



SEND NEWSLETTER

SEND = special educational needs and disability

SENCO = Sarah Stewart

SENCO SURGERIES

When? Between 9-3.30pm on **Friday 22nd June**

What? 1:1 Appointments can be booked with me to discuss any aspect of your child's SEND e.g. concerns you may have about your child, the referral process for accessing additional support, tips and advice for managing needs at home etc. **Please note these appointments are specifically focused on SEND – all queries re. general learning and progress should be directed to your child's class teacher.**

How do I book? Please sign up for an appointment via the school office. Half hour timeslots will be available to book on a first come service from tomorrow.

Parent Workshop

The speech and language team will be running a workshop for parents and carers on how to support children with speech sound difficulties. If you have a child in Nursery, Reception or Yr. 1 or 2 with speech sound difficulties you would be very welcome to attend. The event will take place on **Wednesday 4th July between 9.30-11am** at Henwick School. Please call Oxleas on 020 8836 8621 to book your space and notes places are limited.

SEND Plans

Please note that SEND plans will be reviewed and new targets set this half term, they will then be shared with parents/carers and you will have an opportunity to book an appointment with your child's class teacher to discuss if this would be helpful.



Transition and end of year

As the summer holidays and the end of the academic year loom our thoughts are quickly turning to transition. This can be a challenging time for children, and their families, on a practical and emotional level, especially for children with social, emotional and mental health needs, and for those with an ASD or social communication difficulties. We will be doing all we can to support this process, both before and after the school holidays. Please see overleaf for more information on the process. Shortly, I will be sending out my annual SEND parent/carer questionnaire and really appreciate your feedback on all things 'SEND' at Montbelle. Please share your thoughts, suggestions and ideas – your feedback is extremely valuable. I would like to take this opportunity to thank you all for your continued support this year – effective partnership working between home and school is always in every child's best interest. I wish you all a very happy and restful summer break. Many thanks and with kind regards, Sarah Stewart,

Free Horse Riding

Did you know that New Lodge Riding Centre in Mottingham offer free riding lessons for children with special needs and disabilities who live in Greenwich? These lessons take place on a Tuesday evening at the stables and are funded by Greenwich Children's services. Please see <http://newlodge.org.uk/greenwich-childrens-services/> for more information.

Inspire Club/Awards

Please note change of date – this year's INSPIRE Awards will now take place on Thursday 12th July 2018 at 3.45pm

in school. Apologies for any inconvenience caused by this change in date. Please see separate letter and sign up for details. In addition this year's club focusing on self-reflection and pupil voice, through the creation of video journals, is now open to all children within school who are on the SEND register. Again additional information, sign-up and permission for this is also on the Inspire letter going home this week. As a reminder, the Inspire project is all about raising self-esteem in chn with SEND and doing so by recognising and celebrating their fabulousness. We look forward to seeing you all at the Inspire Awards!

Disability Living Allowance

Many children with a disability are entitled to DLA – don't miss out on this valuable benefit – please see leaflet attached for more information.
Many thanks

Summer Holiday support

Please be aware that there is a plethora of summer holiday support for chn with SEND in the local area, from toy libraries, to ASD screenings at the cinema and summer activity camps.

Please check out the Royal Borough of Greenwich local offer for more details

<http://www.royalgreenwich.gov.uk/localoffer>.

How do we support transition for children with SEND at Montbelle?

- All class teachers – old and new - meet to discuss the needs, strengths, interests and learning styles of the children in their class
- I meet with all SENCOs at new secondary schools to share information, and chn with SEND in yr. 6 access targeted transition support, including our new TIGERS road safety programme
- Additional visit days are arranged for chn with SEND moving to secondary school
- Where possible LSA's stay with children as they move up to new classes
- Pupil and parent passports are written, which are passed up to new teachers
- Transition books are created in school for children who may need extra support
- All chn have extra visits to their new classrooms and time to build relationships with their new teachers
- Transition plans are written for all chn with higher level needs, these documents are shared with parents

Our SEND team - who is who?

This edition = the role of the ASD outreach worker

Angela Appiah-Bediakoh is our main ASD outreach worker (focusing on chn from Nursery to Yr. 4), she is supported by Wendy Jones (focusing on chn in Yrs. 5 and 6 incl. secondary transition). Both ladies are based in the ASD outreach service but visit school regularly to offer support for all our pupils with an ASD (Autism Spectrum Disorder). Within their visits they attend multi-professional meetings, observe chn in class and in the playground and offer guidance and support to teaching staff. They are instrumental in supporting staff to set up effective support systems and structures to help chn at all levels, for example, advising on the set up workstations in class, the introduction of visual support systems and guidance on reward systems that motivate engagement. The service also provides training for parents and carers following a diagnosis, and will provide a one-off consultation visit in school for children presenting with social communication difficulties who do not yet have a diagnosis, or who are waiting for assessment. If you would like more information on the ASD Outreach service then please check out the Greenwich Local Offer (details above) or let me know. Many thanks, Sarah Stewart