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# Horn End News

Volume 20, Issue 1

February 2010

## Small Talkers today are tomorrow's future

The government has recently appointed a communications champion, to help re-address the language and communication problems within society today.

Speaking about the appointment Ed Balls said:

"Speech, language and communication are crucial to every child's ability to access and get the most out of education and life.

Our view is also that communication is fundamental to early learning and confidence. We have therefore enlisted the services again of Libby Hill, a private Speech and Language therapist, from Smalltalk to devise us a specialist program. This helps staff to assess and improve their own skills when developing children's speech and language. The program also ensures the staff introduce children's signing as necessary.

If you are interested in what your child's language skills should be you can look at the small talk website which lists certain skills children can be working towards from ages 0-5 on the hyperlink below.

[http://www.smalltalklanguagegroups.co.uk/language\\_development.htm](http://www.smalltalklanguagegroups.co.uk/language_development.htm)

At Horn End we promote the use of sign language with all children; we also ensure all rooms are language and literacy rich environments, filled with words, and books, to develop children's new ideas and growing minds.

We have recently achieved a quality award from the education authority for improving children's speech and language skills. We are due to receive the certificate in February and will tell you more in our next newsletter.

One of the outcomes of this development was that we have recently adapted our communication policy in nursery to include daily signing with the children as this promotes speech development at a very early age.

You will find attached the submission that we made to the Education Department which outlines the way we support your child's early communication skills

## Special points of interest

- ∅ Small Talkers
- ∅ Tesco Vouchers rewards
- ∅ Stay and play
- ∅ Manager's Memo



## Tesco Vouchers Rewards

The children are really enjoying the new equipment that we received with all the Tesco vouchers. These have proved to be an excellent set of resources and provide endless fun and stimulation as Laila is demonstrating!! We will be collecting the vouchers again some time later in the year.

Thank you for your Support



## Stay and Play

It was lovely to see so many parents taking the opportunity to stay and play last month. We have a stay and play day every month throughout the year. Our next stay and play will be Tuesday 16th February 2010 from 8.30-9.30 am

If the dates or times are not convenient to you don't worry parents are welcome anytime. Just give me a call. Fiona

## MANAGERS MEMO

We worked really hard to remain operational during the "Big Freeze." This has been achieved by having our Maintenance manager Paul at hand early in the mornings to clear the snow and ice away for us. We had numerous parents thanking us for this service as it made a huge difference. Thank you all for your continued support.

Fiona

## Horn End Nursery Premises At

Lamascote Road, Stafford, Egg Lane, Hixon, & Wharf Road, Rugeley.

We can now e-mail photos to you of your child at nursery. Please make sure we have your correct email address

Phone: 01889271051

Email: [hixon@hornend.co.uk](mailto:hixon@hornend.co.uk)

