



SEND Newsletter Issue 1

September 2023



Welcome back to school! I hope that you have had a lovely summer!

This is the first issue of our SEND Newsletter. I hope that you will find it useful and informative. I want to ensure that I am working closely with the Hollesley and Waldringfield Communities to support the pupils and their families on their journey through school.

❖ Meet the team:-

Mrs Theresa Elder



Mrs Elder is the SENDCo for both schools. Mrs Elder is also a Reception class Teacher and Senior Teacher at Hollesley. Although Mrs Elder does have other commitments, she is contactable via email Theresa.elder@hollesley.suffolk.sch.uk or phone 01394 411616 and will respond to any messages as soon as she can.

Mrs Caroline Haylett



Mrs Haylett works as a Teaching assistant at Hollesley. Her role has changed this academic year. Mrs Haylett will be carrying out interventions (at Hollesley) that will be supporting children who have a specific educational need. She works very closely with Mrs Elder to ensure the children are receiving the support and resources they require.

Mrs Sara Battle



Mrs Battle works predominantly at Waldringfield but spends 2 days a week at Hollesley. She works very closely with the Speech and Language Therapists and implements the plans given by the therapists. Mrs Battle works closely with Mrs Elder to support children with Communication and Interaction needs.

Mr Adam Riches



Mr Riches is a Parent Governor and has a child who attends Waldringfield School.

He oversees SEND across both schools.

❖ SEND Surgeries:-

Every month I run a SEND surgery at both schools. These sessions are very informal and their purpose is to give any Parents the opportunity to come and share any concerns or questions they may have about their child. You don't need to make an appointment, you just turn up (your child does not need to have a special need to come along). I have tea, coffee and biscuits at the ready and enjoy getting to meet with Parents on a 1 to 1 basis. The SEND surgeries run from 1:15pm until home time. The dates for the surgeries this term are –

Hollesley	Waldringfield
Tuesday 19 th September	Monday 18 th September
Tuesday 17 th October	Monday 16 th October
Friday 17 th November	Thursday 16 th November
Friday 15 th December	Thursday 14 th December

If you would rather meet with me at a different time, that is absolutely fine too! Just email me or phone either school to make an appointment.

❖ How do I know if my child has SEND (Special Educational Needs and or Disabilities)?

A child has SEND if they require support/interventions that are above and beyond or different to the work that we are doing in class. If a child struggles in maths and is not attaining the age appropriate level that they should be, this may not have anything to do with SEND. The child may need more of the same work or support in that lesson or they just might not be destined to be a Mathematician yet! However, a child who has SEND may require some support and activities to develop their short term memory (working memory) to enable them to be able to remember their number bonds or times tables.

❖ There are 4 different types of SEND:-

1. Communication and Interaction
2. Cognition and Learning
3. Social, Emotional and Mental Health
4. Sensory and/or Physical

❖ Special educational needs and disabilities (SEND) can affect a child's ability to learn. As a SENDCo, it is my role to support teachers to establish what barriers to learning a child may have, and to support the child and their families to lessen and/or overcome these barriers.

❖ Individual Education Plans (IEPs)

From September, any child who is on the SEND register, will be having a new 'strengths based' IEP. It will be child friendly and will be completed by the child, their parents and the class teachers. These new IEPs will be in a booklet format and will be available to the child throughout the day. These IEPs will be reviewed every term. The child will always be the main focus in the constructing of, the support given and the reviewing. The class teachers will contact you to arrange a meeting to discuss your child's IEPs.

❖ Transition back to school – Top Tips

Transition back to school after the holidays.

1. Talk positively about going back to school days ahead of time.
2. Set up a play date with some school friends
3. Prep some helpful transition items such as a stress ball, their favourite drinks bottle, favourite food in their packed lunch box/snack – involve your child in the decision making for these things.
4. Get to bed early 2-3 days ahead of time, and wake up on time.
5. Call in support – Arrange to start work later or have a grandparent over to help on the first few mornings.
6. Decompress and debrief – When they get home ask a couple of questions but allow them space to relax or exercise.

For more ideas and support see the following website. Although it is American, they have some great tips!

<https://yourkidstable.com/transitioning-back-to-school-after-holiday-break/>

It is my aim to produce these Newsletters every term and to give you advice, support and information along the way. I am hoping to provide Parents and Carers with workshops also and invite different teams into school to talk to you (such as the Speech and Language team). Watch this space!

If any Parents have a 'Top Tip' that they would like to share with our school communities, please let me know.

Have a wonderful Autumn Term and I look forward to meeting you along the way.

Theresa Elder