

April 2023



SEND NEWSLETTER

Sandal Primary School

In this issue:

- Diary Dates
- Purple Day– what is it?
- The Local Offer
- MINT coffee morning update
- Parent and carer voice

Welcome

Welcome to the first Special Education Needs and Disabilities (SEND) newsletter. The purpose of this newsletter is to keep in touch with the families of our young people with SEND and staff working in our school, to keep you all informed of updates, and to share information for further support.

We hope you find the newsletter helpful and we would be interested to hear other ways for the school and families to work together going forward.

Neurodiversity Week.

From 13th-19th March was Neurodiversity week. It is a worldwide initiative that challenges stereotypes and misconceptions about neurological differences. It aims to transform how neurodivergent individuals are perceived and supported by providing schools, universities, and organisations with the opportunity to recognise the many talents and advantages of being neurodivergent, while creating more inclusive and equitable cultures that celebrate differences and empower every individual.

Classes throughout school, talked about the subject and raised awareness in different ways.

For a child friendly way of introducing the subject of Autism, visit:

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/cbeebies/joinin/pablo-talking-to-your-child-about-autism>

Mark Your Diaries

The next MINT coffee morning will be on Monday 15th May 9-11am

World Autism Acceptance Week
27th March– 2nd April

World Health Day– April 7th



Training in school: Autism

This half term, the whole staff team have received training around Autism. The aims of the training were to:

- enhance understanding and awareness of Autism
- equip staff with the knowledge they need to be confident in making reasonable adjustments to support Autistic children.

Staff feel they are equipped with a better understanding as to why specific provision and support is needed for Autistic children.

For further information visit: <https://www.autismeducationtrust.org.uk/>

"Autism affects a person biologically, and this in turn influences how the person experiences and sees the world, whilst their development and experience will also be shaped by how they are supported and educated."
(Guldborg, 2019)

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DLD– Developmental Language Disorder

Developmental means ‘something you grow up with’. It is something a person has always had.

Language means talking and understanding what others say.

Disorder means when something doesn’t work the way it should.

What is it?

- Is a difference that makes talking and understanding language difficult
- Increases the risk for social, emotional and behavioural difficulties

What is the criteria for a diagnosis?

- Severe difficulties in their understanding and use of language
- The language difficulties will be persistent
- Will be affecting daily functioning and well-being.

For more information, please visit: <https://dldandme.org/>

DLD is the most common disability not heard of and is a hidden disability.

MINT coffee mornings

The last session was led by an SEMH specialist from the SCIL Team in Bradford’s SEND department. She highlighted that all behaviour is a form of communication and it is our job as adults, to determine what they are communicating about and why.

Sometimes, children can present challenging behaviour at home. The purpose may be gaining someone’s attention, stopping an activity they don’t like, or satisfying sensory needs — but there is always a reason behind the behaviour.

Some top tips:

- Designate a quiet area where they can use for regulating.
- Defer– give them a job to do
- Be aware of hotspots and plan for them in advance.

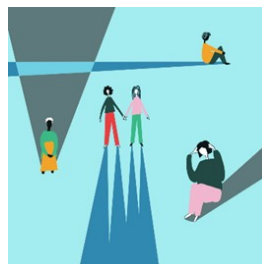
How you can support:

- Use reward charts or 5 point scales
- Create family rules
- Plan quality time as a family or

In Bradford....

247 speech and language referrals have been made since April 2021.

50% have been diagnosed with a language disorder.



“As parents of children with special needs, we don’t have the power to make life ‘fair’ but we do have the power to make life joyful” Anonymous