

Bright Sparks News

Newsletter No. 8

2015

Hello and Welcome back to the Autumn term! I hope you had a great summer holiday although that now seems an age ago). Tina Clarke, Sarah Wilson and Caroline Burt have settled in to their new jobs and Mr Evans is still wearing shorts, so all is well! Sarah, Tina and Sallie Fisher also completed the Yorkshire marathon on Sunday.

They are truly amazing....and bonkers!

Random bit: Did you know?

If you lift a kangaroo's tail off the ground it can't hop.

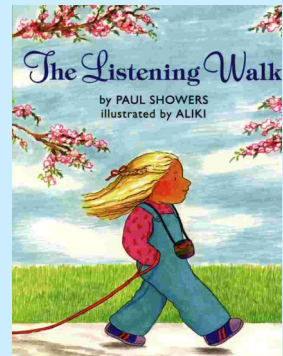


Games to play

Auditory memory game:

Listening walk

The purpose of the walk is to listen to sounds, particularly those they may not have been aware of previously. Before the walk you can suggest sounds to listen for or you can call the child's attention to sounds as you walk along. After the walk, see how many sounds your child can remember and encourage him/her to describe them.



Visual perception activities:

- **Hidden pictures games** in books such as "Where's Wally".
- **Picture drawing:** Practice completing partially drawn pictures.
- **Dot-to-dot** worksheets or puzzles.
- **Memory games:** Playing games such as Memory.
- **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.

Fishergate News I have added some footage and photographs to our website of a wonderful



trip with Jessica as she learned to ride her bike . Thanks to Mick from 'Get Cycling',

Jessica was provided with a suitable bike and had the time of her life riding it to the park. Have a look! www.fishergateschool.com/learning-fishergate/sen



Here are a few pictures to whet your appetite...



I try to add things to the website weekly so let me know if there is anything you think may be useful.

Dyslexia Awareness week

The 5-11th October was Dyslexia Awareness week. This year's theme was 'Making sense of Dyslexia' and

looked at how much of an impact the right support and interventions now can have on the future for people with dyslexia. There were a number of events including well-known dyslexic artist Mackenzie Thorpe's presentation at Waterstones Piccadilly. Mackenzie talked about his new project, [#DrivingDyslexia](#), and signed copies of his new book 'Out of The Shadows'. The campaign looked at how there is so much more to dyslexia



than reading and writing issues. Mackenzie has painted a great original pastel, which will be made into a limited edition print (10-20 prints) and sold to the general public with monies going to the British Dyslexia Association. For more information visit: <http://www.bdadyslexia.org.uk/fundraising/dyslexia-awareness-week/daw-events>



Child safety

Reminder: There are lots of initiatives to support parents with child safety. The websites offer guidance and advice as well as resources. :

<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.

<http://www.childrensociety.org.uk/sites/default/files/u130/Well-being%20-%20Parent%20Guide%20-%20FINAL.pdf>- This is an interesting leaflet on how to support the well-being of our children.

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.



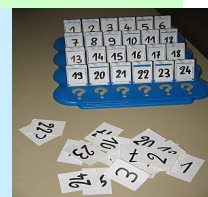
The Family Information service (FIS) offers an enormous

amount of advice and support including events and activities for weekends and holidays. They currently have information on Free and low cost things to do in York. This can be found on <http://www.yor-ok.org.uk/families/events.htm> or give them a call on 01904 554444. They also have a Young person's section called Yorzone which is really accessible and offers lots of age appropriate information.



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

Guess who? Playing this game with numbers instead of pictures.



Useful Websites



<https://www.pinterest.com/>- This website is a fantastic resource to find activities to support social and emotional skills, fine motor skills, maths and literacy development and lots more. (Be prepared to lose hours of your life looking at things on this fab website)

Staff Training

Jane Collinson and Nicola Eyre- Introduction to working with children with speech, language and communication needs in the inclusive classroom

David Pennington and Joanne Heyes -Introduction to autism

Lisa Solanki and Ann Cole-Dyslexia training

Fishergate Primary School

Fishergate York



Head teacher- Tina Clarke

SENCO- Lisa Solanki