

Sensory Inclusion Service Hearing Impairment Newsletter

Issue

36

April 2022

Sensory Inclusion Service, Floor 7A, Darby House, Lawn Central, Telford. TF3 4JA

Indy Kart Champions

Brothers Sion & Eric competed in the Hooton Park Indy Kart Championship 2021, this consisted of 10 rounds resulting in Sion getting 4th and Eric 3rd in the whole championship. Well done Team



World Book day

World Book Day benefits from many diverse outfits! Effie's was so convincing staff didn't even recognise her! Love the black lipstick!



Taekwondo achievement

"Maisie's Mum and Dad are extremely proud of her progress in her Taekwondo class. Maisie is the only deaf child attending her martial arts class in Wolverhampton and has recently passed her assessment to gain her first belt – orange, and a certificate for her achievements. Mum and Dad say they are very impressed by how much she is enjoying her sessions and is doing so well learning a new skill – well done Maisie!"



Attingham Park met up



The families of Effie Bingham and Elliot Taylor met up at Attingham Park with little siblings in tow! They both greatly benefitted from meeting another cochlear implant wearer and the families had an opportunity to share their experiences. The photos show just how much fun they had – they got on like 'a house on fire' despite the age gap! We look forward to many more gatherings of children and their families in the near future.

Family Group

SIS (HI) Family Group takes place every Thursday during term time for hearing impaired pre-school children and their families. The group meets at The Stepping Stones Centre in Telford. Families can arrive anytime from 9.30 am – 11.30 am.

Due to the pandemic, we had to limit the number of families able to attend; we have been running virtual sessions as well during this time. We are hoping to now welcome more families after Easter.

If you have not attended Family Group recently, or if you are interested in attending for the first time, then please get in touch. It is a chance to meet other families, have a coffee, for the children to play and to engage in art and craft activities. Mark Rutter also attends to check hearing devices.

We are hoping to have guest speakers too again the future; in the past we have had professionals from our own team lead talks for parents, as well as a range of other professionals come and deliver talks about a range of topics. You will be made very welcome! If you are interested in attending, please contact

Hazel Snape on 07800 671799 or

hazel.snape@telford.gov.uk

Transition from Primary to Secondary School 2022

We are pleased to announce that the SIS-HI transition day for Yr6 and Yr7 pupils is able to go ahead in person this year. The event is booked for 8th June and all hearing device users in Yr6 and Yr7 will be invited to attend. It is a one day event where pupils in Yr6 can learn more about transition to secondary school and have the opportunity to meet and learn from Yr7 pupils who have already been through this transition.

Not only do all pupils have the opportunity to meet with other hearing aid wearers from across Shropshire, there will be a range of activities to engage with, from team building games to group challenges and of course time for the Yr6 pupils to ask their pressing questions to the Yr7 pupils. Yr7 pupils can enjoy sharing their experiences and reflecting on what their transition period has been like.

If you have a Yr6 or Yr7 child, please look out for further details about this event in the near future.

Hospital appointments

Work is currently taking place at the Audiology suites so we ask that you please check your hospital appointment letters very carefully as your appointment may not be in the usual place.

Sensory Inclusion Service update

It's lovely to see Spring on the horizon, with lambs and daffodils everywhere it's again a time of new beginnings. It's certainly a time of many new beginnings for SIS generally.

Graham Groves has resigned his post, after 34 years with the service, and is currently off on a month's trip to Africa where he will swap his laptop for a pair of binoculars and much wildlife watching! Graham will be much missed by all of us at SIS and by so many families for whom he has been an amazing support over so many years! Bon Voyage Graham!

I am now the Team Leader for the service and am joined by Nikki Coombes and Ruth Lawton who have now taken on Lead Teacher positions in the team to support the management of SIS (HI). We also hope to have a new Lead Teacher for VI in place by September who will also join the management team. In the meantime, I'd like to thank the whole team which continues, despite so many challenges, to work flat out to maintain excellent support for children and young people and their families.

Sarah Court, who has been on secondment as the Lead of the Learning Support and Advisory Team (LSAT), is now in post as a permanent Lead for that team. She too will be sadly missed by SIS but is not too far away and still works closely with SIS and other teams within SEND. We look forward to joint working and benefitting from some of the great training offered by the LSAT team.

Some of you will have met Hazel Power who now works with the service as a Teacher of the Deaf. The team is delighted to have her 'on board'. In addition to her qualification in the field of deaf education, she brings a wealth of experience as a class teacher and a long term SENCo.

On the VI side of the team, Shingai Brazendale has taken up a position closer to home and we have been joined by Kerry Trow who has joined the VI team as a new teacher. Tracy Hollyhead is currently on secondment for part of her week, undertaking work around EHCPs etc. with the SEND team – she spends 2 days a week with SIS as an ASA and 3 days with the SEND team. We knew her work was meticulous and the SEND team is really appreciating her attention to detail. Helen McDonald is kindly picking up some of her ASA hours in the interim.

And finally, Claire Wilson is back from maternity leave and in her ever efficient way in balancing motherhood, moving home, ASA and ICT support. Welcome back Claire!

We have also just appointed a second Social Inclusion Facilitator (SIF) who we hope will join us in May, watch this space for her introduction and many exciting activities and social events in the future.

It's a very busy time and a time of great change so please bear with us whilst we settle into all these new roles. As always, your children remain our inspiration so please keep sending good news stories which we can share in our newsletters!

Wishing you all a very Happy Easter – enjoy those chocolate eggs!

Very best wishes, Theresa

Theresa



Batteries and Tubing: a reminder about how to access these

The brown books that were previously handed out by audiology to allow parents to collect batteries from the GP, have now been discontinued. You can still collect batteries from your GP, but instead of being given a brown book, you will need a card to present. If you want one of these cards, please call Audiology and they will be able to supply you with one. You can also order batteries and tubing online, via the link below:

<https://www.sath.nhs.uk/wards-services/az-services/audiology/battery/>



Local Offer for Special Educational Needs and Disability

Discover everything you need to know about education, health and care services in your local area for children and young people with SEND 0-25yrs at...

www.telfordsend.org.uk



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**sendandinclusion
@telford.gov.uk**



Shropshire's SEND Local Offer is a single place for information and services for children and young people with special education needs and/or disabilities, their families and the practitioners who support them.

Take a look at the [SEND Family directory](#) for local events, groups and things to do. For news and updates please like and follow us on [Facebook](#) and [Twitter](#).

Email: Local.Offer@shropshire.gov.uk Telephone: 0345 678 9063

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