



14TH JANUARY 2022

NEWSLETTER

office@linkprim.org.uk
office@linksec.org.uk

020 8688 5239

DATES FOR THE DIARY

Wednesday, 19th January 2022
Parent Information and Coffee
Morning - Early Communication
CANCELLED DUE TO COVID
RESTRICTIONS - Revised
date to be advised

This session is open to all, but is probably more relevant to parents with children in Acorn Willow, Beech and Maple Classes.

Wednesday, 2nd February 2022
Parent Information and Coffee
Morning - Understanding
Myself and Others
09:30 - 12:00
This session is open to all parents across both schools.

14th - 18th February 2022
SPRING HALF TERM - No School

Friday, 1st April 2022
END OF TERM - EARLY CLOSURE FOR PUPILS

This week, our focus is on Speech and Language Therapy and we have given our team of therapists an opportunity to tell you more about their roles and the types of ways they help our learners develop.

Our whole school approach is at the core of everything we do and really does help to raise the quality and standards of our provision.

One of our speech and language therapists (Lucinda) is keen to adopt a whole school approach to help the environment.

Every year countless numbers of crisp packets end up in landfill across the UK. We will be working with TerraCycle to put an end to this waste and hope that you will join us by saving your crisp packets and sending them into school to put into our collection boxes, which will be based in the school offices.

Attached to this newsletter you will find a leaflet detailing the packets that are acceptable to recycle.

There is only one earth. Let's try and save it from being destroyed, so that future generations can enjoy its' beauty too.

SPEECH & LANGUAGE THERAPY AT THE PRIMARY SCHOOL

Speech and Language Therapy at The Link Primary School is an integral part of school life. Therapists work closely with Class Teachers, OTs and Special Support Assistants to provide a whole school approach to the development of children's communication skills.

We are a friendly team with a Therapist attached to each class

Acorns : Selina
Willow : Helen
Beech : Siobhan
Maple : Helen
Oak : Rachel
Hazel : Lucinda
Pine : contact Rachel with any queries



We involve ourselves in all aspects of school life assisting with class activities, community

outings and are very much part of the Class Team. We attend meetings relating to the children and you may see us at Parents' evenings, termly IEP meetings, Annual Reviews and any other professional body meetings relating to the children.

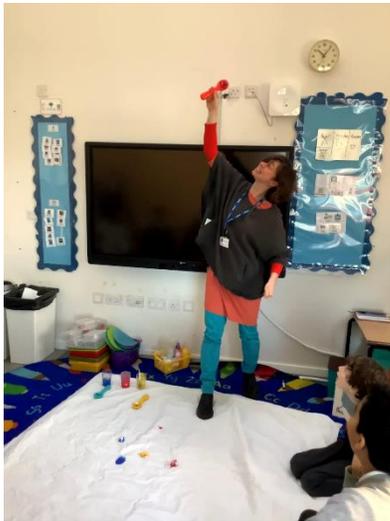
We provide training and support at parent workshops throughout the year, are involved in school development planning, ongoing training for staff and the development of communication skills across the curriculum, ensuring that communication is the central core to all aspects of school life.

We have a flexible approach to our children's therapy needs and constantly review and adjust as needed with targets and therapy input running alongside class topics and all parts of the school day.



Therapy is delivered through a combination of direct one to one work, small groups, class groups run

with teachers and implementing and maintaining on-going strategies within the classroom. We use and adapt a vast range of evidence based and well respected programmes and interventions and draw on our many years of experience to do all we can to help children at The Link become competent communicators, who have fun along the way!



We are available and really appreciate working closely with parents. This might look like keeping you up to date with work carried out during therapy and in class and offering ways this can be followed up at home where appropriate.

Direct email contact with therapists is available to parents. Please do drop us a line with any queries you may have or to share your child's successes.

SPEECH & LANGUAGE THERAPY AT THE SECONDARY SCHOOL

We have 4 speech and language therapists (SaLTs) who work at the secondary school.

Meet the team!



Charlotte Yeung



Claire England



Charlie Norman



Ali Hilliard

What is Speech & Language Therapy?

Speech and Language therapists assess and treat speech, language and communication problems in people of all ages. They may also work with people who have eating and swallowing difficulties.

What do we do at the school?

We see students in individual, paired, group sessions and whole class sessions. We also support students to generalize the skills we target to the wider school environment and other settings in the community.

The main areas we target are:

Attention and listening skills



This is often worked on using motivating toys, visuals and games. We aim to increase the length of time that students can focus their attention for. Attention activities are a lot of fun!

Receptive language



We often work on words which the students will hear in their lessons, understanding grammar and helping student to recognize and communicate when they don't understand.

Expressive language



We assess the students' language skills and then identify appropriate language areas to

target. For example, to develop vocabulary we use word maps and categories games or Colourful Semantics to develop sentence structure.

Speech



We work on supporting students to identify and produce tricky sounds and help the student generalize the correct sounds in to their spontaneous speech using a range of programmes and strategies (e.g. Nuffield and cued articulation).

Social communication skills



This is a huge area! It can involve

interpreting body language, supporting students at break time to play games, developing friendships, practising interview skills, visiting local shops to buy items and much more!

We like to work as functionally as possible and are always keen to work on targets which students have suggested themselves. Please let us know if there is a specific skills you would like us to work on.

We also have regular coffee mornings in school. These are a great opportunity for you to come and meet other parents, share ideas and make connections. We will be arranging another date as soon as possible and we hope to see you there.

WHAT'S HAPPENING AT THE PRIMARY SCHOOL?

Lewis and Derya from Hazel Class paid a visit to Morrisons this week and had the job of choosing chocolate items for their class reward box. They followed a pictorial shopping list and both used a credit card to pay. They walked to the store and enjoyed chatting along the way - communicating functionally and socially.



Link Priority 6

Communication - functional

Link Priority 7

Communication social

Link Priority 8

Waiting

Link Priority 9

Community Out and About

Link Priority 10

Community - Generalising Skills

Link Priority 16

Personal safety in the community

WHAT'S HAPPENING AROUND AND ABOUT?

Work is set to take place on the next phase of the Beddington Lane major improvement scheme from Monday 17th January.

The work will bring improvements to Beddington Lane and Hilliers Lane by providing a fully segregated cycle/footway from Beddington Lane TramLink to Beddington Village. There will also be improved public areas around Beddington Lane Tram stop and following improvement to the Beddington Lane/Marlowe Way Junction, it is hoped that journey times for buses and private vehicles will improve.

AND FINALLY

Have a lovely weekend and remember if you enjoy a packet of crisps - send the packet into school and play a small part in saving the planet!