



Inclusion Newsletter

7th February 2025

Welcome to Term 3's Inclusion newsletter.

As you are aware, this academic year we have been participating in Medway's PINS (Partnership for the Inclusion of Neurodiversity in Schools) programme. This has provided us with an opportunity to review what we do for our neurodiverse pupils and look for areas in which we can improve our practice, as well as accessing additional training and resources for staff. The Medway Parents and Carers Forum have also been involved with this and many of you spoke to them on their stall at the Christmas Fair last term. They shared some lovely feedback and comments that parents and children had made, so thank you very much for that! Their website can be found at <https://medwaypcf.org.uk/> if you are interested in finding out more or being part of the forum. Shortly, they will be sending us another parent survey to allow them to look at the impact of the project, so please look out for this and complete it if you can.

We are also involved in a project about transition which is focusing on neurodiverse children in Year 5. Parents of these children have been invited to work with Medway to support their planning for more consistent processes to ensure a smoother transition to secondary school, which should benefit all children but particularly those who are neurodiverse. We will keep you updated on this project as it progresses.

I am excited to tell you that Mrs Richardson is currently studying for the National Professional Qualification in SEN Co-ordination. She has begun to work alongside me as an Assistant SENDCo within the school and is increasing her understanding of the role and all related processes. She will be focusing particularly on support related to Speech and Language needs to begin with, but the role may change and develop over time. You may be contacted by either of us, or by our SEND Admin assistant Miss White, in relation to your child's needs.

Please remember that your child's class teacher is always the best person to speak to first if you have any questions or concerns about your child's learning. If you wish to discuss your child's needs further, or need additional support with an aspect of SEND, please don't hesitate to contact me at the school.

Mrs Z Huggett
Assistant Headteacher and Inclusion Manager



Asthma

Asthma is a common lung condition that causes occasional breathing difficulties. Asthma affects people of all ages and often starts in childhood. People with asthma can get symptoms such as wheezing, breathlessness, a cough or tightening in their chest. When symptoms get worse quickly, this is called an asthma attack.

Children with an allergy or allergy-related condition like eczema or hay fever are more likely to develop asthma. Children with a food allergy are four times more likely to have asthma than children without a food allergy.



In the UK, 5.4 million people have asthma.

This is about 8 in every 100 people.

~ Make sure your child takes their preventer inhaler every day as prescribed, and ensure your child has a reliever inhaler in school in case it is needed. All inhalers should be accompanied by a spacer. Please keep a note of when your child's asthma pump expires and ensure you replace out-of-date pumps kept at school.

~ It can be helpful to monitor your child's asthma symptoms over time to work out what their triggers might be, or if their asthma is getting worse.

~ Talk to your child about their asthma, even when they're young, as this can help them understand the condition, why they might get symptoms like coughing and wheezing, and how their asthma medicines can help them. It can also help them to know the signs of an asthma attack and what to do if they notice these.

~ Make sure your child knows how to access help in different situations if they feel they are experiencing an asthma attack. In school, they know they must tell someone straight away if they start to feel unwell.

~ Children can display different behaviours when they have asthma symptoms. For example, they may become quiet, worried, angry, clingy or complain of a stomach ache, loss of appetite or seem more tired than normal.

~ A child asthma action plan will help you and your child to manage their asthma. If you haven't already done so, please complete a Child Asthma Care Plan from the office and return to school as soon as possible, so that we can keep this with your child's asthma pump in class.



Useful Websites:

<https://www.asthmaandlung.org.uk/>

<https://www.nhs.uk/conditions/asthma/>