



Hello and welcome to February's SLCN newsletter. We hope the snow isn't affecting your area too much - it's certainly rainy here at Speech & Language Link HQ!

It's time to get your tickets for the next Link Live sessions. Make sure you don't miss out by scrolling down for more details (**and your exclusive £5 discount code**). You'll also find our latest blogs and loads of SLCN news as always. Have a good month!

## The Link



**Reflect, reset, and restart with the latest issue of The Link Primary magazine - in schools now!**

In this issue, we look at the FREEZE, FIGHT, FLIGHT reaction that happens when a child is feeling stressed and overwhelmed. We can make all the difference to a child experiencing extreme stress with the way that we react.

Read a fascinating case study on hearing impairment from an esteemed audiovestibular specialist from **Great Ormond Street Hospital**. Our regular features; **Ask a Therapist** and **One TA to another**, tackle some of the issues that all staff face in school from time to time.

[Read it here](#)

**P.S. Look out for The Link Secondary magazine landing in all secondary schools on 26th February.**

## Speech and Language News

Schools are being encouraged to sign up to a wellbeing charter for staff. See pages 6 & 7 for what schools can commit to.

[Read more](#)

The Disabled Children's Partnership has launched a manifesto focusing on the needs of disabled children and underlying why this group must not be forgotten by politicians.

[Read more](#)

Practical resources for school leaders and teachers to help reduce workload, produced by school leaders, teachers and other sector experts together with DfE.

[Read more](#)

Redundancies. Lack of funding. A pandemic. All have contributed to a huge rise in children missing from class. Now there's a bold new initiative to solve the problem.

[Read more](#)

**Book recommendation:** 'SEND Strategies for the Primary Years' by Georgina Durrant. Each chapter contains simple, effective actions to differentiate and improve learning outcomes for pupils who need more support in the classroom and at home.

[Pre-order here](#)

The Department for Education (DfE), in partnership with the Department for Health and Social Care (DHSC) has launched its Start for Life 'Little Moments Together' campaign. The campaign aims to educate parents about the importance of brain development in the first five years of a child's life, and the crucial role they play, with advice and tips from Start for Life.

[Find out more](#)

Department for Education estimates 97,000 children were home-educated in the 2023 summer term, 11,000 more than the previous term.

[Read more](#)

New analysis reveals autism assessment and support crisis with tens of thousands of children waiting months and even years for help after demand rockets by over 300% since COVID-19.

[Read more](#)

It is great to see a recognition of the ongoing impact of early developmental needs on children and on our futures. This is exactly why identifying and supporting communication needs early is imperative

[Read more](#)

## LinkLive SESSIONS

The next sessions in the Link Live series are just a month away! We have two twilight sessions that we know all staff will find useful in their work with pupils with SLCN. Each session will consist of two presentations followed by a live Q&A session, providing a fantastic opportunity for delegates to get involved.

Get your tickets to The Link Live Primary and Secondary Sessions using **TLLS23LN** at the checkout to get **£5 off** your ticket (normal price £25+VAT per ticket). Don't forget, if you're a Speech & Language Link subscriber you get access to the event for free! Head on over to your Speech & Language Link homepage for your exclusive discount code.

**Primary Session**  
**Thursday 14th March**  
**15:30 - 17:30**  
**Focus: Language for accessing the whole curriculum**

**Secondary Session**  
**Thursday 21st March**  
**15:30 - 17:30**  
**Focus: Behaviour or Language**

[Get your tickets here](#)

## Our latest blogs



A seemingly ordinary lunch turned into a detective thriller when one of our SaLT's children discovered the disappearance of a playground bench. The story highlights the power of curiosity and the unexpected educational opportunities that can arise from seemingly mundane events.

[Read here](#)

## Speech & Language Link

This newsletter is brought to you from **Speech & Language Link** and we couldn't resist shouting about the feedback we received from the recent BETT Awards about our award-winning SLCN identification and support packages.

### Infant Language Link (4-8 years)

"The judges felt strongly that this resource also deserved recognition. This is a very useful resource and not only provides accessible screening but then offers resources to support interventions, whole class inclusive teaching and in doing so, improves staff awareness and extends their skill set."

### Secondary Language Link (KS3)

"The judges said it was lovely to see a SALT resource aimed at post-transition to screen and targeting KS3 in particular. They said it was a very helpful platform, especially useful for EAL, particularly those joining school during secondary education and evidence suggests it is an effective package for both teachers and students."

[Find out more about our speech and language packages](#)

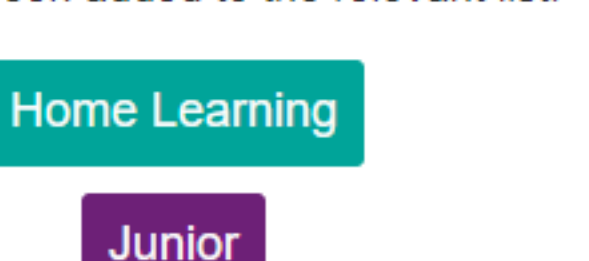
## Let us know what you think!

We are always looking for new ways to improve our newsletter, so we want to hear from you. Please let us know what you think by filling out this quick form.

[Click here to fill out the form](#)

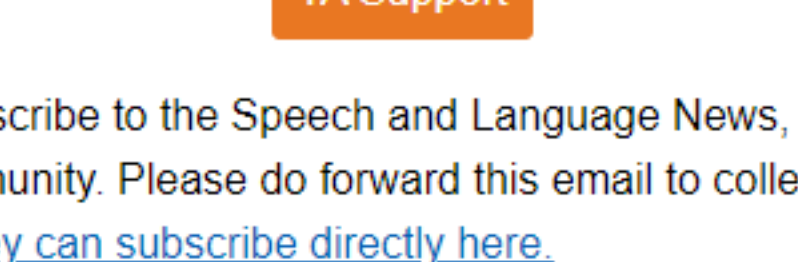
## Our Facebook group - 'Supporting speech and language in schools' has now reached 1500 members!

Our group - Speech and Language Support for Schools - is a space for you to discuss all things speech, language, and communication needs (SLCN). We warmly welcome SENCos, teachers, support staff and professionals who are dedicated to making a difference in the lives of children with SLCN.



[Join Now](#)

Our ever-growing community provides a friendly platform to seek and share advice, talk about experiences and successes, and recommend ideas.



Occasionally we would like to share with you our special offers on certain products, but we'd rather you receive what's relevant to you. Please click one or more boxes below if you'd like to hear more. Please note that these buttons will take you to the appropriate information page - once you are on this page, you have been added to the relevant list.

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