

SEND Newsletter

Summer 2024



Welcome to our second newsletter dedicated specifically for Special Educational Needs. We hope you find this useful for information and to keep you up to date with all the SEN news that takes place here at Church Hill. If you have any suggestions of what you would like in future SEND newsletters, please let us know.

Fine and Gross Motor Skills

Lots of children find day to day activities difficult, and may take longer to learn new skills. Children make more progress when they carry out activities for a short time daily, rather than one long session per week. Handwriting is a complex skill that uses both fine and gross motor difficulties, along with visual perceptual difficulties. Here are two links to help support your child with simple fine and gross motor skills:

www.autism.org.uk/advice-and-guidance/professional-practice/motor-skills-1

www.evelinalondon.nhs.uk/resources/patient-information/OT-pre-school-age-resource-pack.pdf

Parental Questionnaire Feedback

Thank you to those that completed our quick questionnaire last month; we appreciated your kind comments and we are always grateful for honest and constructive feedback from parents/carers. We would like to share some feedback with you and our plans moving into next year.

The main suggestions last year were: *parents requesting extra feedback from class teachers and more communication from school.* This year we added an additional phone call update from your child's class teacher during the long autumn term and this newsletter has also been started to give all parents the same additional advice and information.

From the most recent questionnaire we found that *parents wanted more information regarding 'anxiety in children' and 'maths support'.* We have spoken to our maths lead regarding a parent workshop at the start of the next academic year. We are also in conversations with external agencies regarding additional coffee mornings for parents. Please also see the Young Minds section on the back page regarding some ideas regarding anxiety around transition.

Please look out for future questionnaires; your opinions and suggestions are valuable to us.

SEND Coordinators



Miss Oakman & Mr Scranage

At Church Hill...

We aspire for children at our school with SEND to:

- Achieve their best
- Become confident individuals living fulfilling lives

Although your first port of contact is your child's class teacher, we are always here to give support and advice when needed.

DID YOU KNOW YOU CAN CONTACT A SCHOOL NURSE BY TEXT?

Leicestershire Partnership NHS Trust runs a dedicated, confidential and secure text messaging service called ChatHealth for parents/carers of children aged 0-11 in Leicestershire and Rutland, which enables you to get professional health advice and support.

Text a Public Health Nurse (School Nurse) on:

07520 615 382

 ChatHealth

Please do not hesitate to get in contact with us via email.

send@churchhill-jun.leics.sch.uk

Autism Support Groups

There are many support and activity groups in the Leicestershire area for children and families with regards to ASD. These range from parental support groups, Lego clubs to ASD friendly swimming sessions.

More information can be found here:

www.leicestershireautisticsociety.org.uk/las-support-activity-groups/

www.autism.org.uk/autism-services-directory/c/charnwood-autismsupport-group

Transition Support

It is important to feel that a school or setting is right for your child and can meet their needs. We always advise visiting any potential new settings to get a feel for them, seeing how it is laid out and how they deliver their learning.



If your child is in year 6 there will be additional transition days to your secondary school option for your child- please keep an eye out for these letters.

If your child is in year 5, you need to apply for a secondary school place by 31st October. Many secondary schools have started to advertise open evenings for you to go and visit. I recommend emailing the school to find out more information.

Leicestershire SENDIASS have designed a checklist for you to consider for your visit and questions you may want to ask.

www.sendiassleicestershire.org.uk/parents-carers-and-children/visiting-new-schools-and-settings

We understand that transitioning from any year group is a significant change in their life, not just those who are transitioning to a new setting. Young Minds have a bank of resources for parents and children free on their website. Going through change can be scary or challenging, but sometimes it's just the small things, like showing interest in your child's hobbies can make a difference.



Take a look at their website here:

www.youngminds.org.uk/professional/resources/supporting-school-transitions/

Top ten tips for transition:

top-ten-tips-for-parents.pdf (youngminds.org.uk)



SEND Glossary

To help with some of those SEN abbreviations...

ADHD: Attention Deficit Hyperactivity Disorder

ASD: Autistic Spectrum Disorder

SALT: Speech & Language Therapy

SENIFF: Special Educational Needs Intervention Funding

Please do not hesitate to get in contact with us via email.

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