

Sensory Inclusion Service Hearing Impairment Newsletter

Issue
39
April 2023

Sensory Inclusion Service, Floor 6, Darby House, Lawn Central, Telford, TF3 4JA

Easter Cover

There is a Teacher of the Deaf on duty every week of the Easter holidays.

Call 01952 385269 for support.

Mark Rutter (Hearing Aid Technician) is on duty for some of the time.

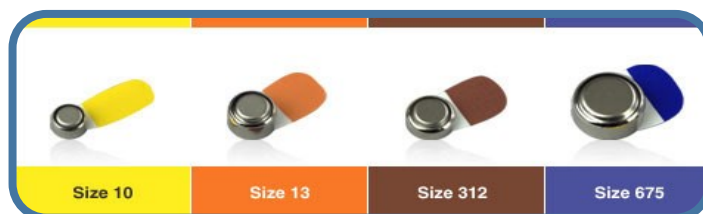
Call 01952 385269.



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://wards-services/az-battery/>



www.sath.nhs.uk/services/audiology/



Hardbands

If you have a bone conduction headband that is no longer required please could you hand it back to SIS.

Contact Details

If your contact details have changed, please let us know by emailing

sendandinclusion@telford.gov.uk

National Deaf Children's Society

Are you a member of NDCS?

Joining is free and as a member you will be able to access an extensive range of resources and services. You will be able to connect with other families through their online forum and attend online and face-to-face events to meet others.

You will also receive a members' magazine, there are four print issues a year, full of the latest information, advice from professionals and inspirational real-life stories.

There is also a monthly newsletter containing the latest updates, parent blogs, and resources relevant to your child's age.



Easy Fundraising



Shropshire Deaf Childrens Society are registered with easyfundraising, which means you can raise **FREE** donations for them every time you shop online.

These donations really mount up and make a **BIG** difference.

You can find their easyfundraising page at

<https://www.easyfundraising.org.uk/support-a-good-cause/step-1/?char=292766&invite=32xlwr&referral-campaign=c2s>

I would like to take this opportunity to remind you what a vital role the Society plays in the support and advancement of all our children. Over the years, the SDCS has paid for equipment for your children, organised bowling nights, Christmas parties, transition days and much more.

Please take a few minutes to sign up to start collecting money for upcoming events.



Upcoming Events

22nd April - Sponsored Walk at Haughmond Hill

17th May - Transition Day

11th June—Family Fun Day at Broseley C of E school

Please look out for emails from Nichola Clark about upcoming events.



Mason has enjoyed his visits to the Horse Centre where he has been going every week with school. He has been learning about pony care. This is Mason with 'Stubs' the beautiful Palomino.



Nethan arrived in the UK in July 22 moving with his family from India. He is 5 years old. Nethan is profoundly deaf and wears a cochlear implant and has recently started to use a radio aid. His first language is Malayalam. Nethan has settled in to his new home and new school. He is working hard to learn English and is making amazing progress! He is very popular at school and enjoys the company of his new friends.

Alec has recently passed his Driving Theory Test at the first attempt and is preparing for his driving test in April. He is currently sitting his final exams for a Level 3 qualification in agriculture at North Shropshire College and has plans to work before travelling to Australia and New Zealand. He is a very sociable and active member of his local Young Farmer's Club, recently representing the club at a Call my Bluff Competition and training for the annual Tug of War Competition. Alec is very bashful about his achievements, but all who know and have worked with him are immensely proud of how much he has achieved and how hard he has worked to overcome his challenges.



Aroosh has made a smooth transition into Year 3 and settled in so well to her new Year 3 class. Her teacher reports that she has really pushed herself to perform in class, volunteering to perform to the class in music and taking part in a hot seat drama task. Aroosh is always positive and very much enjoys school life.

Willoe is profoundly deaf and wears one speech processor. She is in her final year of A levels at Shrewsbury college, doing health and social care, sociology and business. She has worked very hard on her courses and managed to enjoy a great social life at college as well, due to her friendly, outgoing nature and good sense of humour! She is a confident communicator and advocates well for her needs relating to her profound deafness. She has been a representative on the NDCS youth council, working to raise awareness nationally for deaf children.

She has applied to go to university this year to do a primary education course as she is hoping to become a teacher of the deaf in future. She recently completed a few days of work experience with the Sensory Inclusion team which was very successful, so we can definitely see this happening for her! All the teachers of the deaf who have had the pleasure of working with her over the years agree that she is a super student and a great role model for younger deaf children. We all wish her the best of luck in the future. This is what Willoe told us about her work experience:

I went on 2 days work experience with SIS: Hazel, Nicky, Helen and Theresa. I've had the best 2 days ever. I would love to do it again.

I visited family group with Hazel and Nicky. I had an amazing time with the parents and their lovely children. I played with all the children and spoke to their families about what it is like to be deaf as a grown up. It was really interesting to see children with different hearing devices and how they manage especially with their age. It was great to see families supporting each other.

I went to a primary school with Helen and we worked with this lovely girl to check her hearing aids. It was interesting to learn some things about the equipment that was used during the session.

I went to 2 primary schools with Theresa. We met 3 children. They were all so great. We did some numeracy, literacy and played some cards games that I've never played before. I got beaten by all of those children. I have also spoke to them about me in primary school with one cochlear implant. It was a great work experience with everyone.

I definitely want to be a teacher of the deaf in the future!



Joey was fitted with hearing aids last September. Since this time he has adapted to wearing them really well. Joey understands how important his hearing aids are for him and will even show an adult by pointing to them, if there is something wrong. Joey will hand his hearing aids to the Teacher of the Deaf so that they can be checked, but wants them straight back in afterwards. He will even try and put the aids back in himself. Joey has also recently had a radio aid and again has used it well from the outset - when he sees the Teacher of the Deaf he will hand the transmitter to her. What a super star!



Tom and Harry attend British Military Martial Arts.

Tom recently completed his black belt grading. He'd been training 4 times a week and concentrating on his fitness to improve his stamina. It was a tough weekend for him, but he passed with an amazing overall score of 54/55.

Harry has just achieved his green belt. He will continue to train three times a week and hopes to catch his brother Tom up soon.



Family Group

SIS (HI) Family Group takes place every Thursday during term time for hearing impaired pre-school children and their families.
Families can arrive anytime between 9.30 am - 11.30 am.

Summer 2023

April

20th - St Georges day crafts
27th - Talk- Theresa Robinson - SIS Team Leader

May

4th - Sun crafts/ deaf awareness week
11th May - Talk - Ian Barrett - Chairman SDCS
18th May - Bee crafts
25th May - Biscuit day

June

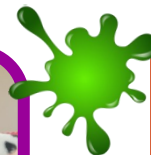
1st - Half Term
8th June - Butterfly crafts
15th June - Fathers Day crafts
22nd June - Talk—TBC
29th June - Art week

July

6th - Trip TBC
13th - pebble/ rock crafts
20th - Party



The Stepping Stones Centre, Brunel Road, Malinslee, TF3 2BF Sat Nav TF3 2HZ



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Sensory Inclusion Service update

HAPPY EASTER

Well, here we are again rapidly heading for a very short half-term followed by the Easter break. Chocolate eggs, Easter bunnies and hopefully some sunshine to follow!

Nicky continues to work very hard to collate news of our wonderful children and young people so we can share their stories with you! Please send her little snippets about your children so they can be included in the newsletters. We are particularly keen to hear from any older students whose achievements always inspire the younger children to 'aim for the sky'! We recently enjoyed Willoe, one of our college students, shadowing Teachers of the Deaf and working with some of younger children in schools - they loved having her and she couldn't believe how smart they all are!

Since Christmas, Nicky has been working flat out to offer a bowling night to children and young people with visual loss as well as using up the leftover tickets from a previous bowling night by offering them to our deaf teenagers. These are much loved events and so I hope there will be a strong uptake for both providing the opportunity for families to share experiences and laughter and for the youngsters to make new friends!

There will also be the annual transition day for children leaving behind their primary schools and heading into the 'great unknown' of the secondary environment. Every year, they are joined by some young people already in Year 7 who can reassure them that it was just another step in their education and that they can hardly remember what primary school was like - they so quickly grow up and settle into their new environments! This will take place at Upton Magna near Shrewsbury and promises to be a fun-filled day.

The team continues to strive to meet the varying needs of the young people on their caseloads. As before, many of the new children have temporary hearing loss and are awaiting grommet surgery, the fitting of hard band aids provides much needed auditory stimulus in the meantime and allows their speech and language to develop .

I am privileged to have a fortnightly meeting with Darren McHale, the Senior Audiologist at the hospital, where we can discuss any audiological concerns around children and raise parental concerns about appointments etc. Several of the staff continue to attend the weekly CHSC clinics with the ENT consultants and Audiology staff to provide a seamless and joined up service for families. The channels of communication are efficient and speedy and particularly critical to meet the needs of newly diagnosed children and we hope to offer the best support possible to their families. The SIS team is hugely grateful to the Audiology team for delivering a day to check our audiological competencies and provide much invaluable advice on changes to ear moulds, hearing aids etc. We are so lucky to have such supportive colleagues in Health and we owe them a debt of gratitude.

Shropshire Local Authority has now been reviewed by OFSTED. The inspectors will be visiting family group on 23rd March and we are so excited to share our wonderful group with them! Thank you to the parents who joined forums in Shropshire to provide their views on the service offered to their children.

Sensory Inclusion Service update continued...

Again, a plea to anyone out there with a little time to spare to join our fantastic SDCS committee and to support future events which benefit all of your children. We are hugely grateful to the parents and SIS staff already working on the SDCS committee (or fundraising for the charity); they would greatly welcome some new volunteers to inject new ideas and to continue to carry the baton forward! Without their generous contribution, the events offered to families simply would not happen. If you are not in a position to offer time, perhaps you would consider a small fundraising activity to help support the charity. This could be encouraging your child's school to do an event for the SDCS or a pub quiz or any other small event which could contribute! The Family Group will be taking part in a sponsored walk to raise some funds. On a final note a huge thank you to Grace, an ex-student who gives generously of her time to support the SDCS and who persuaded Tesco to donate a considerable sum to fund an event!! All of this makes the SDCS what it is - a fantastic support to our community!

Have a wonderful Easter break - let us know about your activities, holidays and events to include in the next newsletter! We are very inspired by each and every one of you!

Very best wishes

Theresa x

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



Key features...

- Search for clear and accessible information, advice and sources of support.
- Explore leisure, fun and short breaks activities.
- Find out about specialist services and education health and care plans.
- Learn how schools support special educational needs.
- Use the interactive map showing what is available near to where you live.
- Have your say through our online feedback form.



www.telfordsend.org.uk

Need this in large print or Braille?

If you would like to
receive this newsletter
in Large Print or
Braille, please email



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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