

# Sensory Inclusion Service Hearing Impairment Newsletter

Issue  
**38**  
December 2022

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

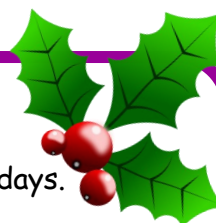
## Christmas Cover

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

Call 01952 385269 for support.

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

Call 01952 385269.



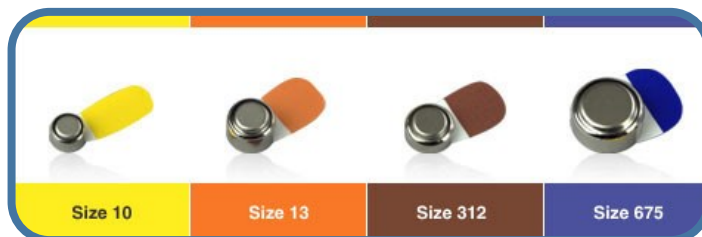
## Hardbands

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

## 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/](http://www.sath.nhs.uk/services/audiology/)

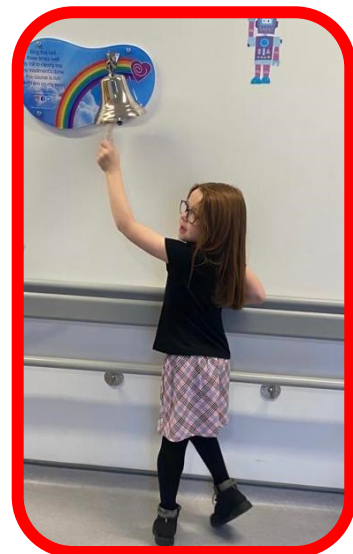


Gentle reminder to all parents and carers that if you change anything like your child's name or address, please can we ask that you let SIS know. Additionally you should advise ENT and Audiology of this change too. SIS cannot make changes on your hospital files/notes so you need to do this. The hospital has seen quite a lot of children not turning up for appointments because letters have gone to old addresses.

We were so pleased to receive an update from Maisie's parents...

Our daughter Maisie rang the bell on Thursday 17th November as she has finished her treatment. We want to thank everyone, family, friends, school, friends, and Telford Hosp oncology team for all their support to us and thank you to VISS interpreter Lisa Tople, who was with Maisie for every appointment Interpreting for us.

Ringling the bell was very emotional, but we are so pleased that Maisie's treatment is finished. Maisie has been so brave and happy and is always smiling.



Koda has started school and has had a wonderful first term in reception! He has settled well into the Bridge and is very happy in his new class. He has made lots of friends and his teachers are really happy with the progress he is making.

Lincoln has made an amazing start to reception. He wears his processors for all of his waking hours. He had made progress with his receptive and expressive language. He responds positively to his physical challenges. He is now able to get in and out of his wheelchair with only a little support.

We are very proud of him! Well done Lincoln!



Max went to his 3rd cubing competition where he made it through to the second round beating his personal best of solving a 3x3 cube in 18 seconds. He is off to the UK world championship at the end of the month.



Well done to Arthur who has been selected for the School Council.



In a hedgerow far away,  
A little swallow came to stay.  
Resting from his flight so long,  
He began to trill his bubbling song.

He sang of lakes and hills so green,  
The seven wonders he had seen.  
He sang of the water, the sky and the earth,  
He sang of the world's great and wonderful worth.

The wind and leaves seemed to join his song,  
Dancing and swaying all the tune long!  
He cheeped and chirped and he flapped his blue wings,  
At the sight of a great many wonderful things!

Horses, they frolicked with long, flowing manes,  
Rabbits played in the back country lanes.  
All of the nature simply added to the rhyme,  
And the songs that were sung were oh, just sublime!

He sang and he larked and he shouted with glee...  
Until he flew off again with more sights to see.

Grace  
Aged 13

Well done to Elliot on his fantastic football achievement. Elliot attends a club in Shrewsbury and Mum says that they have been wonderful in supporting Elliot. He showed great bravery getting up in assembly to talk to everyone about his sporting achievements.

Well done Elliot!



### 'The Hearing Impaired Child in your Class' SIS HI Course 29<sup>th</sup> September 2022

We were delighted to organise the SIS course again in September 2022 at Meeting Point House in Telford . We had not had a live event since 2019 due to COVID restrictions.

80 delegates were invited from Early Years, Primary and Secondary settings.

The focus for the morning talks were on audiology with bespoke workshops relating to each child and young person represented . The afternoon session related to communication, language and curriculum access.

The highlight of the course were amazing talks from two profoundly deaf young people: Effie and Willoe who confidently addressed the large audience to talk about their experiences of being deaf and the challenges they faced and continue to face as they move through the education system. We were extremely proud of them both. Special thanks to SDCS who kindly provided funding for refreshments on the day.



Hurt no living thing  
Not the plum trees blowing in the breeze  
Nor the sheet of daisies in the meadow  
Nor the proud oaks with their flawless acorns  
Do NOT disturb nature's creations

Effie  
aged 10



## Easy Fundraising



Shropshire Deaf Childrens Society are now 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.

## Family Group Autumn Term 2022

Family Group have enjoyed welcoming hearing impaired pre-school children and their families on Thursdays mornings during term time to Stepping Stones.

We are friendly and relaxed group. There is always a warm welcome and a cuppa on arrival. Families have the opportunity to meet with each other, the children have toys to play with and guest speakers are invited regularly. Nikki Coombes visited this term to help families learn some everyday British Sign Language. The children are provided with a drink and a snack. We usually finish the session with a story and some singing.

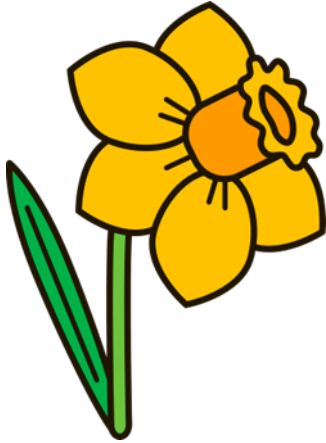
This term we have carried out dot painting and firework crafts. We dressed up as Superhero characters ( including the staff ) which was great fun. The highlight of December is always the Christmas festivities with a visit from Father Christmas!



## **Family Group**

SIS (HI) Family Group takes place every Thursday during term time for hearing impaired pre-school children and their families.

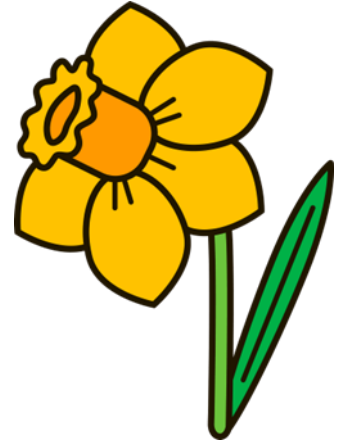
Families can arrive anytime between 9.30 am – 11.30 am.



### **Spring 2023**

#### **January**

5th National Bird Day crafts  
12th Visit from Library Service TBC  
19th New Year crafts  
26th Lantern festival crafts



#### **February**

2<sup>nd</sup> NSPCC Number day  
9<sup>th</sup> Valentines crafts  
16<sup>th</sup> Ruth Lawton Language Acquisition talk  
23<sup>rd</sup> **Half Term**

#### **March**

2<sup>nd</sup> World Book day (dress up)  
9<sup>th</sup> Nikki sign language talk  
16<sup>th</sup> Red Nose day crafts  
23<sup>rd</sup> Mother's day crafts

#### **April**

6<sup>th</sup> **Easter Holidays**  
13<sup>th</sup> **Easter Holidays**

The Stepping Stones Centre, Brunel Road, Malinslee, TF3 2BF

Sat Nav TF3 2HZ

## Sensory Inclusion Service update



One minute I couldn't believe it was the summer newsletter, I blinked and it was rapidly heading for Christmas! I won't even suggest how many shopping days until .....

On Friday 14<sup>th</sup> October, lots of children and their families came together for bowling night. The feedback as ever has been very positive with adults having the chance to swap stories and touch base with familiar faces and children eagerly hunting out old friends that they might only see at these events! Yet another very memorable night filled with laughter and joy and a bit of competitive spirit. Thank you to the parents who took time to fill out questionnaires to give some feedback on the service provided by SIS. I am always delighted to receive your feedback and suggestions and many emails feeding back comments have been shared this week with OFSTED.

The pantomime is getting nearer and again there has been a huge uptake of places as soon as the email was sent out – I'm even attending myself this year (oh no you're not!!!) and look forward to seeing lots of familiar and new faces there celebrating that strange and wonderful world of the British pantomime at Christmas. I know some of you will be attending a signed performance of the pantomime and hope that goes very well too!

The SIS team continues to be incredibly busy with the biggest number of referrals we have ever seen. Some children have arrived from as far afield as Ghana, India and Thailand and we warmly welcome them into our community and look forward to seeing them at SDCS events!

Many of the new children we are supporting are children awaiting grommet surgery and in the meantime wearing hard bands to support their temporary hearing loss. The ENT consultants and Audiology staff continue to offer a first class service at the hospital despite the challenges of Covid and staffing issues and I hope you will agree that their efforts result in a 'very joined up' service for all of you. We are lucky to have such dedicated teams in the hospitals and the implant teams supporting many of your children! Graham Groves has 'reappeared' (not as Santa) but as an associate audiologist a day a week working alongside our colleagues in Health so some of you might see his very familiar face at the hospital or in Stepping Stones.

Nicky Clark has now been with us for around 6 months and her 'baptism of fire' continues with event after event being organised as well as being 'out there' directly supporting the emotional well-being and inclusion of your children and young people. This is when she is not providing copious numbers of cakes to keep the SIS team fuelled – we love having her on board as I know you do although many of us might soon be heading for Slimmer's World. If anyone out there has a little time to spare we'd love to see you at SDCS meetings to give input on future events!! We are very grateful for all the support the parents already working on the SDCS committee (or fundraising for the charity) and it's a great way to give back for all the SDCS has offered and continues to offer deaf children and their families locally.

## Sensory Inclusion Service update continued...

Eleanor (Elie) Miles has now joined us as our newest Teacher of the Deaf and is really enjoying being 'out there' meeting so many of you and supporting your children. I hope many of you get a chance to introduce yourselves and say hi when you come across her.

So it only remains for me to say 'Have a wonderful Christmas' with all your wonderful children. Enjoy the pantomime if you get there and the Family Group events around Christmas, always a treat with someone special arriving to deliver gifts!

And, as always, a huge thank you to the wonderful team at SIS who love what they do and continue to go well beyond that extra mile to deliver the best service they can. Have a good rest and come back refreshed for a new term and a new year in January.

*Theresa x*



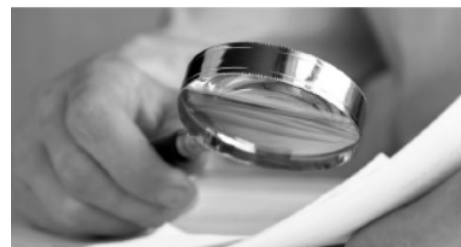
We would like to say a huge thank you to SDCS for your support again this year.

Keep an eye out for upcoming events in 2023!

### 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](http://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](http://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

**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](mailto:Local.Offer@shropshire.gov.uk) Telephone: 0345 678 9063

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