



Laycock Speech and Language Therapy Newsletter Winter 2016

Dear parents,

The Christmas holidays are here and we would like to share with you some of the interesting work we have been doing with the children at school this term. In addition to the usual SLT groups, individual sessions and programmes we have also been involved in....

VERVE

The speech and language therapy team received training this term on a therapy approach called



VERVE, that is child centered and supports their functional communication skills. Video is used to be able to reflect on communication and interaction with the children during play. We all came away feeling inspired to try out this therapy approach. We have been using it this term with some of the children. Please ask your speech and language therapist if you would like to find out more.

AAC (alternative augmentative communication)

A few of the children use AAC systems to support their spoken communication. This term Cathryn and some of the Class Teachers and Teaching Assistants received training on how to be a good conversation partner for AAC users and using AAC in the classroom. Cathryn has set up an AAC surgery on Fridays for school staff who need technical support with the AAC device. Next term we have invited parents in to share ideas on how to support the children in using AAC at school and at home.

Team News

In September we welcomed back **Julia Hollier** to Laycock. **Cathryn Tancock** and **Rachel Day** continue to work at Laycock. We also have two Speech and Language Therapy students supporting our team until April next year. Rosie Oxenbury is working with us on Tuesdays and Faye Roberts is with us on Wednesdays.

Holiday Activity:

This term some of the children in different year groups have been playing barrier games to practice giving and following instructions. We have been encouraging them to ask specific questions e.g. "what shape is it?", "how big?", "where should I draw it?". You can play barrier games at home with paper and pens or use a free app like 'Kids Doodle'. Draw a snowman, tree, robot, alien or face using different shapes, sizes and colours. Hide it and then describe to each other how to draw it.



See if they are the same at the end!

Thank you for your support and wishing you a very happy holiday!

Contact us by phone:
0207 354 4176

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