



# HI Sensory Support Newsletter

## March 2021

Hello,

Welcome to the latest newsletter for March. Now most children have returned to school, we are all moving towards life slowly returning to normal. The specialist teachers are doing more in person/face to face visits and we hope these will increase further after Easter. Of course, we will have to see if the current trend for less covid cases continues but we remain hopeful that this will be possible. I think everybody is ready for this to end now and the team are really eager to meet with the children and young people they support and their teachers in person. We really hope that you are all safe and well and that you are able to enjoy the two week break that starts on Friday 26th. As always, please contact us if you have any issues you want to discuss. These have not been easy times and we are here to support you.

Sara Brierton. Service Manager



More than 40 parents have responded to our survey asking for feedback on our service during the covid period. We are keen to find out what you feel has been working well and to use your comments to shape our services going forward.

If you haven't yet completed the survey and would like to give your feedback, the survey has been extended until Friday 9th April. You can access the survey [here](#).



### This term's newsletter...

- \* Meet the people who support young people at St John Fisher and City College
- \* Update on face masks
- \* Summer events hosted by St John Fisher and Middleton Hubs



Since Christmas there has been a change of staff at SJF Hub. We asked our on the spot reporter Amna to interview the new Lead of the Hub, Mr Stanford and also find out what Mrs Brown who used to do the job is doing now. Amna also interviewed the new SENCo Miss Sennett. Here is her special report:



## Mr Stanford

**What do you do as your job?**

Mr Stanford's job is to run the hearing hub and to support students with H.I. Also his job is to work with other schools and to share resources from within the hub.

**What's the best thing about your job?**

Mr Stanford likes to help people to achieve their dreams.

**What's the worst thing about your job?**

Mr Stanford's worst thing is to see year 11 students leaving as he will miss them.

**If you weren't a hub manager what would you do instead?**

Mr Stanford would run his bike repair business full time.

**What do you like about yourself?**

He likes the fact he has the energy to do two jobs.



## Mrs Brown

**What do you do as your job?**

Mrs Brown's job is assistant Senco.

**What's the best thing about your job?**

Mrs Brown's best thing about her job is working with Mrs Sennet and she gets to meet a lot of different people.

**What's the worst thing about your job?**

Mrs Brown's worst thing about her job is to send professional emails to other people.

**If she wasn't an assistant Senco what would you do instead?**

She would help deaf and vision impaired students.

**What do you like about yourself?**

Mrs Brown likes about herself that she has special friends.

## Mrs Sennett

**What do you do as your job?**

Mrs Sennet works as a Senco.

**What's the best thing about your job?**

She gets to work everyday and get a lot of different challenges everyday.

**What's the worst thing about your job?**

Mrs Sennett's worst thing about her job is that when she gets a task she doesn't have enough time to finish it.

**If you weren't a Senco what would you do instead?**

She would be a mental health counsellor.

**What does she like about herself?**

She likes about herself that she's a grandma.



# Face Masks

Breaking News!

**From:** [batod\\_neo@icloud.com](mailto:batod_neo@icloud.com)

NDCS has taken its first legal steps against the Department for Education in England. The legal action calls on the Department to amend and strengthen its guidance on face coverings in education so that deaf children are not disadvantaged.

A blog with more information about this can be found [here](#).



Peterborough SEN and Inclusion Services have distributed a document to all Special Needs Co-ordinators called "*Impact of Face Mask Use for Deaf learners*" which states:

- Education settings are legally required to make reasonable adjustments to ensure that no child or young person is disadvantaged.
- The use of face masks is only recommended where a 2m social distance cannot be maintained
- Talk to the deaf young person and their families regularly about what helps them in the classroom



For further information on clear face masks, where to buy and what to look for, click [here](#).

If you are having issues, get in contact with your teacher of the deaf.

## Subtitles

Watch the Youtube video from Stephen Fry, "Turn on the subtitles" in which, he talks about how using subtitles can have a good impact on children's reading and language skills. For more information go to <https://turnonthesubtitles.org/>



What's new?



## Need Curriculum Signs?



The [SSC's Education app](#) provides a glossary of subject specific words in BSL for science, geography and maths, such as 'chlorophyll' and 'tributary'.

## Spring has Sprung

Now we are approaching a new season, with hopefully nicer weather and longer/lighter days, we can enjoy:

- A picnic or a drink outside in your bubble and support bubble.
- A warmer walk and noticing new flowers blooming.
- Take part/set up a garden/outside Easter egg hunt?!



Learn Easter Signs...

[Easter words in BSL](#)

[Learn 10 Signs in BSL: Easter](#)

### Easter Greetings



Happy



Easter

Free Easter fun- printables

<https://www.twinkl.co.uk/search>

LET'S SIGN



## Easter Signs



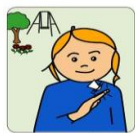
Easter



flowers



chicks



park



chocolate



egg



rabbit



spring



lambs

## Pen Pals

Why not become a pen pal with other deaf children or young people?

Find out more and how to apply [here](#).

Applications close at 12pm on Monday 12th April.





## National Awareness Days

You may have missed that this month from 15-21 March is the British Deaf Association's Sign Language Week. You can still find their British Sign Language (BSL) week videos on their website. The website also includes some basic sign language lessons and The Deaf Visual Archive, for example.

Get ready for Deaf Awareness Week UK on 4-9 May. The UK Council of Deafness, the umbrella group for deaf organisations, use this special week to promote the positive aspects of living with deafness and also to promote social inclusion of deaf people by promoting deaf awareness in the community. The theme this year is aptly called Coming Through it Together. See

<https://www.deafcouncil.org.uk/deaf-awareness-week/>

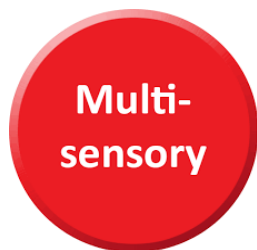
The Look, Smile, Chat campaign encourages deaf young people 8-18 to share videos about deaf awareness to their friends and family. For more information go to [buzz.org.uk](http://buzz.org.uk).



**THE DEAF HEALTH  
CHARITY  
SIGNHEALTH**

## Coronavirus news updates in BSL

- \* [Spring 2021 Overview of possible dates for lifting of lockdown measures](#)
- \* [Coronavirus updates](#)



**Multi-  
sensory**



Flo Longhorn's latest edition of Special Apps for Very Special Learners- Jan-Feb 2021 can be found [here](#).



**Nordic Welfare  
Centre**

[Lectures](#) on developing tactile language with a child who is congenitally deafblind- 15th April 2021 and May 19th 2021.



# Upcoming Events...

## March and April events 2021



### Jo Jingles at Easter

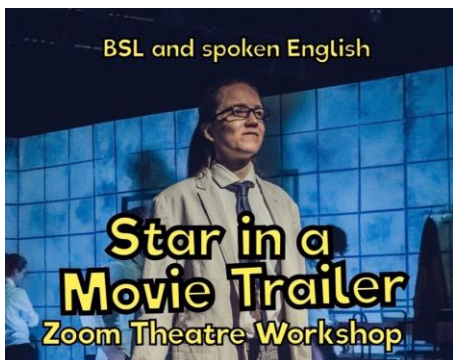
Come and join a music and movement session with Adreas and Jo Jingles via Zoom. Bring your instruments and have lots of fun. The session is aimed at children 5 years and under. PDDCS are hosting 2 free sessions-

Tuesday 30th March 10-10.30 am

Thursday 8th April 10-10.30 am

Email [amycasselden@gmail.com](mailto:amycasselden@gmail.com) for more information and booking.

### Interested in Acting?



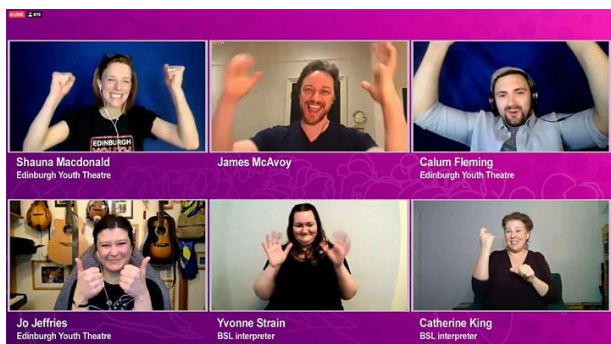
Lamphouse Theatre will be hosting Zoom theatre workshops on -

Monday 29th March for 8 – 12 year olds.

Wednesday 31st March for 13-18 year olds.

All the sessions will be delivered in English and BSL. To find out more, go to the [Lamphouse](http://Lamphouse) website.

Arts, theatre, film and television industry event



[Masterclass](#) with actor/producer Moyo Akande **BSL Interpreted**  
**29<sup>th</sup> March 20:00-21:30pm**

Donation fee for ticket via Zoom.

## More Upcoming Events...



22nd April – New to online events

24th April – Parents as partners

12th, 19th and 26th May – Expert parent programme (3 workshops)

For more information and the next dates of their regular events, see the [NDCS](#) website.

## May events 2021



- **Deaf Awareness Week** is an annual event that will next take place on the 4th-9th May 2021



## Summer events 2021

### Get Cooking...

This summer St John Fisher are hosting a virtual cookery session. We are planning on linking up with Middleton primary school and cooking together, using technology to socially distance and keep safe. Webcams, speakers and large screens will help everyone to keep in contact with one another during the day. All the magical creations will then be added to an online recipe book for everyone to share.

Look out for more details next term...



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### Teddy Bear's Picnic

Middleton Primary School will be hosting a Teddy Bear's Picnic for deaf children, families, friends and teddies! For children in EYFS and KS1 (with helpers from KS2!)

Tuesday 6th July 2021

10am - 12:30pm

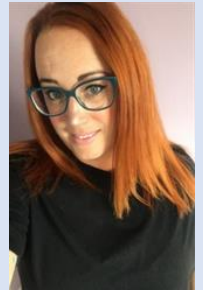
at Middleton Primary school (on the field)

Open to all settings with HI families

email [vells@middletonprimaryschool.co.uk](mailto:vells@middletonprimaryschool.co.uk) or

[hdines@middletonprimaryschool.co.uk](mailto:hdines@middletonprimaryschool.co.uk) to express interest and book a place

## **Introduction to the team at City College Peterborough, and a bit more about what they do.**



Hello, I would like to introduce myself and my colleague from City College Peterborough. My name is Katie George and my role is a Hearing-Impaired Progress Coach and Communication Support Worker based in the Sensory Team at John Mansfield Campus. I started here in January 2020 and I have worked with D/deaf young people for the last 8 years in Peterborough. I am Level 3 BSL qualified.



Lisa Warren is also a Communication Support Worker here at CCP and joined us in October 2020. Lisa has over 14 years' experience of working within the Deaf community and in education around the Peterborough area and further afield. Lisa has completed her Advanced Diploma in Interpreting and Translation BSL – English and also does freelance interpreting within the community.



## **About what we do**

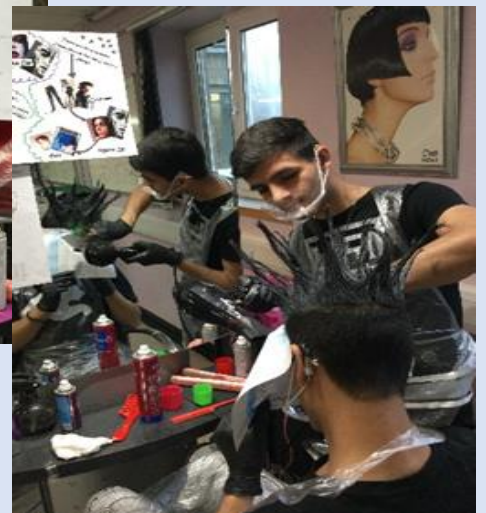


Throughout lockdown we have supported our D/deaf learners in multiple and various ways via online platforms and limited face to face contact. Our main areas have been: Facilitating online learning for all and providing laptops to enable communication and access; Supporting emotional and well-being needs for the D/deaf learners and families; Raising Deaf awareness within the families; Developing independence, such as learners making their own medical appointments using accessible technology; Promoting transferable skills for adulthood and supporting future employment opportunities and work experience.





**Some of our amazing learners hard at work..**



**Would you like to write something for our next newsletter?**

It could be about your experiences of returning to school, a review of new technology or to highlight a new achievement.

If you have something to share, speak to your ToD or send us an email to [senandinclusion@peterborough.gov.uk](mailto:senandinclusion@peterborough.gov.uk)