat and fun. We stimulate learning through movement, social interaction and varied learning resources.

Students are grouped by ability, not by age. The number of classes depends on enrolments and this is reviewed each term.

Children build up a **portfolio of work** which they take home and return to class each week.

A **language session** may generally consist of:

- Thematic learning of **vocabulary**
- **Games** and activities that reinforce language and/or cultural concepts
- Learning Serbian **children's songs** and rhymes
- Exposure to **Serbian literature**
- Learning both **Cyrillic and Latin** alphabets
- Learning and using **grammatical concepts** in their speaking and writing
- Awareness of **current affairs, people** and related vocabulary (e.g. Olympic sports stars, etc)

A **culture session** may include practical activities (building models, cooking, drama skits) as well as reading, writing and discussion, to help students learn about:

- **Daily life in Serbia**, today and in times past, including **important dates** and **customs**
- **Geography** and tourist attractions
- Serbian **history** in a regional and world context
- **Art** and **music** from Serbia
- **High achievers** throughout Serbian history

## About the Founders

**Maria Milbridge** is a fluent native speaker of Serbian who grew up in Australia from the age of six.

Having studied Education, Maria has always had an interest in bilingualism and in the challenges of growing up bicultural. She is Vice-President of the ACT Bilingual Education Alliance.

Since 2015, Maria has been teaching Serbian Language and Culture at Forrest Primary School, through the After School Activities program.

Maria has worked as Multicultural Learning Coordinator at Libraries ACT, as well as in HR, adult training and in the community sector in the past.

She nurtures a love of music and the arts.



**Ivan Miletic Milbridge** grew up in Belgrade, Serbia, arriving in Australia in his twenties.

Currently a Project Manager at the Department of Defence, Ivan is an avid reader with an impressive knowledge of Serbian history and culture. He brings extensive experience of working with children, from his time spent as a senior leader of the Palilula Scouts in Belgrade.

From 2009-2011, Ivan and Maria lived in Serbia with their two children and enjoyed it immensely. They bring up-to-date knowledge and educational resources from contemporary Serbia.