



Laycock Speech and Language Therapy Newsletter Winter 2018

SmiLE Research:



The children in year 4 last year and their parents participated in a study by Whittington Health colleague and Speech and Language Therapist Martina

Curtin . Great news! Martina has been awarded a distinction in her Masters in Research at City, University of London. She would like to send her heartfelt thanks to all parents and pupils involved in the smiLE Therapy study and will be contacting you all soon with a date to share her findings.

Play:

In nursery this term we have been supporting the children to develop their imaginary play skills. We have been dressing up as different characters and acting out daily routines, using simple words and phrases to communicate with each other. Dressing up and getting into different characters can be fun at any age and helps with exploring imagination, theory of mind, narrative, emotions, self esteem and social interaction.



Team News:

We are excited to be welcoming a new Speech and Language Therapist to the team at Laycock called **Sian Kelly**. She will be starting in January and working at Laycock 3 days a week. **Frederikke Dixon** continues to work at Laycock for 3 days a week, spending the other 2 days working in secondary schools. **Rachel Day** continues to work at Laycock 4 days week spending 1 other day working with preschool children in homes and nurseries. **Emma Bates**, our Speech and Language Therapy Assistant continues to support us at Laycock on Fridays.

New Targets:

You may have noticed that the way we write and review the children's speech and language therapy targets has changed. If you have any questions please do contact us. We are always happy to work with parents so please do get in touch if you'd like to join your child in their therapy sessions.

Wishing you a very happy holiday!

Kindness and Unity:

There is a focus in school this year on the children's mental health and wellbeing. We did some work in some of our group sessions during Kindness and Unity week focusing on being kind to others and ourselves! Turn over the page to see some of the work completed by the year 5 class this term.



Miss Day



Miss Dixon



Miss Bates

Contact us by phone:
020 7354 4176

Stop by the Speech and Language Therapy office or leave a message with us in the home school book.


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Life and Deaf Project: In year 5, the children have been working hard to write poems about their deaf identity. We have been learning new facts about deafness and reflecting on different poetry styles. The class have been talking together about what makes us who we are, what we like about ourselves and what we would like to do when we grow up. Here are some examples of what we have done!

Don't stare at me.
Everyone why are you staring at me?
Are you looking at my hearing aids?
For I am not unlovely, I am just deaf.
No one is better, we are the same
Everyone wants to know why I'm deaf,
So you like to stare at me.
Someone talk to me and ^{you} can be my friend.



Hatti I'm Melissa and I'm 9 years old and the only one in the family who is Deaf. There's nothing wrong with that because deaf kids are cool they rule the school. Sometimes I like being deaf and sometimes I don't like being deaf. There's nothing wrong with that just be happy with the way you were born and made. But you might get fed up and sad but your special and you always will BE!

Check out the Life and Deaf website (www.lifeanddeaf.co.uk) for poems written by different children from different schools all around the UK. You might find poems from children in other year groups at Laycock and the year 5 class poems will be up soon!