

# Bright Sparks News

Newsletter No. 7

June 2015

Happy Summer Term! I hope you are all well and enjoying the bits of sunshine we get! This term the school has been preparing the children for their transition to the next phase of school and in some cases secondary school! Tina Clarke had meeting with me regarding SEN and was impressed by the involvement of all you

## Games to play

lovely parents! So thank you x

### Random bit: Did you know?

The UK driver and Vehicle Licensing Agency does not permit the wearing of colanders of heads in driving license photos, even for religious reasons.



### Auditory memory game:

#### Riddles

Adult describes an object for the child to identify e.g. "I'm thinking of a fruit that has a smooth skin, it has a stone in the middle, it is juicy, it grows on a tree and is purple". Adult continues giving clues until child guesses correctly.

#### Visual perception activities:

**Sensory activities:** Use bendable things such as pipe cleaners to form letters and shapes (because feeling a shape can help them visualize the shape). The letters can then be glued onto index cards, and later the child can touch them to "feel" the shape of the letter

#### Fine motor skills

**Stringing Cut Straws:** Cut plastic drinking straws into small pieces, about 5-10cm. (Cutting the straws is another great fine motor activity for kids.) Tie yarn to a plastic needle, or use plastic laces, and knot the end. Children string the straws onto the yarn or lace



**Fishergate News** The school website is added to regularly with

updated documentation, news and useful bits. Have a look!

[www.fishergateschool.com/learning-fishergate/sen](http://www.fishergateschool.com/learning-fishergate/sen)

There is now a recipe for play dough on the website which is a fun way of developing fine motor skills and offering sensory stimulation. We are also in the process of developing a programme to develop fine motor skills. If any of you lovely parents are handy with a sewing machine we are in need 18 small P.E style bags-6 red, 6 green and 6 blue. Please let me know if you can help!

## Shine

## Welcome to Shine!

 Have you seen the Shine magazine?

Shine is a magazine aimed at school age children, young people and families.

It contains information on lots of great activities throughout York that you can do in your free time. Activities include pottery, mosaics, climbing, tennis, sewing and even building a burglar alarm! As well as a paper copy given in school at the end of each term Shine can also be accessed online by visiting: <http://www.yor-ok.org.uk/young-people/shine-new.htm>

# World Autism Awareness week

During the World Autism Awareness Week 2015 a fantastic £132,684 was raised to support those with autism to live the lives they choose. Events such as Onesie Wednesday and a 15K Night Walk ran to support this amazing organisation.



The National Autistic society also offers support and resources for both adults and young people. Further information and advice can be found on:  
<http://www.autism.org.uk/>



## Child safety

Sarah Dixon and I attended training on safeguarding children and were given loads of great websites to support children's understanding of safety. As a parent I feel these would be useful to use with my own child so here they are:

<http://www.nspcc.org.uk/> The NSPCC have excellent resources on internet safety and making them aware of their body and privacy under the PANTS campaign. This site also gives advice on having difficult conversations with your child and keeping them safe staying safe away from home.

<http://www.capt.org.uk/> This organisation is the Child Accident Prevention Trust gives great advice and quizzes on road safety, kitchen and bathroom safety.

**Lending Library** A reminder that there is a box of books in the staffroom on a range of Needs. Please feel free to borrow them. Just let me know which you have taken.

### Useful Websites



This is a fantastic website with lots of fun activities to develop fine motor skills as well as many other things:

<http://theimaginationtree.com/2013/09/40-fine-motor-skills-activities-for-kids.html>

### Staff Training

**Sarah Dixon and Lisa Solanki-** safeguarding and child protection.

**Sahar Dibden-**ICT, developing assessment and Coding as part of the new curriculum

### WE ARE MACMILLAN. CANCER SUPPORT

Rachel Hemlin has set the challenge of raising £6000 this year to mark her 40th birthday! She is completing a range of crazy tasks including the Winter warrior challenge. If you are able to sponsor her or want more information on her crazy adventure please go to: <https://www.justgiving.com/macmillanangelsteam/> Both Dave Pennington and myself are completing charity evens to support MacMillan. If you would like to sponsor Dave on his golfing challenge or me for my Jane Tomlinson 10K this August we would be extremely grateful!

**Sharing Corner-Top Tips!** Thank you to a parent for this tip!

**Guess Who?** Playing the game Guess who with your child will not only be great fun but also develop communication and working memory skills.



Fishergate Primary School

Acting Head teacher- Sarah Dixon

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SENCO- Lisa Solanki