

# MARY ELLIOT PARENT/CARER MONTHLY NEWSLETTER

Thursday 7<sup>th</sup> December 2017

Firstly thank you to everyone that attended that today's meeting, it was really lovely to see you all! Apologies have been sent by Transport and Lesley Taylor from the Walsall SEN Team as they were unable to attend.

## **SEN Team**

Lesley Taylor was unable to attend the meeting today and some parents have voiced concerns that they need support with Education Health Care Plans (EHCP), and how these should be completed accurately. This is particularly important for the students that are due to leave us in July 2019. If you require additional support, please contact Sharon Fogarty on 01922 490190

We understand that the terminology used such as EHCP, IEP, IBP, etc can be confusing so a glossary with all the abbreviations listed will be sent to all parents in the New Year.

## **Jackie Ross**

Jackie very kindly joined us for this meeting. Jackie is a Consultant who is conducting some research on behalf of the Local Authority, including the Local Offer. Jackie presented us with a comprehensive overview of the EHCP plan and further guidance on this process can be found on [www.ipsea.org.uk](http://www.ipsea.org.uk)

## **FACE Walsall**

FACE Walsall are holding another open event on Thursday 15<sup>th</sup> February 2018, 10am at the Royal Hotel in Walsall. The previous event was an overwhelming success which was well attended by parents, health and other professionals to include Transport, Autism West Midlands, KIDS and representatives from the Local Authority. Everyone is welcome – this is very worthwhile so please come if you are able to.

## **Ace Transport – New Provider**

Ace came into school at the end of November to meet parents and give a presentation about the new transport which will take effect from January 2018. Information has been sent out to parents which should have been received late last week. If you have any questions or niggles, please contact Sharon Fogarty at school, or call Transport directly and speak with Ashley or Nichola **before the end of this week.**

### **Lucy from Sensory Wise**

Lucy is the Founder of Sensory wise. Lucy is extremely knowledgeable and has a keen interest in sensory play and holistic approaches. She has a wealth of experience working with OT's and other health professionals, working alongside families to support them in everyday life when the professional involvement ends. Lucy also has an on-line store where sensory items can be purchased.

Lucy Taylor: 01384 686700 OR 07758 740038 [www.sensorywise.co.uk](http://www.sensorywise.co.uk)

### **Autism West Midlands**

AWM are based in Birmingham and offer free advice for people aged 18+. They have a befriending service, social groups and can offer support around employment also. They also work closely with Midlands MENCAP. Further information available at [www.autismwestmidlands.org.uk](http://www.autismwestmidlands.org.uk)

### **Midlands MENCAP – Lichfield Street**

Jay works very closely with Mary Elliot School and is based at the Hub in Walsall. The Hub has accessible toilet and changing facilities – you can pop in for a coffee and there is internet available also! It is also a “Safe Place”.

### **Friends of Mary Elliot**

Friends of Mary Elliot – Meet on the first Monday of every month at 9.30am in school. Please feel free to join us for this informal get together, refreshments are available. FOME are now a registered charity.

### **Parent Support at Mary Elliot**

Our Parent Support Advisor, Sharon Fogarty is available for advice and information in a confidential manner. Please contact on 01922 490190

- **Next Parent/Carer Meeting dates will be confirmed in the New Year.**

***Merry Christmas to you all! We look forward to seeing you in the New Year!***

