

On the S.P.O.T!



The newsletter from the **S**peech, **P**hysio and **O**ccupational **T**herapies team

Who are we?

Speech and Language Therapy	Physiotherapy	Occupational Therapy
We can help children who have difficulties with communication and those with feeding and/or swallowing difficulties.	We can help to develop and restore movement and function when a person is affected by disability or illness.	We work with children who have a physical disability which affects their participation in everyday activities.

Inside this issue

- Who are we?
- Top tips for the summer
- Games for you to play at home
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Welcome!

Hello and welcome to our first newsletter. Each term we hope to bring you information about our service, ideas for games you can play at home to help your child's development, together with useful hints and tips. This term, our newsletter focuses on fun things to do in the sun (if we get any!) and update you on things that are happening this term.



Top tips for the summer

The best way to encourage your child's development is by giving them your time and attention. As the summer approaches, plan to spend time playing with your child in the garden or visit the local park. As your child uses the swings, climbing frame and plays ball games they will develop:

- Physical skills such as balance, co-ordination, and muscle strength
- Increased confidence
- Maths skills whilst working out how fast objects move, how wide, how deep, how many
- Scientific skills as they solve problems; how to get on, off, under, over, around
- Language skills as you talk about what they are doing, what they can see, hear and feel
- Speech sounds as you model and repeat back the correct sounds in words, e.g. child says "the dun in the die" - you say "yes, the sss-un is in the sss-ky"



Contact us

FASTA line - To make a new referral:
0121 612 2010

The Lyng Centre
0121 612 2345

Other useful numbers:

Sandwell Parent Partnership & Parent Voice
0121 552 0047

Sandwell wheelchairs (assessments)
0121 565 7950

Woodisses (wheelchair repairs)
01902 494336

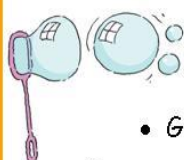
Sandwell orthotics (footwear, AFO's, etc.)
0121 507 2784



What's happening in schools?

We are now using eye gaze technology with some children in our Special Schools to help develop their communication skills. Keep an 'eye' out for more information!

Elklan 5-11 training for professionals is starting on 25.09.14 - book a place via lynne.cotterill@nhs.net



Things you can do at home with bubbles:

- Bubbles are FUN, inexpensive and portable!
- Get your child to chase the bubbles around the room
- Can your child catch a bubble on the bubble wand?
- Say "ready, steady" then pause for your child to say "go"
- Encourage your child to say "pop" when they burst the bubbles
- Pause before blowing the next bubbles to give your child the opportunity to ask for "more" or "more bubbles"
- Make comments such as "that's a big bubble", "you caught it", "that one popped on your head".

Our recent achievements

- ◆ Did you know that all our patient records are now kept electronically? We are doing our bit for the environment by trying to keep our use of paper to a minimum.
- ◆ We are changing how we work with other professionals. To ensure that relevant information about your child is passed on quickly and accurately, your therapist may talk to you about sharing information with other professionals that may be involved with your child. You can decide what information is shared.
- ◆ Pippa Candlish, Physiotherapist, undertook an advanced eight week Bobath therapy course to develop skills that will help children with Cerebral Palsy. Talk to your Physiotherapist about this.

Dates for your diary

Glebefields Health Centre:

- Free Makaton course for parents starting 03.06.14 - book a place via 0121 612 2345 or lynne.cotterill@nhs.net

Coneygre Centre 0845 352 8789:

- Twinkly Tuesdays - play and stay 10.00 - 11.30
- Sensory Tots - Weds mornings for children with visual / hearing difficulties
- Physical Fridays - for children with physical disabilities 9.45 - 11.45

New equipment/ equipment to hire

- A range of switches to support communication. Speak to your SLT if you are interested in these.
- The Portway Leisure Centre has free access to facilities for children who receive DLA.
- Greenacres Children's Centre offer weekly loans of activity packs to families accessing the centre.



DNA figures

You can help us to reduce wasted costs by letting us know when you cannot attend.

DATE	APPOINTMENTS	COSTS
Jan 2014	82	£7913
Feb 2014	84	£8106
March 2014	70	£6755

What's coming up in the autumn issue....

- ◆ Using LEGO to develop your child's language and social skills
- ◆ Top tips for using an empty box!!!

