



# LLS News

27/01/2023



Dear families

On page 3 of this newsletter there is an invitation to complete a survey and interview which is open to all parents, regardless of whether they recently consented for their child to receive an ear check and regardless of the outcome of that check if they had one. Please scan the QR code to complete the survey.

As you may already know our trampolines which are used for Rebound Therapy are in need of repair and, unfortunately, we are currently unable to use them. The repairs will take 3-4 weeks so we hope to have them back and ready for use shortly after the half term break.

Have a lovely weekend.

C@LL is hosting an ONLINE session on Relationships, Sex and Health Education (RSHE). Tuesday 31st of January 2023, from 8pm until 9pm. Please confirm attendance via Classlist or via [communityatlindenlodge@gmail.com](mailto:communityatlindenlodge@gmail.com)

As the parent or carer of a child with special needs, you may dismiss RSHE as not relevant to you. The devastating truth is that those with special needs and disabilities are more likely to experience all kinds of abuse. But equally, understanding RSHE can help us all build better relationships with our children and young people. The first part of the session will be information-sharing led by Teacher & RSHE Lead Sinéad Bevan, Occupational Therapy Lead Fiona Pringle, and Speech and Language Therapy Lead Megan Armstrong. The second part of the session will be a Q&A. Please fill out the pre-session survey here: <https://forms.office.com/r/h0TZGxLeur>

## Star of the Week/Kindness Award

**Veselin** for typing words and creating sentences on his communication iPad and sharing this with relevant people to ask questions, listening to and following the response.

**Lily** for requesting 'more' during intensive interaction sessions!

**DJ** for his enthusiasm and engagement in class library sessions which has been wonderful to see. He showed great thoughtfulness this week collecting the books in at the end for the librarian. Well done DJ!



## Term Dates

### Spring Term 2023

- **First day for pupils**  
Tuesday 3<sup>rd</sup> January 2023
- **Last day for pupils**  
Friday 31<sup>st</sup> March 2023
- **Half term break** Monday 13<sup>th</sup> to Friday 17<sup>th</sup> February 2023
- **Planning and Preparation Day (no pupils)**  
Monday 20<sup>th</sup> February 2023

## Dates for your diary

**31st January**—8-9pm — C@LL—RHSE talk for parents and carers

**3rd February**—NSPCC Number Day

**6th –10th February**—Children's Mental Health Week

**7th February**—Safer Internet Day



## Learning at Linden Lodge

This week, Violin class have been learning about Australia.  
We wore an Australian 'cork hat'



We made fairy bread (bread, butter and sprinkles)...

..explored bread, spread the butter...



and sprinkled the sprinkles.



We tried food including Vegemite and fairy bread!



We also listened to 'Australian' music. We particularly enjoyed the sound of the didgeridoo!



We would like to hear more about your opinions on and experience of hearing checks in your child's school.



Please scan this survey code to complete the survey online. It should only take about 10 minutes.

There is an option at the end of the survey to sign up for an interview or focus group to tell us more about your experience. As a thank you for your time, we will offer you a £15 voucher.

If you have any queries about the survey, please get in touch at [sarah.houston@uclpartners.com](mailto:sarah.houston@uclpartners.com)



# NSPCC Number Day



We are delighted to be supporting the NSPCC by taking part in Number Day on **Friday 3 February 2023**.

The NSPCC need our support more than ever. By raising money, we can help to fund their vital services such as Childline – the helpline that's always there for children and young people whatever their problem or concern.

### Making maths meaningful

Number Day is a great way to make maths fun and bring about a positive, 'can-do' attitude towards it.

We are having a fun day of maths activities and we will be taking part in *Dress up for Digits*. Pupils are asked to wear an item of clothing with a number on it (football shirt, cap, netball shirt or even a onesie!). Or get even more creative by dressing in a maths or numbers theme. To help raise money for the NSPCC, we are asking for donations, and we'd love everyone in the school to take part in this special event.

\*Supported by



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\*Number Day is supported by Man AHL and Oxford University Press, led by NSPCC.

## EVERY CHILDHOOD IS WORTH FIGHTING FOR



# SEND Update

**with Elizabeth Fitzpatrick, Assistant Director of  
Education & Early Help,  
& colleagues from the SEN & Disabilities Integrated  
Service (SENDIS)**

**A great opportunity to hear the latest information from senior officers in Merton  
& ask your questions!**

**Register now to secure your place!**

**Friday 10 February, 10am to 12pm**

**Online via Zoom  
or at the Chaucer Centre where the meeting  
will be shown live on screen for parents &  
carers  
without digital access.**

**THESE SESSIONS ARE FOR PARENT CARERS ONLY**

- ✓ For more information or to register with Kids First / Adults First and receive news of all our events,  
just ring 020 3963 0597 or email [kf.admin@mertonmencap.org.uk](mailto:kf.admin@mertonmencap.org.uk).

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**Merton's Forum for Parents of Children  
and Young People  
with Disabilities or Special Needs**

**Free Kids First Events for 2023**

**Tuesday 24 January, 5-7pm (Zoom meeting)**

**Transition of children with EHCP's from primary to secondary school  
with Georgie Tyrell, SEN Team Manager & EHCP Co-Ordinators,  
plus Fran Turko & Shazia Khan from Merton's Information, Advice & Support Service (MIASS)**

Another chance for year 5 parents to come & hear what the process for the transition of children with EHCPs from primary to secondary school will look like for a September 2024 start date

(parents of children with EHCPs in other primary school years also welcome).

Georgie will be giving an overview of the process & introducing you to some of the team of EHCP Co-Ordinators. Fran & Shazia will give a short presentation on the legal framework, some top tips & what to expect from schools.

**Register now to secure your place!**

**Friday 10 February, 10am to 12pm (Zoom meeting)**

**SEND Update**

**with Elizabeth Fitzpatrick, Assistant Director of Education & Early Help,  
& colleagues from the SEN & Disabilities Integrated Service (SENDIS),**

A great opportunity to hear the latest information from senior officers in Merton & ask your questions!

**Register now to secure your place!**

**Thursday 23 February, 10am to 12pm (in person meeting)**

**Preparation for Adulthood & Transition Planning**

**with Suzanne Paris, Interim SEN Manager (Assessment team & Post 16 Team),  
SENDIS (SEN and Disabilities Integrated Service)**

**& Gill Moore, Merton's Head of Integrated Learning Disabilities Service**

Hear an update from Suzanne & Gill about the work that is happening within SENDIS & Adult Social Care regarding Preparation for Adulthood & Transition planning.

The Chaucer Centre (Combi Room), Canterbury Road, Morden, SM4 6PX

(please confirm attendance by Friday 17 February)

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**Thursday 9 March, 10am to 12pm (in person meeting)**

**Off the Record**

**Supporting young people with emotional well-being issues**

**with Matthew Taylor (Senior Mental Health Practitioner)**

**& Gosia Pawlowska (Merton Schools Wellbeing Team Service Manager)**

Hear about Merton's Off the Record service for young people aged 11-25 who live in Merton, or have a Merton GP.

Find out how young people can access free & confidential emotional support ranging from ongoing support via individual online (text-based) & face-to-face counselling, through to one-off support via a telephone support line, plus support for parents & carers of young people struggling with self-harm or school avoidance.

Matthew will also be talking through some strategies you can use at home with your children.

The Chaucer Centre (Combi Room), Canterbury Road, Morden, SM4 6PX

(please confirm attendance by Friday 3 March)

**Thursday 23 March, 10am to 12pm (in person meeting)**

**What makes an effective Annual Review?**

**with Fran Turko and Shazia Khan from Merton Information, Advice and Support Service (MIASS)**

The local authority must review your child's EHC plan at least once a year. This is to look at how your child is progressing & to ensure that the plan is kept up to date.

This process is known as the Annual Review.

Find out how to get the best out of your child's Annual Review at this information session which will cover what happens during a review, from explaining how you can prepare for the review meeting, professional reports, the meeting itself & who can attend, the review report & what happens next.

Plus hear an update on how meetings are currently taking place & ask your questions.

The Chaucer Centre (Combi Room), Canterbury Road, Morden, SM4 6PX

(please confirm attendance by Friday 17 March)

For catering reasons, please **BOOK** ahead for all in person events where possible.

For more information or to book your place please contact the Kids First administrator

Tel: 020 3963 0597

Email: [kf.admin@mertonmencap.org.uk](mailto:kf.admin@mertonmencap.org.uk)

Website: <https://www.mertonmencap.org.uk/services/kids-first-forum/>

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