



Inclusion Newsletter

My job—Inclusions Manager

In my role I work to ensure that children are included at school whatever their needs may be. I look out for children who may be more vulnerable than other children because of their needs. I especially look out for children with Special Educational Needs (SEN), those who have English as an additional language (EAL), and children who are gifted and talented.

All children may come into one of these areas at some point during their time at school.

You can always contact me at school by phoning: 855783—you may have to leave a message as I do not work full-time. You can leave a message for me to contact you at the school office or you can drop in and see if I am free to see you.

It can sometimes be worrying to hear that your child is finding learning difficult but it usually helps to talk it through

with us. It is our job to make sure that, whatever children's needs are, we support them appropriately at school.

Mrs Schulze
Inclusions Manager

Provision Forms—SEN

I have just reviewed children's needs with teachers. In the spring targets and support tend to stay the same for children so we do not often change the provision forms.

If your child has just come under our SEN provision then you will receive a new Provision Form for your child outlining the support we feel your child needs.

The forms and the SEN provision are reviewed three times a year. We do this in the Autumn term once teachers have

got to know their new class, in the Spring to set new targets if needed, and in the Summer when we review progress made over the year and set targets to help with transition to the next year group.

The forms are a way of keeping you informed of the support your child is receiving and they help us to monitor your child's progress.

Welcome to new OT

We welcome Sam Lewis to work with our Inclusion Team. Sam is an Occupational Therapist and he will be working with us in school throughout the year, visiting about once a term.

He has already worked with some of our families looking at how we at school can support children with their learning but also providing ideas to help at home.

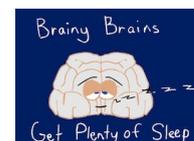
St Mary's Catholic Primary School
Tel:
01634 855783

Spring 2016



Useful TV progs and websites

1. **My Violent Child (Channel 5)**—sounds a bit extreme but lots of useful parenting tips and I like the way the programme looks at the whole family
2. **Millpond Sleep** website—helpful tips about sleeping for children of all ages plus phone help-line



Need help?

Home-School Support Worker: Carley Groves is our Home-School Support Worker. She can be contacted through the school office and is in school on Wed and Fri. Carley can help with benefits, housing and anything that might be worrying you.

School Nurse: Marion Newman (contact through the school office) Marion can help with issues such as eating, sleeping, bed-wetting and other health problems.

Just ask...

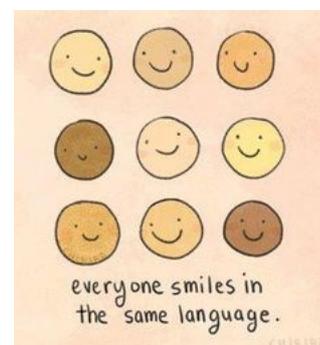
The Place2be School Project Manager: Julia Stacey is our School Project Manager for Place2be. Julia can be contacted through the school office and can help if your child is having emotional difficulties. She is available for parents/carers to talk to confidentially about anything that may affect a child's emotional well-being.

We now have Place2be in school for 4 days a week (not in on Tues). As part of the 4



day package from Place2be we now have an Assistant School Project Manager. Welcome to Katie Watson who is new to that role.

Inclusions Manager and Class Teachers: Do come and talk to us—we might be able to help. Appointments can be made through the school office.



We are proud to have Medway's Inclusive School Quality Mark — for the second time.



Home-School Support



My role as Home School Support Worker for St Mary's provides links between school staff, families, children and other services. I hope to provide support with an aim of helping children reach their full potential by overcoming barriers to learning e.g. attendance, family worries such as debt and relationship changes.

I have recently had positive feedback from parents who attended parenting classes; 'Understanding Your Child' run by our local children's centres. The course provided them with new strategies when dealing with behaviour through to sleep management. If you feel you would benefit from support please contact me. CARLEY GROVES

USING TECHNOLOGY TO LEARN AT HOME

Parents often ask how they can help children at home with literacy and numeracy skills. If you have access to technology then there are many games available.

For ipads there are endless games available to help children with reading and numbers.



We use ipads at school to support children with English as an additional language and those who are working on speech and language targets.

For the computer we always recommend the BBC schools website. There are the Bitesize activities and other activities in both literacy and numeracy which can support children's learning at school.



As these are mostly games, children often don't know that they are learning at the same time as having fun.

There are also links to relevant websites on our school website e.g. Reading Eggs, Mathletics.

It is always important that your child is happy to do extra activities like this. If they are not enjoying it they are less likely to remember what they are learning.

For all children especially those with SEN school is hard work, and children need to have time to relax and play as playing time is an important time for them to store and process what they have learnt during the day.

All children benefit from playing outside and with toys that are not technology related. If you need help getting appropriate toys for your child please contact our Home-School Support Worker.

Read Write Inc



Mrs Atkinson, our Read Write Inc Manager writes here about how we help children who need extra support with Read Write Inc.

For the majority of children RWI is a great programme to initially teach children their sounds and to then become competent readers. Children who struggle to make progress in RWI are supported in a number of ways in school.

Assessments take place every 6-8 weeks and from this we can identify which taught sounds the children are still struggling with. These identified sounds are made into a pack and

sent home for parents to work on. It's essential that 5 to 10mins each day is given to working on these sounds, to ensure it has a big impact on their learning. We have seen that for those children who do this extra work, there is often no need for any further intervention.

New group leaders are also made aware of gaps in children's learning and will address this in the first part of their RWI sessions each day. Reading leaders also make a big effort to check these children throughout the session, and will speak to the RWI manager with any concerns.

Some children will need further help

to ensure that they keep up with their peers. These children may be identified for 1:1 tutoring which takes place daily for 5-10 minutes in class, usually with their class teaching assistant. Children are given small steps to work on over a 2-3 week period and then reassessed, to see whether they need further help or can come off 1:1 support. Class teachers are aware of such children and will give the RWI manager feedback on their progress within class too.

Children who are struggling significantly with RWI will be flagged up to the Inclusions Manager and we will monitor them carefully.

EAL

English as an additional language

Although you will want your child to develop their English language skills at school, if they speak a different language at home then it is important that you help them to develop their skills in their home language too.

THIS WILL HELP THEM AS THEY LEARN ENGLISH. They will be able to use the language skills they develop in their first language to help them learn English. It gives them something to build on.

We realise that this will be different for different families - sometimes parents speak their home language when children are small but then move to speaking English as

children get older. If you are not sure how to handle this do come in and talk to us about it.

Local libraries often have dual language books so that you may be able to share books in your home language with your child.



We celebrate languages at school and speaking more than one language is something to be proud of.

Useful website:

The British Council—Learn English Kids



Reading at home—for EAL children

We ask that ALL parents read with their children even if English is not your first language. Sometimes parents say that they do not feel confident to read with their child as they do not feel their own English is that good but it is still definitely worth doing.

It shows your child that you think reading is important, and is a way to build your own skills!

It is also good to ask your child questions about what they are reading—you can do this when watching TV too—ask questions about what is happening in a programme.

All of this will help your child to make progress at school.