



January 2025 Newsletter



Cambian

The Forum School

Upcoming Events

February

- 1st - Black History Month
- 4th – World Cancer Day
- 10th – Chinese new year (Year of the Dragon)
- 11th – Safer internet day
- 13th - Shrove Tuesday (Pancake day!)
- 14th Ash Wednesday, Valentines day & Jam Hearts Competition
- 17th – Random Acts of kindness Day.
- 20th - National Love your pet day
- 28th First Day of Ramadan



Safer Internet Day 2025 | Tuesday
11 February

Coordinated by the UK Safer Internet Centre

saferinternetday.org.uk



National LOVE
YOUR PET Day



TFS Events

2025

CALENDAR YEAR

JANUARY

CALENDAR MONTH

MONDAY

FIRST DAY OF WEEK

Wild Weather



Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday
30	31	01	02	03	04	05
		SCHOOL HOLIDAYS				
	Veganuary	BANK HOLIDAY New Years Day				
06	07	08	09	10	11	12
SCHOOL HOLIDAYS	Arts & Crafts - Indoor Arena		PANTO at Salisbury for Residential - Bus arriving at 1pm Arts & Crafts - Indoor Arena	TFS Cinema - Theatre	Shillingstone Station Café - Meet at blue gates 13:30	
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
	Arts & Crafts - Indoor Arena		Arts & Crafts - Indoor Arena	TFS Cinema - Theatre	Shillingstone Station Café - Meet at blue gates 13:30	
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
	Arts & Crafts - Indoor Arena		Arts & Crafts - Indoor Arena	International Day of Education TFS Cinema - Theatre	Burns Night Shillingstone Station Café - Meet at blue gates 13:30	
27	28	29	30	31	01	02
International Holocaust Remembrance Day	Arts & Crafts - Indoor Arena	Chinese New Year - Snake	Arts & Crafts - Indoor Arena	TFS Cinema - Theatre	Shillingstone Station Café - Meet at blue gates 13:30	



The Forum Stars are back!

Shout out a staff member that has gone above and beyond for a young person, yourself, your team or the school.

Email Forum.Stars@cambianguroup.com with a sentence about why a colleague is amazing and they'll be entered into a draw. There will be 3 winners. 1 from Care, 1 from Education and 1 from everyone else! The winners will receive a £10 Love2Shop voucher and Employee of the month for your department!

Upcoming Birthdays



February

Paul Kerby
Claire Dominy



Happy
Birthday



● ● ●

100

An illustration of a man in a blue shirt and dark pants watering three small figures standing on pots. The man is on the left, holding a brown watering can and pouring water onto the pots. The three small figures are on the right, standing on three separate pots and raising their arms in celebration. The background is a light blue circle with white clouds.





Dental Check up success!

JH, JC, JV, AT, DH, BOC, LMT, MJP & AG

All had their teeth looked by the dentist.

The nurse came down to see one of our young people in reception, as that was a far as we could get him.

The work Yadu had done with one of our young people has worked. He was very calm, knew exactly where to go and allowed the dentist to inspect his teeth.

This is amazing progress and we are super proud of them all!
Thank you to all the adults supporting them 😊





The Nest



We enjoy art, collage and creative learning in the Swift Class.



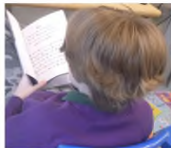
I have been learning about 2D shapes in maths



We are learning about managing our emotions using the 'Zones' and improving our skills to prepare food.



I really enjoyed activities planned for the anti bullying week. I read the class book and took part in many fun activities based on the book, 'The Boy, the Mole, the Fox and the Horse'.



Joan is happily engaged in his outdoor learning about positioning items and sensory play with 2D shapes.



I love writing! Everyday I write my own poems, and phrases, my thoughts and sometimes copying from my favourite books and my 'talk pad'.

Castle ran to the fire
pizza perfect
fox list
himself fireworks
ran 1 and nice get
i thinking came somewhere
the winning broken laugh
the wheels on the bus singing song
it's time by win called yet
microphone sing
i can see it me
float your little boat
the bully
freeman sam the great of pondypandy

microphone sing
the bully
the sing wolby plaster
the warming politicaling pandy song
he the get day
information tower
m gh gh bh gh
the scary scary ghost
the fireworks stason
the row your boat
the silly sheepdog



the winning broken laugh
the wheels on the bus singing song
it's time by win called yet
microphone sing
i can see it me
float your little boat
the bully
freeman sam the great of pondypandy



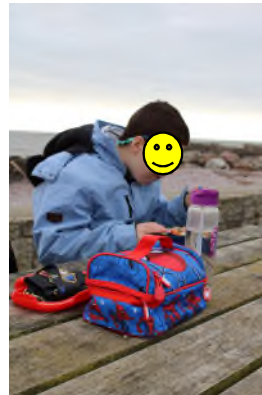
I enjoy many different learnings in the Nest, reading, maths, and music are my favourite activities in class.



We are enjoying fun sessions in learning music, maths and sensory play to learn about 'winter', in the Swift Class.



Willows



A chilly walk on West Bay beach and picnic.

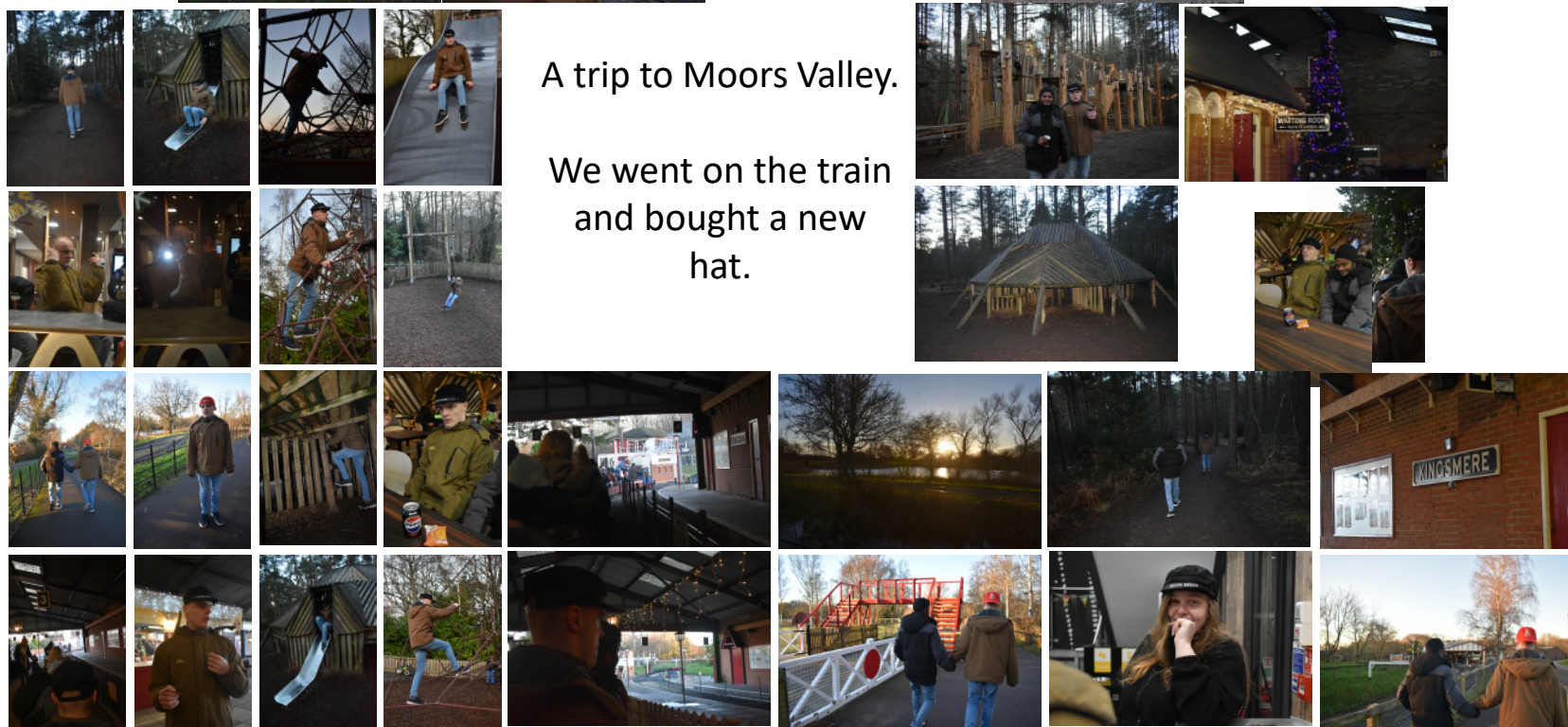


Hambledon



A trip to Moors Valley.

We went on the train
and bought a new
hat.



Wishes and
feelings box for
our young people
to share their
wishes and
feelings!





Principal Stars



JH, KT, SSU, AT, DJ, OH, JC, BOC, SSi, AG

I heard that you attended the Panto to see Sleeping Beauty. All adults have told me that you listened well and enjoyed the show. Well done 😊

JT, TF, DH, JV, JCv


I heard that you attended the Panto to see sleeping Beauty. All adults have told me that when you arrived you made safe choices and let the adults know that you would not like to attend. Well done for using your voice and letting adults know.

BOC, KAC

I heard you had a fantastic day on Tuesday and visited a Chinese shop. The adults told me you listened well and had a great day. Well done

KAM & RW

I just wanted to thank you for all of your help and support moving the library books. All adults have informed how hard you both worked. Thank you 😊



SSU & AG

I have been told by adults in Dragonfly classroom how you worked well as a group and shared Lego with other students . Excellent work 😊

KB

Thank you for a wonderful afternoon in my office and teaching me all about the Simpsons. Was great to spend time with you. You have such a great sense of humour Kai. Thank you for all the fun and laughter

NOMINEES FOR EMPLOYEE OF THE MONTH



Mark Barnett x 3
Samuel Alike x 2
Leeshma Mathews x 3
Rani Vijayan x 2
Arun Sajeev x 4
Yadu Kulambil x 6
Rani Vijayan x 2
Zainab Oloko x 3
Helena Griffiths
Kat Minter
Holley Meadus x 2
Molly Andrews
Rebecca Abbott
Kelly- Marie Foster x2
Sally Chambers
McDonald x 2

Sony Ignatious x 3
Daniel Meeting x 2
Rashmi Gajji x 3
Nick Stevens x 2
John Abah x 2
Paul Odey x 3
Kerry Byron x 2
Pete Partridge
Thomson Joseph x 2
Paul Kerby
Tim Hunt
Sammie Barber-Butterworth
Victoria Williamson
Freya Rodger
Cerys Simmons

Soumya Anthony x 2
Bindhu John x 2
Sylvie Sweet x 2
Venkatesh Dodla x 3
Ravi Mediseti x 2
Jessica Hinds x 2
Carissa Ealson
Bindhu John
Denise Fowler
Julie Walker x 2
Lovely Matthew
Claire Legg
Stanley Ogbedeleto
Grace Gardiner
Paul Ford

*Keep Up the
Good Work!*
Emily

Shout Outs!

Sammie Barber-Butterworth,
you have been an absolute
star in what could have been
a really difficult time.
Wonderful to hear how well
Lego therapy went too 😊

Jane Holloway

Molly Andrews, you
have been an absolute
star in what could
have been a really
difficult time.
Wonderful to hear how
well Lego therapy
went too 😊

Jane Holloway

Cerys Simmons,
Amazing performance as her new
role HLTA in the Nest. She is also a
lead of AQA and phonics in the
Swift Class.
Great things for Cerys, and she is
doing so well. Her politeness and
professionalism is exemplary!

Thank you!

Saba Galini

Paul Ford,
Brilliant all round performance in the Nest. His enthusiasm, energy,
relationship with the staff and the students, he is a true
professional! he is always trying to improve and better his practice.
He is leading PE, community trips and Living Skills in the Nest. He is
a Jack of all trades, and he is now building so many new items to
enhance the outside areas of the Nest.

Thank you!

Melissa McCarthy

CONGRATULATIONS – EMPLOYEE'S OF THE MONTH!

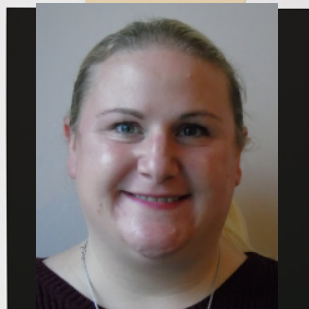


Education



Tim Hunt

Core



Claire Legg

Care



Daniel Meeting

Nights



Zainab Oloko



Outdoor Learning

Dates for your diary

August term 1 – It's a bug's life

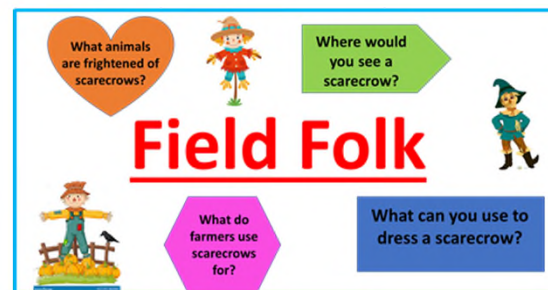
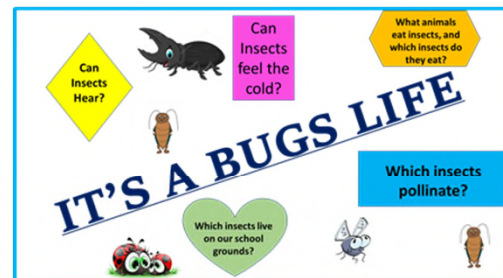
August term 2 – Forest Feast

Spring term 1 – Wild Weather

Spring term 2 – Natures Nursery

Sumer term 1 – Field Folk

Summer term 2 - Treetastic





SVG PNG DXF

The Forum Farm

Hi.

We are a very busy team of two at the Forum Farm that consists of myself - Renea, I am the animal lead and a qualified animal assisted therapist and Sam, who is my right hand woman and is the animal therapy assistant. I would like to introduce you to the many ways we work with the students here at the Forum School. We currently have two horses, eight guinea pigs, three rabbits and a bearded dragon and we are based on a 28 acre site.



We have a very busy timetable including student 1-1 sessions, outdoor learning, lunchtime club, after school activities, we also encourage drop in sessions at any time. We have our 'Guinea Pig gang' where students can sit with the guinea pigs. This has two bucket seat chairs, a bookcase and fairy lights. Our 'Warren' has our rabbits. There is a table for students to work at, as well as homemade rabbit games for them to play!



The Forum Farm... Continued

We have four different curriculum-based courses, all of these have 12 stages to complete and each stage is broken down into 10 bite sized achievable sections. When the students complete a stage, they are presented with a booklet and certificate acknowledging their achievements.

Horse Riding – This is for students to experience our horse-riding sessions which helps to improve their core muscle groups, coordination, balance and sense of wellbeing.

Yard Management – This is designed for our students who are not keen on riding the horses but enjoy the yard environment. They learn skills such as feeding, grooming and basic first aid for all of the animals in our care.

Equine Adventures – Some of our students enjoy being around the horses on the ground rather than riding them. This allows students to learn about care of equines and how to interact with them. This is the students first steps into horse care and leads onto Stable Management.

Stable Management – This is similar to Equine Adventures however it focuses more on the horse's health and wellbeing, including tack care, vet responsibilities etc.

Outdoor Learning

We believe that outdoor learning has a valuable impact on our students learning and there has been many studies that place a high importance on its many positive values including social skills, special awareness, ownership of work and overall mental wellbeing. We have designed a yearly planner that ties in with our curriculum, with myself and Sam working closely with the teachers and T.As. It has also enhanced our wider community ties with local businesses donating some of our supplies and creating a wider community spirit.



Drop in sessions

Some of our students from time to time need a place to reflect or relax. They are always encouraged to visit whenever they feel the need to and we have found that some of our students like to just pop in to say hello to either myself and Sam or the animals. It is always nice to see the students on the yard and we understand the importance of them being able to do so.

Lunchtime Club

This is our latest idea for the yard and we wanted to give our students a place to blow off some steam or be creative and make different art/crafts. It is held in the indoor arena every day and is for all students to drop in as they wish.

After School Activities

Our indoor arena is always accessible to our residential students. Mondays are our sensory play activities and Wednesdays are for arts and crafts, however, we are happy for any student to enjoy the facilities at any time.

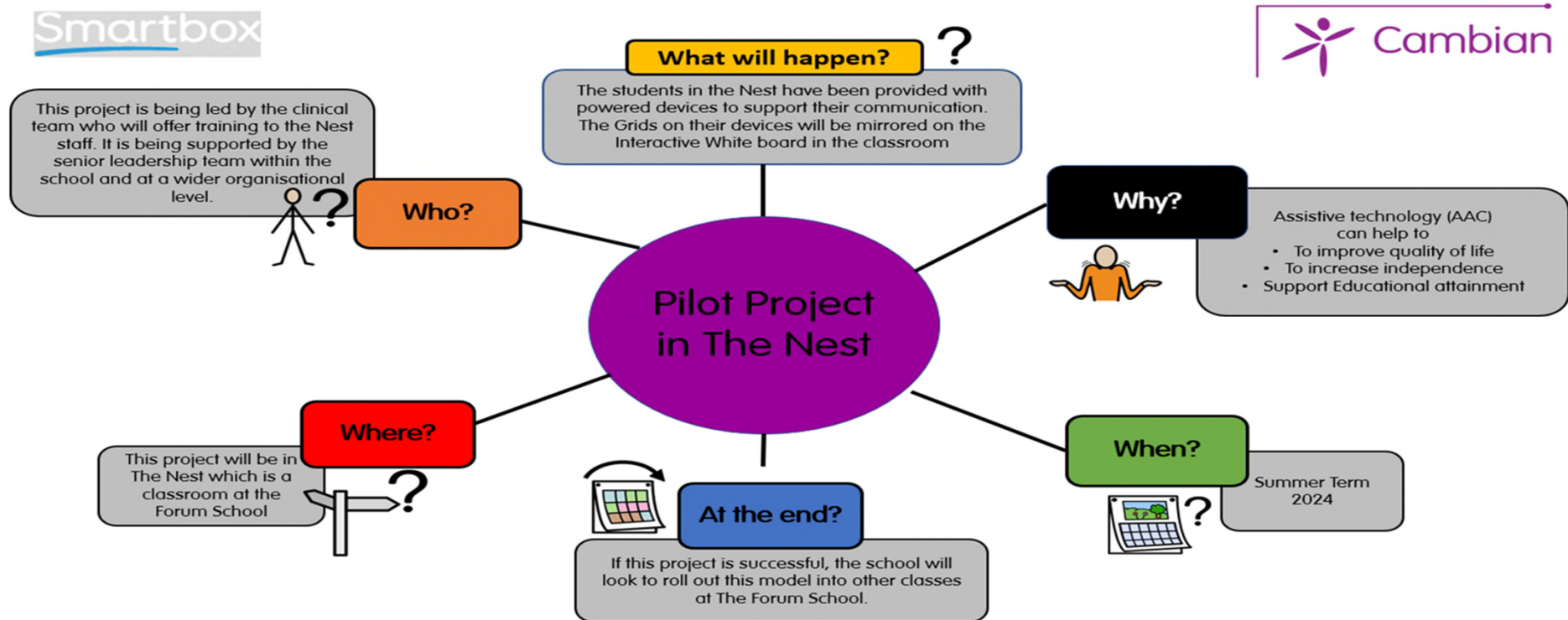
Thank you for allowing us to show what we do here at the Forum School Farm, we are always busy and exhausted but we do have a great time here. If you would like any more information please do contact us at any time. Renea and Sam xxxx

Renea.Gascoigne@cambianguroup.com

Samantha.fry@cambianguroup.com

The Nest Project:

The Smartbox Nest initiative is successfully operational, with devices distributed in May and already gathering positive responses from the class adults. Currently, the emphasis is on encouraging students and adults to get comfortable with the devices by engaging in playful exploration. This phase is crucial as it helps students form a connection with their device, fostering a sense of ownership.



Speech & Language Focus of the Month



This month we are focusing on AAC. **AAC** stands for '**Augmentative and Alternative Communication**', which encompasses all forms of communication (other than oral speech) used to communicate thoughts, needs, wants, and ideas. For example:

- Sign
- Gesture
- Body language
- Emails,
- Electronic device
- Texting
- Choosing boards
- Symbols
- Writing
- pictures



To support you, Smartbox offer free online mini courses which are very helpful to get you started or to refresh your skills. At Smartbox academy you can sign up and have the choice of online courses. I recommend:

- Introduction to AAC (FC01)
- Introduction to Grid for iPad (SC16)
- Developing communication partner skills (FC09)
- Short course – Personalising Super Core in Grid for iPad (SC04)

Time for these courses range from 40 minutes to 2 hours, you can download a certificate of attendance at the end if you wish too.

Use this link to direct you to the academy sign up: [Free online AAC training on Smartbox Academy \(thinksmartbox.com\)](https://thinksmartbox.com)

Key things to remember:

- Learning a new language takes time, it can take months to years.
- Allow time for exploring
- SHOW** – before we can expect someone to use a symbol to communication (paper based or electronic) we have to show them how.
- MODEL, MODEL, MODEL in all situations and environments**
- Be Interesting:** follow a YP interests (films, books, songs, TV shows etc), sensory and play.

A study of young children who were learning to communicate showed that 20% of what they communicated was requests.....so what about the other 80% (Smartbox, Simple AAC, 2024)



Useful Links for staff

Here are some useful links that can boost knowledge, skills and confidence using AAC, being a good communication partner, where to find Makaton signs and debrief/reflection resources

AAC from Smartbox academy – sign up to these training videos. There are lots of training videos but I would start with these:

- Introduction to AAC (FC01)
- Creating Classroom grids with Grid 3 (FC05)
- Developing Communication Partner Skills (FC09)
- AAC in the Classroom (PC03)

Good Communication Partner:

- K:\Therapy\Training\Being a good communicative partner - Golden Guildelines training 45 mins.pptx
this has voice over from a Sensor Consultant Speech and Language Therapist, so use headphones or make sure volume is up and put in presentation mode, approx. 45 minutes.

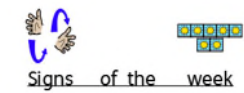
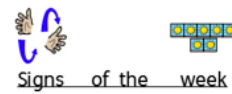
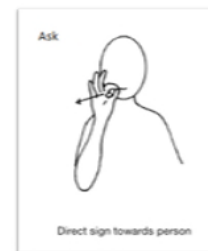
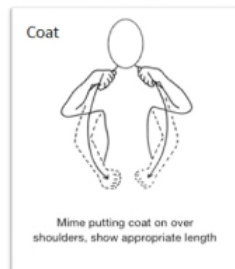
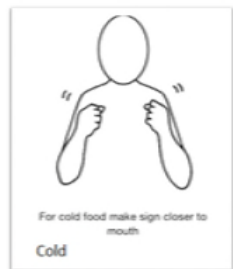
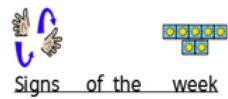
Makaton resources:

- R:\Signs

Debrief tools/resources:

- R:\Their Voice Their Choice\Chatterbox Templates
- 

Speech & Language















Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday
Thursday	Friday	Saturday
Sunday	today	tomorrow



Yesterday

Complaints Poster

Complaints and Concerns: I can tell people something is wrong

Event	Feeling	Action	Evaluation
 Something is  wrong.	 I'm sad.  I'm worried.  I'm angry.	 I can talk or write to  my teacher, keyworker, or  any person I trust.	 They will help me  by listening and trying  to sort out the  problem



The Forum School

Are you unhappy with something or do you want to make a

complaint?

Are you worried, angry, sad, confused or frightened?

You can talk or write to your teacher, key-worker, or any

person that you trust.

They will help you by listening and trying to

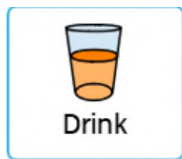
sort out the problem

PECS Vs Symbols

I wanted to take a quick moment and talk about **PECS vs Symbols/Visuals**, as I hear many people talk about PECS or see it written in documents. We need to be mindful we are getting the terminology correct as these are two different things.

PECS is a specific communication system = 'Picture Exchange Communication System' which uses cards with pictures, symbols, words or photographs which a learner would exchange for a tangible item. It is NOT the symbols/visual themselves. As research develops, we have a better understanding and are trying to move away from PECS, as vocabulary can be limited when using PECS.

Symbols/visuals are what we use every day for schedules, now and next boards, choosing boards, use in Communicate in Print, social stories etc. these could be symbols or photos....these are NOT PECS.



(symbol/visual)

Please refrain from saying or writing PECS if you mean symbols/visuals.



Talking Mats

Jemma and Katie have been round to all classes and homes to deliver talking mats (Waters End yours in in your pigeon hole in reception), these consist of a mat and a pack with resources. Packs are your responsibility to keep up together, if symbols go missing or damaged you need to replace them, also feel free to add anything e.g. symbols, speech bubbles etc that you feel will enhance the support using the talking mats, tailor it to your YP, make it your own (resources attached).

These packs will enable you to support young people at a level 3 debrief. Talking mats follow 4 headings 'Event, Feeling, Action, Evaluation' If you feel the young people could engage in a talking mat, try it, you can role model its how they will learn.


Talking mats are not just used for debriefs, they can be used for lots of different concepts:

- Supports people with communication difficulties to express themselves
- Supports people to understand, reflect and organise their thoughts
- Allow students to give views and opinions e.g. student council
- Allow students to express preferences and evaluate e.g. as a plenary
- Teach concepts e.g. sorting between hot/cold, wet/dry
- Teach superlatives e.g. big, bigger, biggest
- Support problem solving and reasoning e.g. [action → feeling → action → evaluation](#)
- Allow joint target setting with individual

Remember:

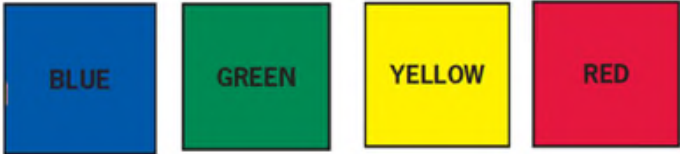
- You may need practise a couple of time -That's ok!
- Take photos/video as evidence!
- Don't just use when there is something wrong, use to share positive messages e.g. a great cooking sessions, bus trip, dentist app etc. individually or as a group
- Think outside the box
- Ask if you're not sure

Jemma is putting training together and once this is completed she will be booking in slots, but in the meantime don't hesitate to see Jemma and phone if you are unsure.



Check in to the New Zones

Check In...		
I am feeling....		
This is in the		ZONE!



Levels of Debrief

Levels of debrief

- **Level 1** – During the incident emotions or zones are labelled (verbally, sign/symbols) and physical object offered or guidance to a support strategy or space.
- **Level 2** – During the incident emotions or zones are labelled (verbally, sign/symbols) and visual choice offered of supportive strategies.
- **Level 3** (Amalgamating previous level 2 and 3) – Level 2 plus after incident there is a structured debrief using one of: talking mat, written, comic strip and covering all of: event, feelings, action, and evaluation. You can find some helpful resources on the online drive <R:\Their Voice Their Choice\Chatterbox Templates>

Therapy Term Update

We are delighted to welcome Amiee to the Therapy Team 😊. Amiee will be the newly appointed Speech and Language Therapist. Amiee is joining us from the Speaking Space agency and will support TFS on Wednesdays. Amiee is newly qualified and will work as a SLTA while her HCPC registration is completed. During the next few weeks, Amy will read up on the YP and spend time with the YP and teams as she gets settled. So please give her a warm welcome.



If you have any questions, please don't hesitate to contact the team, I have also attached an up to date 'Meet the therapy team' sheet.

Meet the Therapy team at TFS		
 Karen Varney Clinical Psychologist (Mondays)	 Katie Loftus Assistant Psychologist (Monday - Friday)	 Jasmine Keats Music Therapist (Monday and Tuesday)
 Hollie Earley Occupational Therapist (Monday and Tuesday - is on leave until March 2025)	 Bridget Townsend Occupational Therapist (Monday, Tuesday)	 Jane Reynolds, Physiotherapist (Termly visits)
		 Dawn Storey Consultant Nurse Specialist (Virtual/on-site)
 Amiee Thomas-Jefferies Speech and Language Therapist (Wednesdays)	 Jemma Grove Speech and Language Therapy Assistant (Monday - Friday)	 Renea Gascoigne Equine Lead
		 Sam Fry Equine animal assistant



Music Therapy

Hi everyone!

I just wanted to remind everyone that my work with the young people is different from the work that Emma provides.

Music Therapy with Jasmine on Mondays & Tuesdays

I am a HCPC Registered trained therapist and I use music, talking, art, play and other techniques in young people's Music Therapy sessions. I only see young people who are referred to Music Therapy. Music Therapy is particularly useful for people who struggle communicating their thoughts and feelings using words, as it does is not limited to talking. Music Therapy is a creative therapy and at times it can provide a fun space for self-expression. However, there are often many difficult, confusing and upsetting emotions and feelings which may arise in therapy sessions. This is why it may be inappropriate to say to a young person "have fun" or "have a good session". Music Therapy can provide the opportunity for a person to express themselves which may be particularly important if a young person is dysregulated, so it is important that a young person is still offered the choice if they would like to attend their Music Therapy session when they are feeling dysregulated. It is also important that the music room is accessible on Mondays and Tuesdays for their therapy sessions. I write weekly clinical therapy reports. I have included some more information to this email if you would like to have more of a read about Music Therapy.

Music with Emma on Thursdays

Emma is a professional musician and uses music as a way to have fun with young people and adults, often these are group sessions she provides and anyone is welcome to join. Emma's music sessions provide a session full of energy and interaction. Emma is not currently a registered therapist and is not providing therapy here.

Hope this clarifies the difference. I'm always happy to answer questions you may have and thank you for being a great team to work with. 😊

Many thanks

Jasmine Keats



Wellbeing Wednesday


The new Head of Education has been reviewing the wellbeing policy for the school.
On the last Wednesday of each term we are having a Wednesday wellbeing session for the education team.
We also played a game and had a good laugh



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*Savings based on a weekly spend of £200 at M&S (discount 6.5%)

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Call: 01908 303 531



✖ Employee Benefits Platform

Coming soon

Firework Frenzy Week

4th - 10th November 2024

Spark your savings with 10 explosive offers available for one week only.

halfords	halfords autocentre	PRIMARK	Wickes
lastminute.com	RED LETTER DAYS	TESCO	Iceland the food warehouse
LAITHWAITES WIRE		Virgin EXPERIENCE DAYS	

Visit your platform from 10am on 4th November 2024

Visit: www.cambiagroup.co.uk
Call: 01908 303 531



Staff Discounts

<https://www.bluelightcard.co.uk/>

Discount service for the emergency services, NHS, social care sector and armed forces - [£4.99 for 2 years](#)

Members of the Blue Light community can register for access to more than 15,000 discounts from large national retailers to local businesses across categories such as holidays, cars, days out, fashion, gifts, insurance, phones, and many more.

<https://discountsforcarers.com/>

Carer & Care Worker Discounts – [sign up for free](#)

Exclusive discounts, cashback & vouchers for Carers & Care Workers.
For care assistants, live-in carers, those that care for loved ones, and everyone in between.

<https://www.discountsforteachers.co.uk/>


Teacher & Education Staff Discounts – [sign up for free](#)

Exclusive discounts, cashback & vouchers for Teachers & Education Staff.
For teaching assistants, headteachers, administrators, and everyone in between.

<https://www.carerscarduk.co.uk/discounts-for-carers>

Your carer ID card unlocks access to a wide range of online discounts, savings, benefits, perks and offers, for carers. - [£8 for 2 years](#)

Our team constantly work on creating partnerships with big name brands so that we can provide carers with discounts on all aspects of life, from food to fashion, fitness to electrical, technology to travel, home utilities to entertainment and much more





Staff Discounts... Continued

<https://carers.org/grants-and-discounts/carersmart-discount-club>

Joining is simple and free. And once you're a member, you'll be able to benefit from a wide range of offers, including:

- Cash back on shopping from numerous high street retailers
- Reductions on insurance renewals
- Discounts on holidays and travel arrangements
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A message from Mel

This month our focus has been on communication.

The therapy team have been supporting the adults to have a deeper and greater knowledge on how to support young people and listen to their wishes and feelings.

We have homes that have introduced wishes and feeling boxes.

All homes and class rooms have been supported to have talking mats and a review of the zones of regulations.

We have been exploring PECS vs symbols to ensure we are utilising these correctly.

Young peoples debrief levels and understanding are being reviewed and work shops for adult training.

We have also had a big focus this month on preceptive touch and the use of sensory plans with support from the Occupational therapist.

An action for February is for all sensory plans to be reviewed and shared with parents and caregivers to support the use of the plans with a short video provided by the occupational therapist.

Anti bullying week was a huge success and was great to see the Nest classroom having fun while learning

Lego therapy sessions have begun this month and so far has been really positive.

Young people have already shown they are able to work together and listen to instruction well while sharing.

Lastly, I am so proud of every single young person who attended the special dentistry that we had visit the school. Adults planned for this well and this is why this has been so successful. Young people had enough time to process and practice before the visit

Thank You!