Achievements
Well done to all of you

Lucia Evans

Lucia took part in a Cheerleading competition hosted by Cheerdance UK in Southport on Sunday 26th February. All cheerleading dance troupes from across the UK were invited to attend. Lucia was in the 11 year old category, and made it through to the semi-finals for dance 2 and got down to the final 16 out of 40 before being knocked out. She then made it to the final for her next dance and came 2nd. This was Lucia’s first ever competition and she was totally shocked when they called her name for 2nd place. Well done Lucia!

Football success

Daniella Wilding

Daniella is thoroughly enjoying making new friends and taking part in lots of different activities. Daniella is keeping her mum busy sewing on all the badges she’s earned. Well done Daniella!

Katie Laffey

Katie has accepted an offer from University of Bath to do Physical Activity and Health. Katie plans to have a placement year possibly in Australia as part of the degree. After completing her degree Katie would like to work in the field of sports nutrition.

Sian Smith, Toby Rippon, McKenzie Brown, Martin and Josh Sandland took apart in a football training event with one of the Shrewsbury Town Players (Jack Grimmer) recently with the Pan Disability team. They all played in a tournament against West Bromwich and Bradford, and came 2nd. They also got the opportunity to be flag bearers at a recent Shrewsbury Town match.

Weronika Wrobels

Weronika has had several offers to study Interior Design and has now accepted a place at Huddersfield University.

University places

This year we have several students: Katie Laffey, Weronika Wrobels, and Lauren Vickers who are all going to university in autumn 2017. We are very proud of their determination, hard work and excellent achievements and wish them all a happy and successful future.

Who’s Who?

Hi, I am Hazel Snape, a Teacher of the Deaf working for SIS since 2006. I am married to Ken and have a daughter called Jess who is almost 20 years old. She is currently at Chester University. I previously worked as a primary school teacher in Telford for 17 years (for 8 of those years I was also Deputy Head teacher).

I enjoy walking our family dog Floss (who is now very old and slow!) and hiking with friends across the Shropshire Hills. I play badminton twice weekly and enjoy getting together socially with friends and family.

I feel incredibly privileged to be able to work closely with hearing impaired children, their families and settings throughout Telford & Wrekin and Shropshire. I thoroughly enjoy my role and find it extremely rewarding. I mainly work with pre-school and primary children. One of the highlights of my week is SIS Family Group where pre-school families meet to offer support and friendship to each other.

Shropshire Council

SDCS Charity Ball
Saturday 20th May

Deaf Awareness Week
15th-21st May

Sensory Inclusion Service | Floor 7, Darby House, Telford & Wrekin Council, Lawn Central, Telford, TF3 4JA

Sensory Inclusion Service | Telephone 01952 385269 | Email sendandinclusion@telford.gov.uk
Audiology Update

Hearing aid Review appointments – New procedures

These appointments, which are at least once a year, are an essential element in ensuring that your children’s hearing aid is working to optimum specification in order meet their needs. Unfortunately there has been a high number on DNA’s (did not arrive). In light of this the Audiology Department are trialling a new system of making appointments for the over 5’s. Families will get an initial letter stating that an appointment is required. Families then have to ring the number given within 14 days to fix an appointment. This date will then be sent out in the post and SIS informed. We hope this will cut down the number of DNA’s as the lost slots cost the health service a considerable amount of money and clinical time.

Please feedback to your Teacher of the Deaf how this goes.

Earmould boxes – If families have any old earmould impression boxes can they please returned to the hospital or via your Teacher of the Deaf?

Hearing aid batteries - If you need to get batteries they can be obtained through a number of ways:

□ You can get them through the GP with your brown book
□ You can phone the audiology department
□ You can email the audiology department

Batteries held by SIS and the Teachers of the Deaf are for emergencies only and we would encourage you to get batteries from the above sources.

Hearing Aid Clips

These clips are used to secure hearing aids to a child’s clothing so if the aids are removed they will not be lost! Manufacturer’s guidance states they should NOT be used with children under 3 years. Due to the cost of replacement these can no longer be provided by SIS. If appropriate families will be given a clip at the time of hearing aid fit. If families wish to replace a lost clip they can be found at http://www.connevans.co.uk/product/779/SPEKC/Phonak-Leo-the-Lion-kids-clip

The SDCS is 65 – but we are not ready to retire yet!

65 years ago Edwin Owen was inspired to set up the Shropshire Deaf Children’s Society. Mr Owen had first been drawn to work with deaf children following a chance encounter with a 12 year old deaf girl with no speech which occurred while he was serving with the Army in Italy during WW2. On his return to England Mr Owen trained as an ear, nose and throat surgeon and later moved to work at the Royal Shrewsbury Hospital.

The first meeting of the Society took place at Coleham Elementary School, with the support of the Head teacher, Mr Halliday, and Eileen Bell, who taught deaf children at the school. In 1964, the SDCS became affiliated to the National Deaf Children’s Society. Initially the charity was set up to provide support for families of deaf children, including provision of Teachers of the Deaf. Fund raising also helped to provide money for research into congenital hearing loss, which was of particular interest to Edwin Owen.

In 2017, as we prepare to mark the 65th birthday of SDCS, the charity is still going strong and continues to support hearing impaired children across Shropshire and Telford & Wrekin. Today we work very closely with the Sensory Inclusion Service to make sure that the needs of each deaf child are catered for through educational and social events. To help mark this important milestone we will be holding two special events. The first of these will be a Charity Ball at the Lord Hill Hotel in Shrewsbury on Saturday, 20th May. This is an opportunity to dress up and enjoy an evening of good food and music, while also raising money to support the continued good work of the charity. We will also be holding a Family Fun Day on Sunday, 17th September, open to all families of children with a hearing impairment in Shropshire and Telford & Wrekin. This will provide a chance for everyone who has helped with or been helped by the SDCS to celebrate its fantastic achievements over the decades. We would very much like to see as many of you as possible at both of these celebrations.

If you are interested in tickets for the ball please contact Dawn Ball on 07794032904 or dawn.ball@telford.gov.uk. Further details on the Fun Day will be available later in the year.

Iain Barrett Chair, SDCS

Study Day March 10th 2017

A group of hearing impaired students from Year 8, 9, 10 and one student from Year 11 came to The Lantern in Shrewsbury in order to further develop their independent revision and study skills.

All the students enjoyed the day although one or two were a little apprehensive to begin with as they didn’t really know any of the other students in the room. However, by break time all the students were happily chatting to each other.

One of the highlights of the day for the students was the presentation from a former student about the process of transition from school to post sixteen provision. We were all delighted that Jess Jones was happy to come along and share her experiences. Moving to a new educational setting is always a little challenging for any student but sometimes having a hearing loss can make this seem more daunting so it was great to hear about Jess’s experience.

Alongside developing study skills and finding out about transition the students really enjoyed spending the day with each other and with the SIS staff.

We are always delighted at the exemplary behaviour of the students and the way in which they show understanding and consideration towards each other.

Baby update

Ruth Lawton has recently given birth to baby Theo. Mum and baby are doing well.

Deaf awareness week 2017

May 15th - 21st is National Deaf Awareness week, Shropshire Deaf Children’s Society would like you to get involved to raise money for the charity. Perhaps a cake sale at school or a non uniform day?

If you have any ideas please contact Dawn Ball on 07794032904

A poem by Ashlea McClure

Symphony in Blue

Now and again, the sun will beam,
Down on the calm deep blue sea.
Beneath the warm aqua waves,
Baby blue fish ride with glee.

Underneath the bright blue sky,
River silvers down on by,
Like a smooth Blue Racer Snake,
Hunting down his summer prey.

Minty ice-cream slowly drips,
Down onto the luscious sand,
Ice-cream-covered toddler hands,
Like toothpaste mashed into palms.

Comflour-Blue bouncy ball,
Flies high and flutters back down,
Like a Large Blue Butterfly,
Dancing down to someone’s hand.

Starting Secondary School: Ethan Yu

Before I started secondary school I felt nervous about getting lost or getting detentions.

One the first day I was still a bit nervous but as the day progressed I overcame my fear of starting secondary school.

Since I have been here I have not worried about making new friends because I had made lots of them during the 5 induction days.

My favourite subject in secondary school is PE because we can do sports such as hockey, rugby, badminton and football. Also I enjoy science because we get to do better experiments and we learn more than usual.